# RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR. Mayor

# JOSIAH K. NISHITA Managing Director

JOHN STUFFLEBEAN, P.E.

Director

JAMES A. LANDGRAF

Deputy Director

DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAI'1 96793

http://www.mauicounty.gov/water





November 20, 2025

Ms. Mary Alice Evans, Director State of Hawai'i Office of Planning & Sustainable Development Environmental Review Program 235 South Beretania Street, Suite 702 Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Subject: Withdrawal of Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Draft Environmental

Assessment/Anticipated Finding of No Significant Impact (DEA-AFNSI) for the Launiupoko Exploratory Wells Project at Lahaina, Maui, Hawai'i, TMK (2)4-3-001

:001(por.); (2)4-6-018:007(por.); (2)4-6-019:003 (por.); (2)4-6-025:002(por.)

Dear Ms. Evans:

With this letter, the County of Maui, Department of Water Supply (DWS) hereby requests the withdrawal of the DEA-AFNSI for the Launiupoko Exploratory Wells Project in Lahaina, Maui, which was published in the August 23, 2025 edition of The Environmental Notice.

We respectfully request the publication of withdrawal of the Draft Environmental Assessment/Anticipated Finding of No Significant Impact (DEA-AFNSI) in the next available edition of the Environmental Notice. Enclosed is a completed Environmental Review Program Publication Form. Concurrent with this letter, we have submitted the summary of the action in a text file by electronic mail to your office.

Should there be any questions or comments regarding this matter, please contact Thomas Ochwat via email at <a href="mailto:Thomas.Ochwat@co.maui.hi.us">Thomas.Ochwat@co.maui.hi.us</a>, or telephone at (808) 270-7553, or our consultant, Munekiyo Hiraga, via email at <a href="mailto:planning@munekiyohiraga.com">planning@munekiyohiraga.com</a>, or telephone at (808) 983-1233. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

John Digitally signed by John

Stufflebean

Stufflebean Date: 2025.11.25 12:35:19

-100

JOHN STUFFLEBEAN, P.E.

Director, Department of Water Supply

**Enclosures** 

cc: Ronald M. Fukumoto, Fukumoto Engineering

Sean Ogata, Fukumoto Engineering

Thomas Ochwat, Department of Water Supply

Tessa Munekiyo Ng, Munekiyo Hiraga Korwyn Robers, Munekiyo Hiraga From: dbedt.opsd.erp@hawaii.gov

To: <u>DBEDT OPSD Environmental Review Program</u>

Subject: New online submission for The Environmental Notice

Date: Wednesday, November 26, 2025 1:56:10 PM

#### **Action Name**

Launiupoko Exploratory Wells Project

# Type of Document/Determination

Withdrawal (include rationale specifying item being withdrawn in Summary below)

# HRS §343-5(a) Trigger(s)

- (1) Propose the use of state or county lands or the use of state or county funds
- (2) Propose any use within any land classified as a conservation district

#### **Judicial district**

Lahaina, Maui

# Tax Map Key(s) (TMK(s))

(2)4-3-001:001(por); (2)4-6-018:007(por); (2)4-6-019:003(por); (2)4-6-025:002(por)

# **Action type**

Agency

# Other required permits and approvals

None

# Proposing/determining agency

County of Maui, Department of Water Supply

# **Agency jurisdiction**

County of Maui

# Agency contact name

**Thomas Ochwat** 

# Agency contact email (for info about the action)

Thomas.Ochwat@co.maui.hi.us

# **Email address for receiving comments**

planning@munekiyohiraga.com

# Agency contact phone

(808) 270-7553

# Agency address

200 S. High Street Kalana O Maui Bldg., 5th Floor Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 United States

# Map It

# **Accepting authority**

County of Maui, Department of Water Supply

# Accepting authority contact name

**Thomas Ochwat** 

# Accepting authority contact email or URL

Thomas.Ochwat@co.maui.hi.us

# Accepting authority contact phone

(808) 270-7553

# Accepting authority address

200 S. High Street Kalana O Maui Bldg., 5th Floor Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 United States Map It

#### Is there a consultant for this action?

Yes

#### Consultant

Munekiyo Hiraga

#### Consultant contact name

Korwyn Roberts

# **Consultant contact email**

planning@munekiyohiraga.com

# Consultant contact phone

(808) 983-1233

## Consultant address

305 High Street Suite 104 Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 United States Map It

# **Action summary**

On August 8, 2025, a Draft EA was published for the Proposed Launiupoko Aquifer Source Development Exploratory Wells Project. The scope of work proposed in the August 2025 Draft EA was limited to exploratory phase well development at Well Sites L-1 and L-3 in the Launiupoko aquifer to offset Kanaha stream surface water withdrawals and use at the Lahaina Water Treatment Plant (LWTP) in order to comply with the Interim Instream Flow Standards (IIFS) required by the State of Hawai'i Commission on Water Resources Management (CWRM). Three (3) additional well sites were also assessed in the Draft EA as alternative site locations – Well Site L-2 and Well Site H-1 and Well Site H-2 in the Honolua aquifer. The DWS now proposes to pursue and construct four (4) exploratory well sites instead of the two (2) exploratory well sites that were originally assessed in the Draft EA. DWS proposes exploratory well development(s) at Site L-1, Site L-3, Site H-1, and Site H-2. If the wells are

determined to be viable, water from Site L-1 would offset surface water withdrawals while water from Site L-3, Site H-1, and Site H-2 could be available for the "planned growth" expected within West Maui service area in the future (new source). Given the change in scope for the exploratory wells project, the DWS has decided to withdraw the August 8, 2025 Draft EA for the Launiupoko Exploratory Wells and will prepare a new Draft EA for the proposed Launiupoko and Honolua Exploratory Wells project.

# Attached documents (signed agency letter & EA/EIS)

• Draft-EA-withdrawal-Letter.pdf

## ADA Compliance certification (HRS §368-1.5):

The authorized individual listed below acknowledges that they retain the responsibility for ADA compliance and are knowingly submitting documents that are unlocked, searchable, and may not be in an ADA compliant format for publication. Audio files do not include transcripts, captions, or alternative descriptions. The project files will be published without further ADA compliance changes from ERP, with the following statement included below the project summary in The Environmental Notice: "If you are experiencing any ADA compliance issues with the above project, please contact (authorized individual submitting the project at email)."

# **Action location map**

- <u>LauniupokoWellSitesPoints.zip</u>
- LauniupokoParcelPoly.zip

#### **Authorized individual**

Korwyn Roberts

#### Authorized individual email

korwyn@munekiyohiraga.com

# Authorized individual phone

(808) 983-1233

## **Authorization**

• The above named authorized individual hereby certifies that he/she has the authority to make this submission.