

BENJAMIN J. CRIVELLO
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
P. O. BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

5733
Michael D. Wilson
Chairperson
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

RECEIVED
DEPUTIES
Michael S. Coloma-Agaran
DCNR, L. HAWAII

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UFC OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM
AQUATIC RESOURCES CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
CONVEYANCES FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM
LAND MANAGEMENT
STATE PARKS
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

Ref. LM-EL

DEC 20 1995

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

Dear Mr. Gill:

Subject: **Negative Declaration for Proposed Direct Lease of State Land for a Cell Site at Humuula, North Hilo, Hawai'i**
Tax Map Key:3rd/3-9-02:Por. 07
Applicant: U.S. Cellular

In accordance with the requirements of Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, and Chapter 200 of Title 11, Administrative Rules, a Final Environmental Assessment has been prepared for the subject parcel.

Notice of availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the project was published in the January 23, 1994 OEQC Bulletin. Comments were received and responded to by the applicant to the department's satisfaction.

As the proposing agency, we are forwarding herewith, one copy of the OEQC Bulletin Publication form, and four copies of the Final Environmental Assessment. We have determined that there will be no significant impacts as a result of the project, and, therefore, are filing the Final Environmental Assessment as a negative declaration. We respectfully request that public notice of the Final Environmental Assessment be published in the next scheduled OEQC Bulletin.

Should there be any questions, please contact Eric Leong, Land Agent at (808) 587-0414.

Very truly yours,

Michael S. Coloma-Agaran
MICHAEL D. WILSON

c: Hawai'i Land Board Member
Dean Y. Uchida, Administrator

Hawai'i District Land Office
William Moore

184

1996-01-08-HI-PEA - Direct lease of State land for Cell Site at Hamuula
JAN 8 1996
FILE COPY

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
(NEGATIVE DECLARATION)

UNITED STATES CELLULAR
LEASE OF STATE LAND AT 'O'OKALA
FOR CONSTRUCTION OF CELL SITE

TMK 3RD 3-09-02: 07 (PORTION)
HUMU'ULA, NORTH HILO, HAWAI'I

SEPTEMBER 1995

APPLICANT:

United States Cellular
333 Kilauea Ave, No. 2
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

CONSULTANTS:

William L. Moore
411 Haili Street
Hilo, Hawai'i 96720

and

Ron Terry Ph.D.
HCR 9575
Kea'au, Hawai'i 96749

APPROVING AGENCY:

Division of Land Management
Department of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawai'i
P.O. Box 936
Hilo, Hawaii' 96720-0936

CLASS OF ACTION:

