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

Dear Mr. Gill:

Subject: Negative Declaration for  
Ewa Beach Elementary School  
New Dining Room/Kitchen  
TMK 9-1-12:19

The Department of Accounting and General Services did not receive any comments during the 30-day public comment period which began on May 23, 1995. Therefore, the agency has determined that this project will not have significant environmental effect and has issued a negative declaration. Please publish this notice in the October 23, 1995 OEQC Bulletin.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form and four copies of the final EA. If there are any questions, please have your staff call Mr. Gary Chong of the Planning Branch at 586-0487.

Very truly yours,

GORDON MATSUOKA  
State Public Works Engineer

GC:jy  
Attachments
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
(NEGATIVE DECLARATION)
EWA BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
NEW DINING ROOM/KITCHEN
OCTOBER 3, 1995

A. PROPOSING AGENCY: Department of Accounting and General Services for the Department of Education.

B. APPROVING AGENCY: Not applicable.

C. AGENCY CONSULTED: Department of Education.

D. GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE TECHNICAL, SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL CHARACTERISTICS:

1. Technical: Ewa Beach Elementary School has a demi-kitchen which provides hot lunches for the school, Hale Olu (alternative school on Ft. Weaver Road), and the Head Start Program at the Baptist Church. 525+ lunches and 100+ breakfasts are prepared each day. Our constant increase in enrollment calls for increased output of meals and a need for additional bodies in the kitchen. The kitchen in its present size will be hard pressed to accommodate the needed additional bodies and lunches.

The multi-purpose building is currently being used as the school's dining hall. This area is a carpeted area as its original intent was for school curriculum use. In addition to using the building for curriculum programs and as a dining room, the building is used for school assemblies, parent meetings—day and evening, A+ Program daily, City & County Parks and Recreation programs, and by community organizations (churches, social agencies, youth groups, etc.).

Concerns regarding health and safety standards are constant. Food spillage on the carpet is a daily occurrence; children and adults sit on the carpet during assemblies and various school and parent-involvement events; incident weather calls for indoor activities. The carpet handles endless amounts of traffic and, in turn, bacteria. To add to this, the carpet is weathered and worn and presents a safety hazard.

This project is to construct a new dining room/kitchen building of approximately 7,026 square feet urgently needed for health and safety of the students. This project also includes any site improvements,
relocation of existing infrastructures, connections to public utilities and easements that may be required as a result of this project.

2. Socio-Economic:

   a. The proposed project will not create sufficient additional jobs to substantially impact the economy and welfare of the community and State.

   b. The estimated cost of the project is $2,800,000.

   c. Since the project will be constructed within the existing school campus, no land will be removed from the tax base.

   d. The project will provide the school with a much-needed facility to implement its educational program in accordance with the Educational Specifications which was approved by the Board of Education and the Governor.

3. Environmental:

   a. The project will not create any major long-term environmental impacts as the project is located in an existing school.

   b. However, during construction, the air quality in the school may be temporarily affected by dust and exhaust emissions and it is anticipated there will be a temporary increase in noise levels.

   c. These impacts are expected to be minimal since State and Federal regulations to minimize these adverse effects need to be met.

E. SUMMARY DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT, INCLUDING SITE MAPS:

1. The site of the proposed project is located on the school campus (TMK 9-1-12:19).

2. No habitat of endangered species, flora or fauna are known to exist at this existing developed site.
3. No historical, archaeological or cultural sites are known to exist at the site. The State Historic Preservation Division will be notified should any significant archaeological sites are discovered during construction.

4. The site is not in a Special Management Area.

5. The location of the school site and the proposed project are as shown in Figures 1 and 2, respectively.

F. IDENTIFICATION AND SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS AND ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED:

1. Major Impacts: The proposed project will not permanently:
   a. Involve an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources. (The site is an existing developed site currently used for educational purposes).
   b. Curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment. (The project will enhance the beneficial use of the environment by adding facility for education).
   c. Conflict with the State's long term environmental policies. (Site is and will remain for educational use).
   d. Substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the community or State. (Project will not create great number of jobs nor will it create additional housing units).
   e. Involve substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities. (This project alone will not cause population change. New schools are being planned for new residential developments in Ewa plain and Kapolei where population changes is expected).
f. Involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality. (This project will be used by the existing school. It will not affect the environmental quality of the school).

g. Detrimentally affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels. (No toxic air is expected to be emitted from the food preparation kitchen into the atmosphere. Waste waterline is to be connected to the City wastewater system. Noise level will be normal like any school operation).

h. Be located in any environmentally sensitive area, such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.

2. Alternatives to the Proposed Project: Use of multiple-purpose building as a permanent cafeteria for the school is not considered to be a viable or desirable alternative.

G. PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES: Short term impacts on air and noise quality, community and cultural disturbances during construction period will be controlled by application of appropriate pollution, noise control and community cultural awareness measures.

H. DETERMINATION: On the basis of the above assessment and on our findings, it is concluded that the proposed project will not have a permanently significant adverse impact on the environment (project is located on a developed school site currently used for educational purposes), social or economic welfare of the community or State (project will not create additional jobs), public facilities (facility may be used by the public after school hours on a case by case basis approved by the Department of Education), and public access or right-of-ways (no change in public access or right-of-way due to construction of this project). During construction, historical and/or archaeological sites discovered will be reported to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, State Historic Preservation Division for guidance. It is also noted that background information from the Geographic Information System database (mainly from the City and County of Honolulu) is not currently
available for this submittal but will be incorporated in other submittals to OEQC when the information is readily available to DARGS.