Report to the Twenty-Fifth Legislature Regular Session of 2009

INSTALLATION OF BACK FLOW PREVENTERS FOR WAIAHOLE-WAIKANE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WATER SYSTEM USERS



Prepared by the Department of Land and Natural Resources State of Hawaii

In response to Section 15.1 of Act 158, Session Laws of Hawaii 2008

October 2008

INSTALLATION OF BACKFLOW PREVENTERS FOR WAIAHOLE-WAIKANE COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION WATER SYSTEM USERS

This report is prepared pursuant to Section 15.1 of Act 158, Session Laws of Hawaii (SLH) 2008, which reads:

Provided that of the general fund appropriation for water and land development (LNR 141) the sum of \$25,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2008-2009 shall be expended for the purchase and installation of back flow preventers for Waiahole-Waikane Community Association water system users; provided further that these funds shall not be expended for any other purpose; provided further that the department shall prepare a report on the progress of the installation of the back flow preventers; and provided further the department shall submit the report to the legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the 2009 regular session.

The Department of Land and Natural Resources' Water and Land Development (LNR 141) Program provides limited financial support to the Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The \$25,000 earmarked in the Section 15.1 proviso was intended to come from the Water and Land Development (LNR 141) Program's existing budget as no additional funding was provided in Act 158, SLH 2008. However, as a result of a reduction in the Department's overall budget by way of this Act, compounded by a budget reduction imposed by the Administration due to a downward projection in state revenues, no funds were expended for the purchase and installation of back flow preventers for Waiahole-Waikane Community Association (WWCA) water system users.

The Hawaii Housing Finance and Development Corporation (HHFDC) is the proper agency to assist in addressing WWCA's needs. In consultation with HHFDC staff, a quick estimate of the total cost to provide backflow preventers for all WWCA members was made. At a cost of \$1,000 to \$3,500 per back flow preventer (depending on size), the total cost for the purchase and installation of back flow preventers for all 120 WWCA subscribers is between \$120,000 to \$300,000.