Use of State Lands

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PART 1: ACTION DESCRIPTION

1.1 Project Location

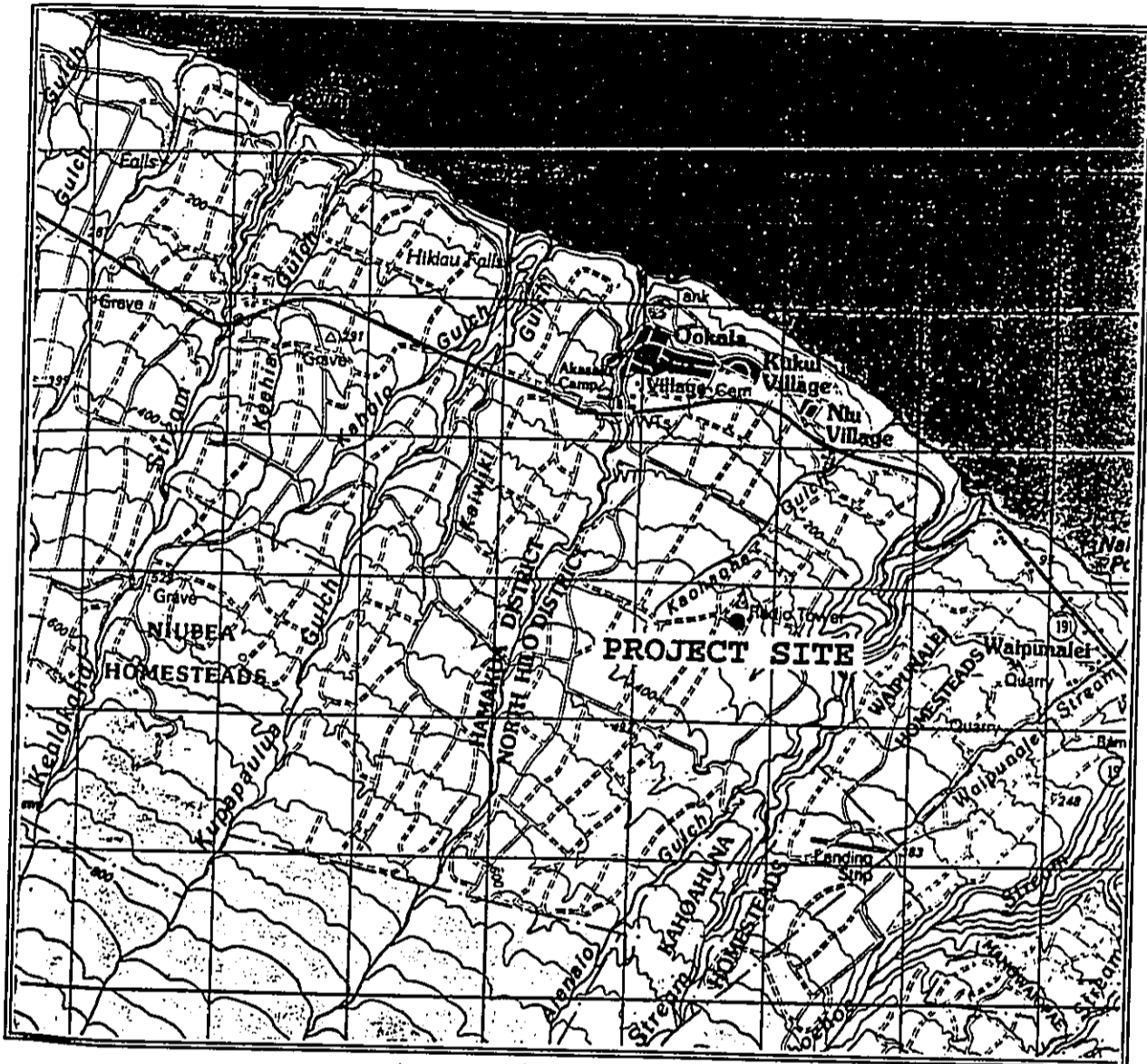
The proposed activity is the lease of a 1.34 acre or smaller portion of TMK 3-09-02:07, which is owned by the State of Hawaii (Fig. 1). The parcel is within the ahupua'a of Humu'ula, District of North Hilo, Island of Hawaii, and contains 934.183 acres in its entirety. The site is located in a former sugar cane field at approximately 1,080 feet in elevation, 0.8 miles mauka of Highway 19, near the village of 'O'okala. The site is 250 feet mauka from an existing microwave relay tower operated by Hawaiian Telephone Company.

1.2 Purpose and Objectives of Action

The proposed action would provide a cell site for the expanding U.S. Cellular mobile communications network. U.S. Cellular has thirteen sites in existence or in the planning stages on the island of Hawaii, located in such a way as to optimize communications. The function of a cellular site is to receive, process and transmit cellular telephone calls. The site would also provide for the possible future location of a cellular facility for GTE Mobilnet.

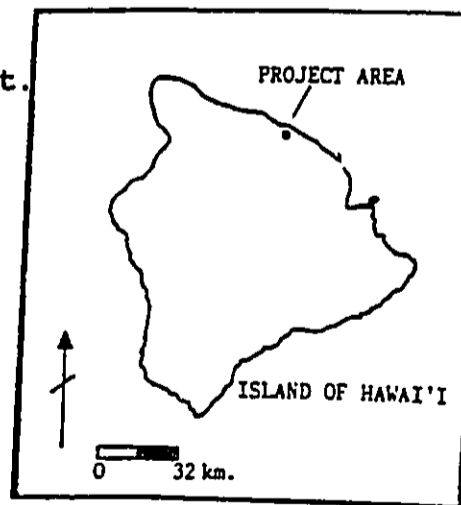
The 'O'okala site provides an ideal microwave path between existing and planned cellular sites and thus would improve coverage and service for mobile communications in East Hawaii from Honokaa to Pepeekeo. The proposed cell would provide coverage to areas that presently have poor or no coverage. Clients, which include both the general public and government agencies, would be able to use their cellular phones over a much larger geographic area.

