Ref.: LM-GM

Mr. Bruce Anderson, Acting Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
State of Hawaii
220 South King Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Mr. Anderson:

Subject: Negative Declaration in Connection With the Granting of Three (3) Easements for Telephone Pole, Guy and Anchor Cable, Kapaa, Kauai Tax Map Key: 4-5-1518 and 26

The Department of Land and Natural Resources has not received any comments during the 30-day public comment period. We have determined that this project will not have a significant environmental effect, and therefore, we are issuing a negative declaration. Please publish this notice in the next available OEQC Bulletin.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four (4) copies of the final environmental assessment.

Please contact Gary Martin at 587-0414 if you have any questions.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

W. Mason Young
Land Management Administrator

Enclosures

cc: Kauai Land Board Member
    Kauai District Land Office
IDENTIFICATION OF APPLICANT:

GTE Hawaiian Tel

IDENTIFICATION OF APPROVING AGENCY:

Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Land Management

IDENTIFICATION OF AGENCIES CONSULTED IN MAKING ASSESSMENT:

County of Kauai Planning Department
County of Kauai Public Works Department

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

Technical. Applicant is proposing three telecommunication easements in State Land. Proposed easement "E-1" is for a telephone pole, guy and anchor easement within Tax Map Key 4-5-15 Parcel 8. The easement size is 103 square feet. The land is leased by Mr. and Mrs. Peter Souza. See Attachment A.

Proposed easements "E-2" and "E-3" are for telephone pole, guy and anchor, and cables within Tax Map Key 4-5-15 Parcel 26. The easement sizes are 17,639 square feet for easement "E-2" and 2,383 square feet for easement "E-3". The land is leased by the County of Kauai as the Kapaa Borrow Pit Site by Executive Order 1756. See Attachment B.

This property is zoned "Agricultural" by the State Land Use Commission, and zoned "Open and Agricultural" by the County of Kauai Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.

GTE Hawaiian Tel requires these easements to install a proposed pole line on the lower portion of Oloheha Road starting at its intersection at Malu (aka Opala) Road to a point before its intersection with Kaapuni Road. Because the existing paved road meanders off the right of way, easements from the properties contiguous with the road right of way are required to build the proposed pole line. The properties involved include the subject State owned parcels.
GENERAL DESCRIPTION (continued):

Technical (continued).

The proposed design utilizes the existing Oloheha Road right of way as much as possible, but due to the location of the paved road in relation to the right of way, the pole line had to depart into private property. The attached maps and descriptions indicate the proposed easements through the subject parcels.

Economic. The proposed easements will not generate any economic impacts to the County, State, or Kapaa area. The pole line will cost GTE Hawaiian Tel approximately $50,000 to construct. Related telephone facilities that will be supported by the proposed pole line include a new fiber optic cable intended to service the Kaapuni/Upper Kapaa/Waialua Homesteads areas and a new feeder cable intended to service the same areas. These related projects will cost GTE Hawaiian Tel nearly $450,000 to construct in entirety. Most of these projects are to be constructed in the first half of 1994.

Social. There are no negative social impacts to the County, State, or Kapaa area, however, telecommunication service for the Kaapuni/Upper Kapaa/Waialua Homesteads residents will improve.

Environmental. Adverse environmental impacts are not anticipated. The land is not designated by the County to be located within any slope, drainage, historic, or flood constraint district. Cultural Resource Date Map Panel K-08 does not reflect any cultural or historical sensitivity on the property or in the region. However, should anything of importance be discovered during construction, applicant will stop work and notify the DLNR - Historic Preservation Division. There will be some visual impact due to the pole and cables, but the pole sizes are within the height restrictions of the County of Kauai Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance.

SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT:

Tax Map Key 4-5-15:8 and 4-5-15:26; both being a portion of Lot 2-A-2, are adjacent to Oloheha Road. No structural improvements exist on the property. Based on the County zoning of these lots, development is not anticipated. Parcel 8 is used for animal grazing while parcel 1 has no apparent current use.
SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR IMPACTS:

Short term impacts include the construction of pole/guy/anchor placements and cable installations. There are no anticipated long term impacts to water, air, archaeologic and historic district/sites, or flora and fauna resources. There will be no long term noise or traffic impacts. As state earlier the only anticipated impact is a visual one due to the poles and cables.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

An alternative to underground the facilities was proposed and rejected due to the extraneous costs that would be incurred by GTE Hawaiian Tel. The "do nothing" alternative was not a viable one in view of the increased demand for expanded services to the Kaapuni/Upper Kapahi/Wailua Homesteads areas.

PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES, IF ANY:

Adherence to applicable State Department of Health rules and regulations on Air and Noise Quality will be observed during construction. Appropriate noise abatement measures will be taken and dust control measures will also be employed if appropriate.

DETERMINATION:

Based on the foregoing, it is determined that the proposed easements will not cause nor create any adverse economic, social or environmental impacts in the neighborhood or surrounding community. The proposed easements and subsequent improvements are intended to benefit the community with the use of state of the art fiber optic technology and increased copper line capacity.