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STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION  
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

OFC. OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL

March 12, 1991

HAR-EP 8855.91

To: Brian Choy, Acting Director  
Office of Environmental Quality Control

From: Edward Y. Hirata, Director  
Department of Transportation 

Subject: NEGATIVE DECLARATION - HAWAIIAN CEMENT  
KAWAIHAE TERMINAL IMPROVEMENTS

In accordance with Chapter 343-5(c), Hawaii Revised Statutes, we are notifying you that we will not require an Environmental Impact Statement for the subject project. We have enclosed four (4) copies of the Environmental Assessment on the proposal and a completed OEQC form for publication in the OEQC Bulletin.

Should you have any question on the action, please contact Howard Miura of our Harbors Division at 548-2559.

Enc.

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KAWAIHAE HARBOR  
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1991-03-23-HI-FEA

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

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for  
Improvement of

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\* BULK CEMENT FACILITY

OFC. OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL

at

KAWAIHAE HARBOR \*

South Kohala District, Island of Hawaii  
Tax Map Key 6-1-03-44  
Harbors Division Lease No. H-73-13

### NEGATIVE DECLARATION

1. Applicant: HAWAIIAN CEMENT  
Campbell Industrial Park  
91-055 Kaomi Loop  
Ewa Beach, Hawaii 96707-1786
2. Approving Agency: Hawaii State Department of Transportation  
Harbors Division
3. Agencies Consulted: Hawaii State Dep't of Transportation - Harbors Division  
Hawaii State Dep't of Health (Dust Collection Permit)  
County of Hawaii (Special Management Use Permit)  
County of Hawaii (Building Permit)

Prepared by: HAWAIIAN CEMENT

DECEMBER 1990

NOV 15 1990

4. General Description of the Proposed Action:

Hawaiian Cement proposes to improve the existing facility for receiving, storage, and distribution of bulk portland cement. The location is at Kawaihae Harbor on a parcel of land leased from the Harbors Division. The present facility consists of a bulk cement storage silo with capacity of about 1,800 tons of product. Bulk cement is received into the silo from a specialized bulk cement self-unloading barge by means of a pneumatic conveyor system. A pump line from the barge is connected into a dock hatch and the bulk cement is conveyed through a 10-inch diameter underground pipeline from the dock hatch and into the storage silo. The pipeline is within a 5-foot wide easement from the dock hatch to the parcel.

The proposed improvement consists of installing a second storage silo onto the parcel with capacity of about 1,500 tons of bulk cement, and install a second 10-inch diameter pipeline within the same easement and using the same dock hatch. The top of the existing silo is about 95 feet above ground, the new silo will be about 80 feet high plus about 12 feet for installing the dust collector on top of the silo.

The initial objective for the improvement is to provide additional product storage and to reduce time of turn-around of the specialized barge by unloading through two pipelines simultaneously. The ultimate objective is to provide sufficient storage and distribution capacity to meet customer requirements for the product.

The attached drawings show location of the parcel, of the pipeline easement, the dock hatch, and the arrangement of Harbors Division operations in the immediate vicinity.

A. Technical considerations:

The new storage silo will be a fabricated steel tank installed on a concrete footing in a location adjacent to the existing silo. The new 10-inch diameter filling pipe will convey bulk cement into the top of the silo by means of the

pneumatic conveying equipment installed within the specialized self-unloading barge. A new bag-type dust collector will be installed at the new silo to insure complete recovery of all cement particles. The new 10-inch diameter pipeline from the dock hatch will be all welded construction, placed underground, and with the excavation filled with concrete to restore paved roadway surface. This proposed conveying and storage system is very similar to the existing Kawaihae facility installed in 1979, and is typical of installations elsewhere for this kind of operation.

B. Economic considerations:

The proposed improvement is intended to provide adequate supply of product to meet requirements of the customers in the Kawaihae distribution area, and to do so at the lowest reasonable cost for the safe, dependable, and environmentally satisfactory means of shipping and handling of bulk portland cement.