FIGURE 1 LOCATION MAP, 'O'OKALA



SOURCE: United States Geological Survey 1:50,000 Series
Honokaa Quadrangle

SCALE: One inch equals approximately 4165 feet.
Contours are in meters.



1.3 Project Description

The mobile communications cell would consist of the following elements:

- o *Tower and Microwave Dishes.* The tower would be approximately 180 feet in height. Two alternative designs are under consideration. One involves a guyed tower 4 to 6 feet in diameter, which would require the full 1.34 acres to include the guy wire tie-downs. The other design utilizes a free-standing tower tapering from a diameter of 22 feet at its three-legged base to a diameter of 4-6 feet at the top. This latter alternative produces a facility "footprint" of approximately 2,750 square feet.

Suspended from the side of the tower would be one to three microwave dishes 6 to 8 feet in diameter. The dishes consist of grids, which appear semi-transparent from a distance. The tower is not required to be and would not be lighted.

- o *Control Building.* A Fibrebond Corporation communications building would be installed. This one-story, prefabricated unit consists of monolithic walls, floor and roof for strength and security, and an aggregate outer finish colored in earth tones to blend in with the background. Expected dimensions of the building are 10 feet by 20 feet.
- o *Graded Pad with Security Fencing.* The tower and control building would be enclosed within a 2,750 sq. ft. area enclosed by an 8-foot chain link fence.
- o *Power Lines and Access Road.* The electrical power necessary to operate the cell site would be obtained from HELCO lines that provide power for the adjacent microwave tower.

Initial inquiries for the lease of the site for a cellular telecommunications facility were conducted by GTE Mobilnet. In 1994, in consultation with GTE Mobilnet, it was agreed that U.S. Cellular would apply for the lease. In order to consolidate communication facilities should GTE Mobilnet also desire to use the site in the future, the tower has been designed to accommodate joint use. U.S. Cellular has also consulted public agencies regarding joint use of the site, and the proposed facility has been designed to accommodate agency plans.

Joint use of the site by GTE and/or public agencies would involve construction of additional control buildings and

installation of additional antennae and microwave dishes on the tower at their own expense. Future control buildings would be accommodated by expansion of the fenced area inside the 1.34 acre site under consideration. Although only a portion of the site is proposed for lease at this time by U.S. Cellular, research conducted for this Environmental Assessment considered the entire 1.34 acres along with the impacts of future facility add-ons that could be contained within.

1.4 Ownership

The parcel proposed for the cell site is ceded land owned in fee by the State of Hawaii and has no active leases.

1.5 Land Use Designation and Controls

The project area is zoned A-20a (Agriculture, 20 acres) by Hawaii County and is located in the State Land Use Agriculture District. Zoning in the surrounding area is identical. The project area is not within the Special Management Area, nor are there other special restrictions upon land use in the area.

Communications facilities such as the proposed project are permitted uses according to Chapter 205, HRS, and the County of Hawaii zoning code. Plan approval by the County Planning Department is required. A lease approved by the Hawaii State Board of Land and Natural Resources is necessary for the project. The Federal Communications Commission requires registration of the facility with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). No other federal, state or county permits or approvals are required.

1.6 Consultation with Government Agencies

As part of the application process by GTE Mobilnet for the proposed lease, the Division of Land Management of the Hawaii State Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLM-DLNR) solicited comments from the a number of county and state agencies. Several additional agencies were contacted as part of the preparation of this EA.

County:

Planning Department
Department of Public Works
Department of Water Supply
Department of Research and Development
Police Department
Fire Department

State:

Department of Agriculture
Department of Budget and Finance
 Telecommunications Branch
Department of Health
Department of Land and Natural Resources
 Agriculture Specialist
 Division of Forestry and Wildlife
 Land Agent
 Office of Conservation and Environmental Affairs
 State Historic Preservation Division
Office of Hawaiian Affairs
Office of State Planning

Copies of replies from those agencies with substantive comments are provided as Appendix 1 and discussed in the appropriate sections of the Environmental Assessment.

One comment was received in response to the Draft Environmental Assessment published in the OEQC Bulletin of July 8, 1995. This comment, from the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC), requested that the authors consult with community groups, provide a photorendering of the site, and provide a map of the island indicating the project site (see Appendix 2 for full text of comment and response). Discussion of the subsequent consultation is contained in Section 2.2.4 below.

