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PO NOV 21 P2:59 STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION B669 PUNCHBOWL STREET HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

OFC. OF ENVIRONMENT November 16, 1990 QUALITY CONTRACT

HAR-ED 8370.91

EDWARD Y. HIRATA

DEPUTY DIRECTORS

RONALD N. HIRANO DAN T. KOCHI JEANNE K. SCHULTZ CALVIN M. TSUDA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

To:

JOHN WAIHEE

Bruce Anderson, Acting Director Office of Environmental Quality Control

From: Edward Y. Hirata, Director Department of Transportation

Subject: Negative Declaration for Honokohau Boat Harbor Improvements, Kona, Hawaii - Job H. C. 6140

In accordance with Chapter 343-4 (c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, we are notifying you that we will not require an Environmental Impact Statement for the subject project. We have attached a Negative Declaration for the proposed work.

Please contact Mr. Isidro Baquilar of our Design Section at 548-2505 if you have any question on the action.

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NEGATIVE DECLARATION FOR HONOKOHAU BOAT HARBOR IMPROVEMENTS, KONA JOB H. C. 6140

Α. APPLICANT

OFC. GL ଞ୍ଚ Harbors Division, Department of Transporzation EIV:

Β. APPROVING AGENCY

Department of Transportation

с. AGENCIES CONSULTED

The Kailua-Kona community, State Boating Task Force, charter fishing boat owners, private boat owners, and users of the harbor were consulted. Their support for the construction of the proposed project is unanimous.

The proposed project will be coordinated with the following agencies, and permits will be secured as required.

- Corps of Engineers Department of the Army Permit Department of Health Water Quality 1.
- 2.
- з. Office of State Planning - CZM

The Department of Transportation has determined this project to be exempt from County SMA permit requirements.

D. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE ACTION'S CHARACTERISTICS

<u>Technical</u> 1. (See attached map)

> The proposed project consists of constructing an Administration Building, Comfort Station, south parking lot, north access road and washdown area, concrete wall and walkway, and providing electrical outlets at the pier and along the harbor perimeter. The Administration Building and Comfort Station include plumbing, electrical and wastewater systems, and paving. The north access road and washdown area involve paving, striping and installing lighting systems.

There will be no dredging in this project.

Economic - Social 2.

Honokohau Boat Harbor is located on the west coast of Hawaii at the head of Honokohau Bay, approximately

three miles northwest of the Kailua-Kona Wharf. Initial construction of the harbor started in 1969, and consisted of blasting and dredging of the lava rock for the main access channel, Berthing Area 1 and a portion of Berthing Area 2. In 1976, subsequent construction extended and completed Berthing Area 2. The entire harbor has been carved out of the lava field, which was practically level near the ocean shoreline.

Entrance to the Honokohau Boat Harbor is through a dredged channel, 15 feet deep, which leads to two basins. Water depth in the east basin is 8 feet and 15 feet in the west basin. The bottom is rock. There are 266 mooring spaces in the harbor which are all occupied. The majority of the boats moored at Honokohau are charter fishing boats. There are two double lane ramps constructed in 1979. Parking is available in an unpaved parking area.

In April 1989, the State constructed two concrete piers, improved the walkway along the harbor perimeter, installed an 8" water main, constructed paved access roads and turnaround, provided more graded parking areas and fire hydrants.

The proposed improvements will facilitate the incremental construction of support facilities needed to develop Honokohau Boat Harbor as a prime commercial, recreational and resort center.

The estimated cost of the project is \$2,850,000.

3. Environmental

The proposed improvements will be done mainly on land and a portion in the water within the existing harbor. It will not endanger any marine or other wildlife in the area.

The proposed improvements will temporarily disrupt the use of the harbor but only for a short duration during construction. The proposed project will not significantly change or disrupt the present use of the area.

E. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

The adverse environmental effects described in paragraphs G and H are expected to be brief and associated only with the construction of the project. The harbor does not contain

any historical or archaeological sites. No endangered wildlife lives in the harbor.

F. DISCUSSION OF THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS

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

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

The implementation of this project will be beneficial for the State by providing a more efficient boating facility.

G. 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. However, these impacts will be minimal and intermittent in nature. Emissions from internal combustion engines will be readily dispersed in the open area.

The construction of the concrete wall will cause discoloration of the harbor waters at the project site due to the suspension of silt, organic detritus and nutrients. However, the turbidity increase will be of short duration during construction since the material should quickly settle out and restore the waters to the original level of turbidity.

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Alternative to the proposed project is a reduced scope of work or no action. Either alternative would perpetuate the less efficient boating facilities.

H. MITIGATION MEASURES

Provisions will be made in the project specifications to control and minimize the temporary adverse effects of construction.

I. DETERMINATION

Since no major adverse impacts are anticipated, costly detailed studies are considered inappropriate. Consequently, a determination has been made that an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

J. REASONS

Reasons supporting the "no EIS" determination are outlined in Sections F and G of this Negative Declaration. Any adverse environmental impact resulting from this project has been determined to be insignificant. Past experience has shown that this type of construction within an established harbor has an insignificant effect on the environment, both short and long term.

Edward Y. Hirata

Director of Transportation