C. Social considerations:

There is the development concept for supplying a necessary basic building material which provides jobs in the construction industry toward an expanding community of commerce, industry, and population. This development concept provides social amenities of convenience, comfort, sanitation, and quality of life. This concept must be in balance with the environmental concept of protection and conservation of natural resources. Our various government agencies review the many proposals for construction of social amenities, and for the proposals which are approved there must be inherent approval for the supply and use of necessary construction materials.

D. Environmental characteristics:

The Kawaihae Harbor maritime industrial area is on filled land reclaimed from the prior rocky shore. Within the Harbors Division area there are no remaining ancient or historical landmarks or remnants of pre-existing environmental habitats. There are no water springs or tidal pools within the industrialized area nor any forested or natural areas. There are no recreational activities near the proposed cement handling facility. The proposed installation will require no change in grading of the existing land.

5. Summary Description of the Environment:

The Kawaihae Harbor is located in the South Kohala District of Hawaii, about 20 miles (32 kilometers) northerly of the Keahole Airport. Steep hills rise inland from the harbor toward the community of ~~Waima~~<sup>Waima</sup> (Kamuela) about 10 miles (16 kilometers) east of the harbor. The terrain is generally rocky from old lava flows and barren of forests and large trees. The annual rainfall is small. The attached drawings show a vicinity map of Kawaihae Harbor and indicate location of the parcel TMK 6-1-03-44 on which the proposed improvement will be constructed and operated.

6. Summary of Major Impacts.

The proposed improvement of the existing cement handling facility will not affect water quality, atmosphere quality, or visual impact. There is no water-use requirement to operate the facility other than personal needs of employees and for maintaining landscaping. The use of adequate bag-type dust collection equipment prevents escape of pollution into the atmosphere. Noise during product transfer from the specialized barge is minimized because the pneumatic unloading equipment is installed deep within the barge and thus noise is baffled from escaping.

The location within designated maritime industrial complex overcomes expectations for avenues of scenic viewing. With painting and maintenance of the entire improvement and with continuing attention toward landscaping, it is the intention that the facility will not be a visual distraction. Because of increasing demand by customers of the product, and because the proposed improvement will allow satisfaction of the demand, there will be consequent increased traffic of bulk cement delivery vehicles. Generally, the traffic caused by the bulk cement facility is but a small part of the total traffic generated by the busy Kawaihae Harbor.

7. Alternatives considered:

The fundamental alternate possibilities range from a government mandated return to more primitive human life style with minimum of housing, utilities, sanitation, transportation, and communications network and with minimum population (for which there would be no need of the harbor industrialization) to the present style of residential, tourism, and commercial activity on the Kona Coast. If Hawaiian Cement should choose not to supply the portland cement needed for modern construction in West Hawaii, then some other supplier either local or foreign would surely come forth to supply such demand.

8. Mitigation measures:

The major environmental concern in the handling of bulk cement is the possible escape of cement dust into the atmosphere. The industry-wide method for preventing escape of cement dust is use of the bag-type dust collector connected into a closed system whereby dust emission is eliminated. Such dust collector is an industrial version of the common hand-operated vacuum cleaner used in everyday housekeeping. Regarding cement dust, it is entirely a mineral dust without organic or carbonaceous content and therefore cannot explode or burn. Cement dust is not an explosion threat or fire hazard as is associated with the organic dust of grain handling or flour mills. The operation of the existing Kawaihae bulk cement plant since