PART 2: ENVIRONMENTAL SETTING

2.1 Physical Environment Characteristics

2.1.1 Geology, Soils, Climate and Hazards

The tower site is located at elevation 1,080 feet above mean sea level on a sloping but broad interfluvium between Ka'oha'oha and Ka'awali'i Gulches. The surface geology of the region consists of Hamakua Series lava flows from Mauna Kea lava, overlain by Pahala Ash with a mean thickness of 2 meters (MacDonald et al 1983:362). Slopes average between 20 and 35 percent.

Soil in the area is classified in the Honokaa Silty Clay Loam Series, a dark brown, medium acid soil up to 6 feet in depth. Runoff is rapid and erosion hazard is slight (U.S. Soil Conservation Service 1973:19).

The site receives an annual rainfall of approximately 100 inches (Giambelluca et al 1986). Occasionally, large storms may produce abundant rainfall that leads to high runoff. The site is not located in a floodplain, and the proposed action would not affect the drainage characteristics of the area.

Volcanic hazard as assessed by the United States Geological Survey is "8" on a scale of ascending risk 9 to 1 (Heliker 1990:23). The low hazard risk is based on the fact that only a few percent of surrounding areas have been covered by lava in the past 10,000 years.

Seismically the area shares with the entire island of Hawaii a Zone 3 rating on a scale of ascending risk 1 to 4 in the Seismic Probability Rating (Furumoto et al 1973:34). Major damage is possible. The relevant design implications of this setting are to follow suitable specifications for lateral load according to the Uniform Building Code.

2.1.2 Flora, Fauna and Ecosystems

Flora and Vegetation

Botanical surveys of the cell site and access road were conducted by author Ron Terry, Ph.D., in January and March of 1994.

The vegetation of the general area is completely dominated by alien species in the microwave tower landscaping and in the weed-infested, abandoned canefields surrounding the site. Principal species include sugar cane (Saccharum

officinarum), eucalyptus (Eucalyptus spp.), California grass (Brachiara mutica), sensitive plant (Mimosa pudica), honohono (Commelina diffusa), Spanish clover (Desmodium spp.), guinea grass (Panicum maximum), Spanish needle (Bidens pilosa), and various sedges (Cyperus spp.) and grasses (Setaria sp. and others). The vegetation contains very few natives and has little, if any, habitat value.

The original native vegetation of the area was probably Lowland Wet Forest, which consisted of 'ohi'a (Metrosideros polymorpha) as a dominant with an understory of uluhe (Dicranopteris linearis) and hapu'u (Cibotium spp.) ferns along with a rich assemblage of trees (Gagne and Cuddihy 1990:89-90). Centuries of cultivation, especially that associated with sugar cane, have transformed the region and left no evidence of the original forest.

Fauna

The project site is too low in elevation for most native birds, which are generally found above 2,000 feet in elevation. In any, case, the weedy canefields offer very poor quality habitat for native birds. The native raptors, 'io (Buteo solitarius) and the Hawaiian owl or pueo (Asio flammeus sandwichensis) are extremely adaptable and may make occasional use of the area.

Conservation Value

No listed, candidate or proposed endangered animal or plant species is found on the property. In terms of conservation value, no botanical or zoological resources requiring special protection occupy the site.

2.2 Social and Economic Setting

2.2.1 Existing Land Uses: Overview

As illustrated on Figure 1, there are no settlements, agriculture or other intensive land uses in the vicinity of the proposed cellular site. The closest settled area is the village of 'O'okala, approximately 0.9 miles to the north (makai). 'O'okala consists mainly of camps built by the former sugar plantations. The proposed action would not adversely impact views, interfere with or adversely affect in any way 'O'okala or other settlements.

The parcel involved is ceded land. In a comment letter of 19 May 1993 (see Appendix 1), the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) stated that it had no opposition to the lease (as distinct from sale) of the parcel portion.

2.2.2 Agricultural Land Uses

The State parcel was formerly leased to sugar companies for cane cultivation. There are no active leases on this parcel. The soil, rainfall and accessibility make the parcel suitable for several crops (see Land Evaluation and Recommendation Form, Appendix 1). However, available land in Hamakua grossly exceeds the demand by farmers, at least for lease or fee prices considered reasonable by landowners.

