RUSSEL S. NAGATA COMPTROLLER ROBERT P. TAKUSHI DEPUTY COMPTROLLER

STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES DIVISION OF PUBLIC WORKS P. O. BOX 119, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96810

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MAR 5 1992

OFC. OF ENVIRONME QUALITY CONTE-

Mr. Brian J. J. Choy Director Office of Environmental Quality Control Central Pacific Plaza 220 South King Street, 4th Floor Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Choy:

JOHN WAIHEE

GOVERNOR

University of Hawaii at Hilo Subject: Utility Grid

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Attached for your appropriate action are the following:

Document for Publication in the OEQC Bulletin. 1.

Four copies of the Negative Declaration. 2.

If there are any questions, please have your staff call Mr. Earl Bethke of the Planning Branch at 586-0484.

Very truly yours,

TEUANE TOMINAGA State Public Works Engineer

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NEGATIVE DECLARATION UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII AT HILO UTILITY GRID MARCH 3, 1992

- PROPOSING AGENCY: Department of Accounting and General A. Services for the University of Hawaii at Hilo.
- APPROVING AGENCY: Not applicable. Β.

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- AGENCY CONSULTED: University of Hawaii at Hilo. C.
- GENERAL DESCRIPTION TECHNICAL, ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND D. ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS:
 - <u>Technical</u>: This project is to design and construct the upgrade of the utility grid for the University of 1. Hawaii at Hilo campus.
 - The estimated cost of the project is Economic: 2. \$8,682,900. Since the project will be constructed within the existing university campus, no land will be removed from the tax base.
 - 3. Social: The project will provide the university with a much-needed facility to implement its program in accordance with the long range development plan.
 - Environmental: The project will not create any major 4. environmental impact.
- SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING Ε. SITE MAPS: The location of the project is the University of Hawaii at Hilo campus as shown on the attached Figures 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- DISCUSSION OF THE ASSESSMENT PROCESS: The following F. assessments are made to determine whether or not the anticipated effects constitute a "significant effect":
 - The proposed action will not involve an irrevocable 1. commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources.
 - The proposed action will not curtail the range of 2. beneficial uses of the environment.
 - The proposed action will not conflict with the State's 3. long-term environmental policies.

Negative Declaration University of Hawaii at Hilo Utility Grid

- 4. The proposed action will not substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the community or State.
- 5. The proposed action will not involve substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities.
- 6. The proposed action will not involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality.
- 7. The proposed action will not substantially affect any rare, threatened or endangered species of flora or fauna or habitat. No endangered species of flora or fauna are known to exist in the project site.
- 8. The proposed action will not detrimentally affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels.
- 9. The proposed action will not be located in any environmentally sensitive area, such as flood plain, tsunami zone, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.
- G. <u>SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS</u>: From the above assessment, no major adverse environmental impact is anticipated. The project will result in the following minor adverse impacts:
 - 1. Depletion of labor and material resources for construction.
 - 2. Some dust, noise and silting during construction.
- H. <u>ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED</u>: The "no action" alternative was considered but deemed to be unacceptable.
- I. <u>PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES</u>: The temporary dust, noise and silting which would occur during construction will be controlled by application of appropriate pollution control measures.
- J. <u>DETERMINATION</u>: It is determined that an Environmental Impact Statement should not be required for this project.

Page 2

Negative Declaration University of Hawaii at Hilo Utility Grid

K. <u>FINDINGS AND REASONS SUPPORTING DETERMINATION</u>: The project site is generally free of flood, tsunami, erosion, and landslide hazards. No rare or endangered species of flora are known to exist at the site. No rare or endangered species of fauna are known to inhabit the site. There are no recorded archaeological or historical sites within the existing site.

For the reasons cited above, the proposed action will not have any significant effect in the context of Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes and Section 11-200-12 of the State Administrative Rules.

Page 3