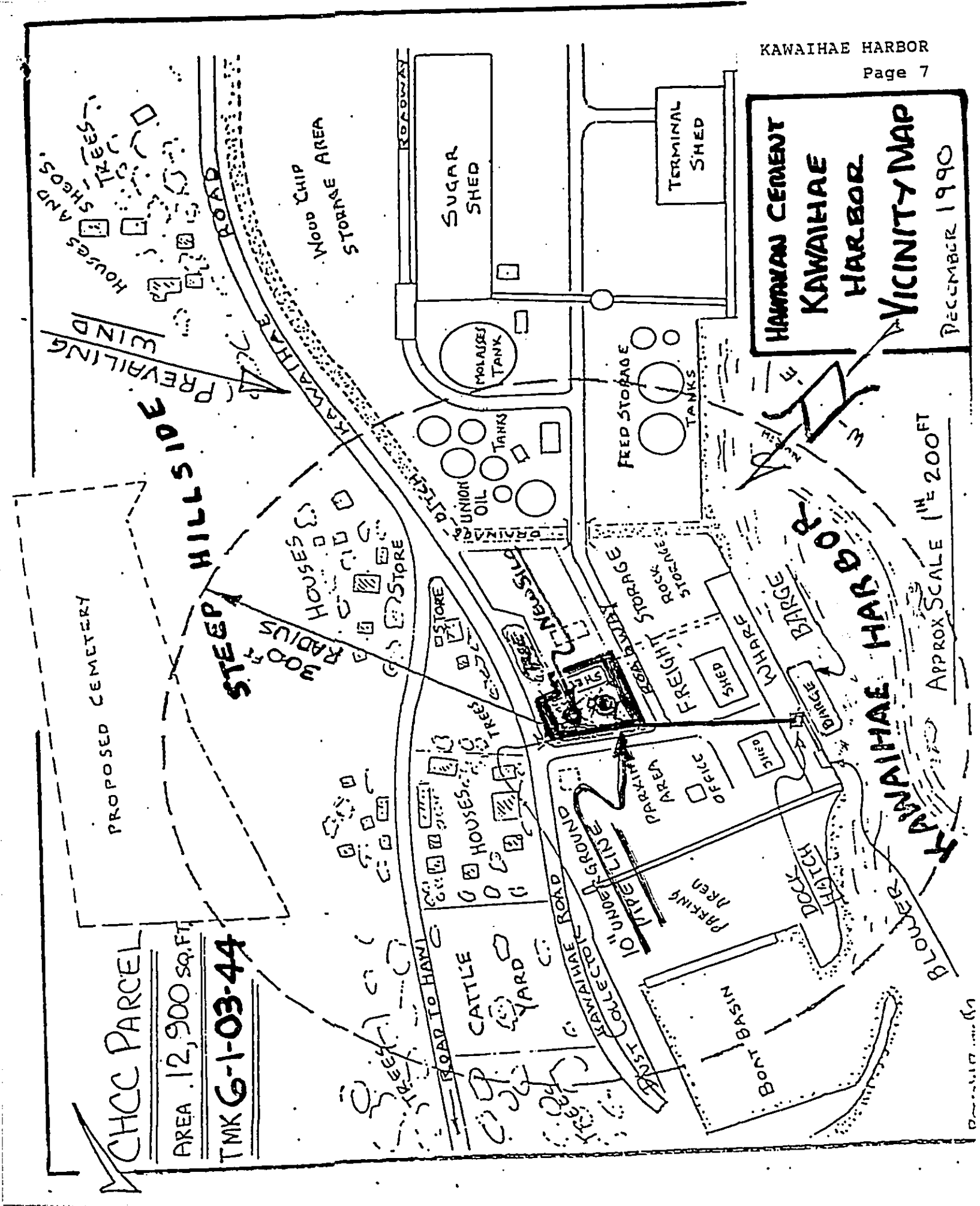
year 1979 has not resulted in complaints or concerns from Harbors Division personnel or from people in the adjacent community.