According to the Department of Land and Natural Resources, plans for the parcel which encloses the site include leasing the land for forestry purposes.

The proposed cellular site would diminish only negligibly the available agricultural land in the State parcel. Future activities and lease rent levels would not be adversely affected by the presence or operation of the cellular site. U.S. Cellular is aware of plans for forestry on the State parcel and foresees no conflict between these uses.

2.2.3 Access, Utilities and Public Services

The site is accessed by travelling mauka on 'O'okala Road approximately 6,600 feet from its intersection with Highway 19, then turning south on Ka'awali'i Road (unpaved) for approximately 1,500 feet, and then turning makai on an unnamed, unpaved road that leads approximately 3,000 feet to an existing microwave tower site.

The Hawaii Electric Light Company (HELCO) maintains transmission lines adjacent to Highway 19. A branch line from this main line supplies power to the microwave tower and would be the source of electrical power for the project.

In a comment letter of 14 May 1993 (see Appendix 1), the Hawaii County Police Department requested cooperation in sharing of the site and facilities for future Department communications needs. The applicant is working with the Police Department and other public agencies to develop plans for site/service sharing.

2.2.4 Scenic Resources

The topography of the Hamakua Coast consists of a moderately sloping surface extending from the sea cliffs to Mauna Kea, inscribed by deep stream gulches. At about 7,000 feet elevation a change in geology induces steeper slopes and a concave slope profile. Therefore, views upslope from most

locations are very subtle and do not encompass large swaths of upland, although the summit regions of Mauna Kea can often be seen. The highway is for the most part set within a shallow road cut where views upslope are limited.

In a comment letter of 28 May 1993 (see Appendix 1), the Office of State Planning expressed concern about visual impacts associated with communications facilities.

The proposed tower is adjacent to and 20 feet shorter than an existing lighted, microwave tower. This allowed determination of the viewshed of the proposed tower by day and night observations of the existing tower. The areas along Highway 19 from which the larger tower can be seen are plotted on Figure 2.

The size of an object as perceived by a viewer is also a component of visual impact. The circle on the map indicates the distance from which the tower would appear to have the same thickness as a large sewing needle held at arm's length (radius 6,000 feet).

The tower and grid dishes blend in with the landscape and would be increasingly difficult to discern with increasing distance. In addition, topographic barriers would hide the tower from most locations farther than 10,000 feet (except from higher elevations in the former cane lands or from aircraft). The viewplane from Highway 19, 'O'okala, Pa'auilo and Laupahoehoe would be thus be essentially unaffected.

Figure 3 is a photograph of the project site as viewed from a point on the highway near 'O'okala from which both towers would be most visible. The photograph has been enhanced to illustrate the view from this highway after the proposed tower is constructed.

2.2.5 Community Consultation

In response to a comment letter (see Appendix 2) from the Office of Environmental Quality Control concerning the Draft EA, two community meetings were held between U.S. Cellular and its consultants and the 'O'okala community, on August 7 and August 17, 1995. The first meeting was publicized by flyer and was attended by four residents. The second was part of a camp meeting and involved 44 individuals. The meetings discussed the proposed project and its impacts. Fact sheets for the proposed project were distributed to all attendees and copies of the EA made available to interested parties.

FIGURE 3 PHOTORENDERING OF PROPOSED TOWER



Participants were invited to submit written comments and told that any communications would be included in the Final EA if received before its publication. As of September 15, no written comments were received.

2.3 Archaeology and Historic Sites

The site was inspected for surface or subsurface archaeological features by the authors. The entire site was cultivated in sugar cane for many decades, greatly reducing the potential for archaeology. No features were discovered.

PART 3: SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS AND PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

3.1 Short Term Impacts

Impacts: Short term impacts would result from landclearing and construction activities. The impacts would consist of temporary noise, dust and exhaust from machinery and heavy equipment. Exhaust and dust impacts would be mitigated by the dissipative effect of the winds, especially as construction would be remote from residences or other sensitive land uses.

Mitigation: All construction activity will maintain strict compliance with State Department of Health regulations regarding dust and erosion control.

