To: Bruce Anderson, Acting Director  
Office of Environmental Quality Control

From: Edward Y. Hirata, Director  
Department of Transportation

Subject: NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR REPLACE LOADING DOCK AT MANELE BOAT HARBOR, MANELE, LANAI, JOB H. C. 4149

In accordance with Chapter 343-4(c) of the Hawaii Revised Statutes, we are notifying you that we will not require an Environmental Impact Statement for the subject project. Enclosed are the original and four (4) copies of the Negative Declaration for the project.

If you have any question on this action, please call Mr. Dale Andres of our Harbors Division at 548-4003.

Enc.
NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR

REPLACE LOADING DOCK AT MANELE BOAT HARBOR
MANELE, LANAI, HAWAII
JOB H. C. 4149

A. APPLICANT

State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation
Harbors Division

B. AGENCIES CONSULTED

No agencies were consulted in the preparation of this
Negative Declaration since past experience has shown that
similar projects within established harbors have not had
significant effects upon the environment. Our assessment of
the proposed project has established that this project will
not have a significant impact on the environment. However,
the following agencies will review the project, and their
approval will be required prior to construction.

1. Corps of Engineers - Department of Army Permit
2. Department of Health - Water Quality
3. Office of State Planning - CZM
4. Department of Land and Natural Resources - CDUA
5. County of Maui - SMA

C. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION'S CHARACTERISTICS

1. Background

The Manele Boat Harbor is the only State recreational
boat harbor on the island of Lanai. A single lane
18-foot-wide concrete launching ramp, constructed in
1962, serves the entire boating public. The existing
loading dock, adjacent to the launching ramp, is
constructed of timber and was to serve as a temporary
facility. The loading dock is only 2 feet wide and
spans a length of approximately 70 feet. It is
supported at midspan by a steel pipe pile and at the
ends by the existing breakwater and the launching ramp
rock wall. The condition of the loading dock is
deteriorating and hazardous. The purpose of this
project is to replace the existing loading dock in order
to provide safer and more efficient use of the existing
launching ramp.
2. **Technical**

The project covers the construction of a new 4-foot-wide by 65-foot-long timber loading dock and concrete pile caps and landing. The structure will be supported by three (3) new concrete-encased steel piles. Elevation of the loading dock will be at +5.0 feet at MLLW. The loading dock will be situated on Harbors Division land in the Manele Boat Harbor area. Dredging or pavement is not involved in the scope of work. Some excavation and demolition is required but no excess material is anticipated.

There will be no electrical, telephone, water or sewage services provided to the structure.

The attached sketch shows the location of the new loading dock.

3. **Economical – Social**

Manele Boat Harbor is the only State recreational boat harbor serving the island of Lanai. At present, the existing loading dock is inadequate to serve the needs of the boaters and is in deteriorated condition. This project will provide the boaters with safe and easy access to their boats during launching and retrieving operations. The project will also encourage resort activities as it will enhance the present harbor facilities.

4. **Environmental**

The proposed structure will be constructed on Harbors Division land at Manele Boat Harbor. The structure will not endanger animals, marine life, or other wildlife.

There are no historical or archaeological sites within the project area. There are no endangered plants or wildlife in the area. There will be minimal disruption to the physical and biological environment. There will be an increase in the noise and water turbidity levels at the project site, however, they will be localized and temporary, lasting only for the duration of the project.

D. **SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

The proposed project is located at Manele Boat Harbor in an area adjacent to the existing launching ramp and breakwater. There are no historical or archaeological sites in the vicinity of the project site. There are no endangered plants or animals in the area.
The project involves the construction of a new 4-foot by 65-foot timber loading dock supported by three concrete-encased steel piles. There will be no utility services provided to the structure.

E. DISCUSSION OF THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

The effect of this project on the environment has been determined to be insignificant. The construction of the proposed structure will not:

1. Generate controversy;
2. Alter the topography of the existing land or its uses;
3. Cause the displacement of any persons;
4. Affect any rare, endangered, or threatened species of plants and animals or their habitats;
5. Involve any irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources except for the labor and materials used to construct the structure;
6. Curtail the beneficial uses of the environment;
7. Conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies, goals or guidelines; and
8. Degrade the environmental quality.

F. IMPACTS AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

During the construction period there will be a temporary increase in noise, dust and emissions from internal combustion engines associated with the construction operations. Since most of the work will be done during normal working hours, the contractor will be required to take measures to keep noise and dust levels within allowable limits.

Pile driving operations will cause discoloration of the harbor waters fronting the launching ramp due to the suspension of silt, organic detritus and nutrients. However, the turbidity increase will be of a short duration since the material should quickly settle out and restore the waters to the original level of turbidity.

There may be a short-term change in the fish population of the harbor as the fish tend to move away from the disturbances caused by the pile driving operations.
However, due to the short-term nature of the pile driving operations, the fish population should quickly restore itself to pre-pile driving conditions.

The alternative of "no project" would deprive boaters from safe and efficient launching and retrieving operations at the launching ramp.

Implementation of this project will be beneficial for the State by making the harbor facility a safe and more enjoyable source of recreation and fishing.

G. MITIGATION MEASURES

Temporary inconveniences to the public, such as air and noise pollution and water turbidity, are adverse effects which cannot be avoided should the project be implemented. Provisions will be made in the project specifications to control and minimize the temporary adverse effects of construction.

H. DETERMINATION

No major adverse impacts are anticipated. Therefore, a determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

I. REASONS

Reasons for supporting the determination that no Environmental Impact Statement is required are outlined in Sections E and F of this Negative Declaration. Experience with this type of construction within the harbor area has shown that there will be an insignificant long-term and short-term impact on the environment.

EDWARD Y. HIRATA
Director of Transportation

Attachment