9. Agency determination:

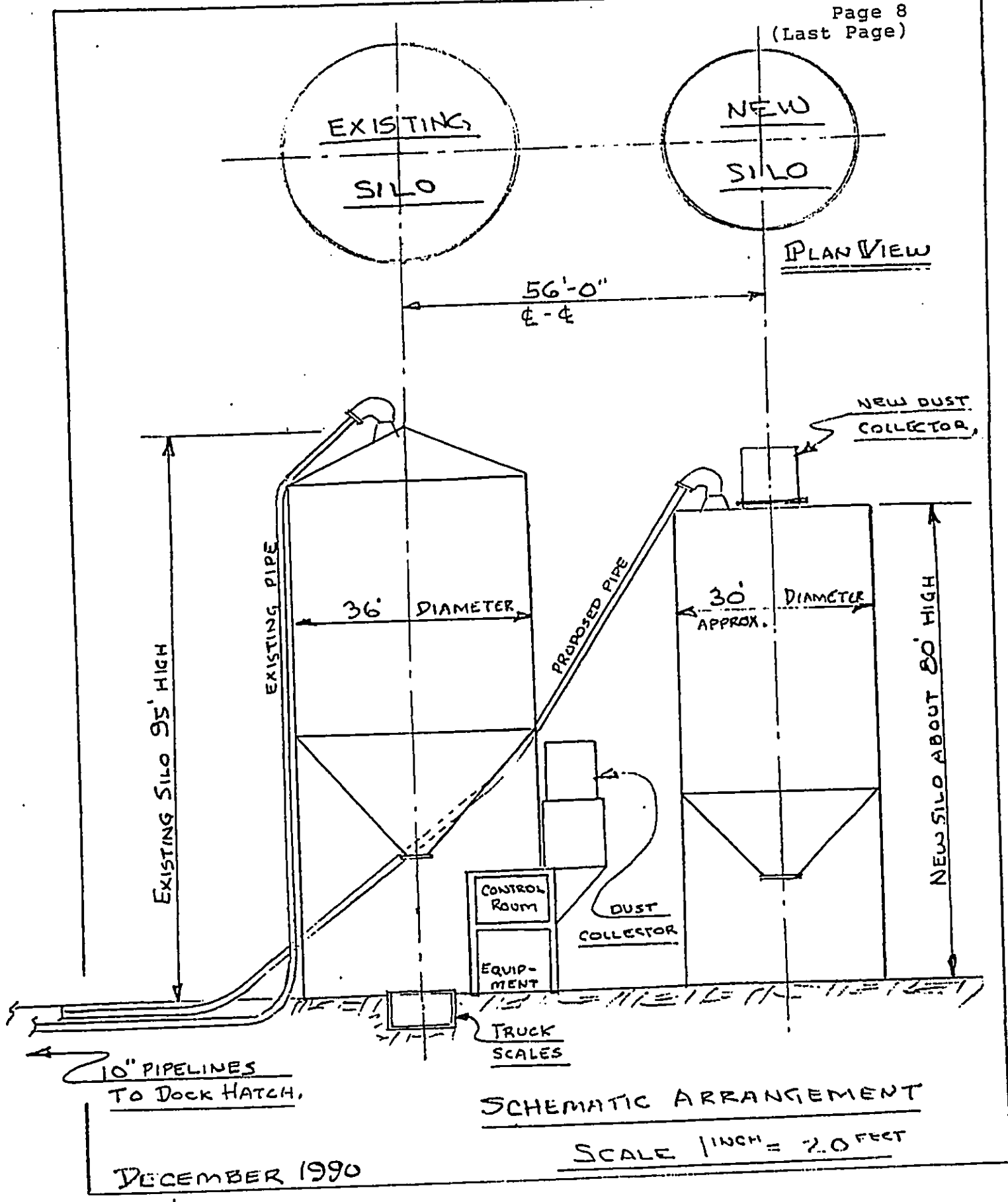
HAWAIIAN CEMENT  
KAWAIHAE  
HARBOR  
VICINITY MAP  
DECEMBER 1990

CHCC PARCEL  
AREA 12,900 SQ. FT.  
TMK G-1-03-44

APPROX SCALE 1" = 200 FT







DECEMBER 1990  
PWB