3.2 Long Term Impacts

Impacts: The scenic characteristics of the tower site would be slightly transformed by the project, although the impacts are very minor when put in the context of the 200 foot tall microwave tower located approximately 250 feet makai.

Mitigation: The tower and grid dishes will be painted to blend in against the horizon.

3.3 Permits, Approvals and Conditions

Board of Land Natural Resources:
Approval of Lease of State Land
Public Utility Commission Registration

PART 4: ALTERNATIVES

4.1 No Action

If no cell site is constructed in the general vicinity of 'O'okala, certain areas of the island would continue to have poor or no mobile phone coverage for U.S. Cellular customers.

4.2 Alternative Site Locations

Engineers conducted a site selection process before applying to the State for use of the proposed site. The location of existing and planned cell sites along with the topography of the island dictated that the cell site be located in the general vicinity of the proposed site. The need for electrical power and road access encouraged location along the road and utility corridors leading to the existing microwave tower site. Furthermore, because this site already contains a microwave tower, visual impacts would be minimized by locating the towers nearby. Therefore, no other sites were proposed.

PART 5: DETERMINATION

The proposed project will not significantly alter the environment and impacts will be minimal. Therefore, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has determined that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted (see cover letter).

PART 6: FINDINGS AND REASONS

1. The proposed project will not involve an irrevocable commitment or loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources.
2. The proposed project will not curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment.
3. The proposed project will not conflict with the State's long-term environmental policies.
4. The proposed project will not substantially affect the economic or social welfare of the community or State.
5. The proposed project will not substantially affect public health.
6. The proposed project will not involve substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities.
7. The proposed project will not involve a substantial degradation of environmental quality.
8. The proposed project 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 on the project site.
9. The proposed project would not be considered individually limited but with considerable cumulative effect upon the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions.
10. The proposed project will not detrimentally affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels.
11. Although the proposed project is located in an zone exposed to minor earthquake and volcanic hazard, there are no reasonable alternatives. The proposed action would not expose any person to unreasonable risks.

For the reasons above, the proposed project 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.

REFERENCES

- Furumoto, A.S., N.N. Nielsen, and W.R. Phillips. 1973. *A Study of Past Earthquakes, Isoseismic Zones of Intensity, and Recommended Zones for Structural Design for Hawaii*. Honolulu: Hawaii Institute of Geophysics.
- Gagne, W., and L. Cuddihy. 1990. "Vegetation," pp. 45-114 in W.L. Wagner, D.R. Herbst, and S.H. Sohmer, eds., *Manual of the Flowering Plants of Hawaii*. 2 vols. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.
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- U.S. Soil Conservation Service. 1973. *Soil Survey of Island of Hawaii, State of Hawaii*. Washington: U.S. GPO.
- University of Hawaii at Manoa, Dept. of Geography. 1983. *Atlas of Hawaii*. 2nd ed. Honolulu: University of Hawaii Press.

APPENDIX 1

AGENCY COMMENTS

LAND EVALUATION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Island HI
 Location Ookala, N. Hilo
 Acres 1,500 sq. ft.
 TMK 3-9-02:07por.
 Lease GL S-3613
Hamakua Sugar Co.

1. Physical Features:

SCS MAP NO.	22	SLOPE %	20-35
SCS SOIL SERIES	HsE-Honokaa silty clay loam, low elevation		
CAPABILITY CLASS	Vie-very severe limitations due to erosion hazard		
USES	Sugarcane plus small areas of pasture & macadamia		
LSB MAP NO.	504	SOIL TYPE	B185
LSB CROPS	V S O G F d c c c d		
MEDIAN RAINFALL	106 "	ELEVATION	1,040'
PRESENT COVER	Sugarcane?		
NAT. VEG.	Guava, ohia, kikuyugrass, hilograss & broomsedge		
NOXIOUS WEEDS			

Comments:

United States Cellular made a similar request, dated April 13, 1993, from Glenn Taguchi on the 70-A State Land Disposition form, at a location approximately 500' mauka.

Recommendation:

It would be preferred if these 2 applicants' (US Cellular & GTE Mobilnet) telecommunication towers or antennas were located adjacent to each other rather than scattered about if there is no geographical need to be separated.

Date of Inspection _____ By _____

Date of Report 4/21/93 5/12/93 By [Signature]

GTE Mobilnet
3-9-02:
GTE Mobilnet for 07



733 Bishop Street
Suite 1900
Honolulu, HI 96813

May 31, 1994

State of Hawaii
Department of Land and Natural Resources
Division of Land Management
P.O. Box 936
Hilo, Hawaii 96721

Attention: Mr. Glenn Y. Taguchi

RE: GTE Mobilnet Cellular Facility
at Humuula and Ookala, North Hilo, Hawaii
TMK 3rd/ 3-9-02:07 portion
GTEM's Ookala Site

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
LAND MANAGEMENT
HILLO, HAWAII
JUN 3 1 53 PM '94

Dear Mr. Taguchi:

Pursuant to our recent conversation, please review the below regarding the status of GTE Mobilnet's desire to locate a cellular facility on land owned by the State of Hawaii, being a portion of TMK 3rd/3-9-02:07 in the Humuula and Ookala area.

As we discussed, the DLNR plans to issue a lease jointly to GTE Mobilnet and US Cellular for the purpose of a joint use cellular tower on the above mentioned parcel. GTE Mobilnet and US Cellular must work out the details regarding the sharing of the tower, construction costs, access road improvements and other.

You informed me that the bankruptcy court has set a deadline of September 1994 to close out Hamakua Sugar Company business, which includes a release of their existing lease from the DLNR on the subject parcel. Subsequent to Hamakua Sugar's release of their lease, the DLNR will issue a new lease to GTE Mobilnet/US Cellular, which should be possible in October or early November.

Mr. Harvey Luke of GTE Mobilnet's Oahu office will contact US Cellular and yourself in the near future to discuss the details of a co-location site on the subject parcel. Mr. Luke can be reached at 536-5505 in Oahu.

Sincerely,

Mike Manning
Site Acquisition Representative

A part of GTE Corporation

Handwritten initials and arrow pointing to the signature area.



OFFICE OF STATE PLANNING

Office of the Governor

MAILING ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 3540, HONOLULU, HAWAII 96811-3540
STREET ADDRESS: 250 SOUTH HOTEL STREET, 4TH FLOOR
TELEPHONE: (808) 587-2846, 587-2800

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JUN 3 8 39 AM '93

70-A GTE
Mobilnet
3-9-02:07

FAX: Director's Office 587-2848
Planning Division 587-2824

Ref. No. C-70

May 28, 1993

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mr. Glenn Y. Taguchi, Hawaii District Land Agent
Division of Land Management
Department of Land and Natural Resources

SUBJECT: Comments on State Land Disposition
GTE Mobilnet Transmission Site
Humuula and Ookala, North Hilo

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
LAND MANAGEMENT
JUN 8 1 31 PM '93

The applicant, GTE Mobilnet, is proposing to lease a 30 foot x 50 foot portion of TMK: 3-9-02: 07 for the construction of a cellular telecommunication site. The proposed project would consist of a transmission tower and supporting ground facilities. The tower would be approximately 150 feet high with two whip antennas attached and possibly a 6 to 10 foot diameter microwave dish.

As we have stated in the past, the Office of State Planning is concerned about the visual impacts associated with the siting and construction of communication facilities. Also, OSP is concerned about the proliferation of communication facilities, after a site selection has been made.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. Should you have any questions, please call the Land Use Division at 587-2886.

Harold S. Masumoto
Director

6/14/93 via: Hilo



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LAND MANAGEMENT
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STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS
711 KAPIOLANI BOULEVARD, SUITE 500
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5249
PHONE (808) 586-3777
FAX (808) 586-3789

19 May 1993

Honorable Keith W. Ahue, Chairman
Board of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. BOX 621
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

RE: SLD, Humuula and Ookala, North Hilo, Hawaii

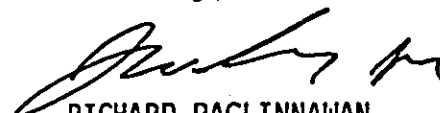
The applicants, GTE Mobilnet is proposing to purchase or lease a 1,500 sq. ft. portion of land identified from TMK: 3 3-9-02:07 (GL 3614 Hamakua Sugar Company, Inc., 934.183 acres) to install a telecommunications tower and supporting facility in order to accommodate extended cellular capabilities.

Our records indicate that the portion of land being requested is ceded. The Office of Hawaiian Affairs objects to any sale of ceded lands. We would not be opposed to a lease.

Additionally, the Office of Hawaiian Affairs has a special concern for protection and preservation of ancient Hawaiian burials, historical and cultural sites, and native flora and fauna. In the instance that a lease agreement is favored by the BLNR, we would like to recommend that the applicant be aware of the requirements of Section 6E-43, HRS and that protection afforded in that section be specifically written into the lease agreement.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and present our concerns regarding this application.

Sincerely,

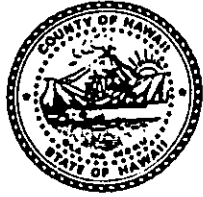

RICHARD PAGLINAWAN
Administrator

cc: ✓ Glenn Y. Taguchi
District Land Agent

Ruby McDonald, West Hawai'i
OHA Liaison



Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Victor V. Vierra
Chief of Police

Francis C. DeMorales
Deputy Chief of Police

County of Hawaii

POLICE DEPARTMENT

349 Kapiolani Street • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3998
(808) 935-3311 • Fax (808) 961-2702

May 14, 1993

RECEIVED
DIVISION OF
LAND MANAGEMENT
MAY 20 12 11 PM '93

Mr. Glenn Taguchi
District Land Agent - Hawaii
Dept. of Land & Natural Resources
75 Aupuni Street
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Dear Mr. Taguchi:

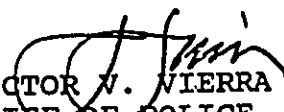
SUBJECT: GTE MOBILNET - OOKALA, NORTH HILO

Our department has no objections regarding the development of a cellular phone site at Ookala, North Hilo, TMK: 3-3-9-02:07.

However, we do have plans to convert our present communications system to 800 Mhz trunking, possibly within the next five years. Therefore, we would appreciate an advanced mutual understanding and your cooperation in sharing of the site, facilities, etc., and solving any interference problems that may occur.

Should you have any further questions, please contact Major Cheryl Reis at 961-2247.

Sincerely,


VICTOR V. VIERRA
CHIEF OF POLICE

LM:CRR:fmU

A handwritten mark consisting of a large arrow pointing upwards and to the right, with a small checkmark-like symbol next to it.

APPENDIX 2

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES TO DRAFT EA

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
220 SOUTH KING STREET
FOURTH FLOOR
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TELEPHONE (808) 586-4185
FACSIMILE (808) 586-2462

JUL 12 1 18 PM '95

RECEIVED
OFFICE OF
LAND MANAGEMENT
HILO, HAWAII

US CELLULAR
3-9-02:
pp. 07
GARY GILL
DIRECTOR

July 6, 1995

Mr. Glenn Taguchi
Department of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 936
Hilo, Hawaii 96721

Dear Mr. Taguchi:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for Humuula US Cellular Lease of State Land for a Cell Site, North Hilo District, Hawaii; TMK 3-9-2: por. 7

Please include the following in the final environmental assessment:

1. A map of the island indicating the project site.
2. Consultation with community groups.
3. A photo of the project site with a superimposed rendering of the cell site addition.

If you have any questions, please call Nancy Heinrich at 586-4185.

Sincerely,

GARY GILL
Director

GG/NH:kk

c: Ron Terry
Patricia Provalenko, US Cellular

MF
✓

WILLIAM L. MOORE PLANNING

411 HAILI STREET
HILO, HAWAII 96720-2515
PHONE/FAX (808) 935-0311

August 28, 1995

Gary Gill, Director
State of Hawaii
Office of Environmental Quality Council
220 South King Street, 4th Floor
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Gill:

Subject: OEQC Comment to Draft Environmental Assessment
For Humuula U.S. Cellular Lease of State Land
For a Cell Site, North Hilo District, Hawaii Island

Thank you for your review of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the subject project. In response to your request for a community consultation, two community meetings were held between U.S. Cellular and its consultants and the 'O'okala community, August 7 and August 17, 1995. The first meeting was publicized by flyer and was attended by four residents. The second was part of a camp meeting with over forty four individuals attending.

The meetings discussed the proposed project and its impacts. Fact sheets for the proposed project were distributed to all attendees and copies of the EA made available to interested parties. Participants were invited to submit written comments and were informed that any communications would be included in the Final EA if received by August 31, 1995. As of September 1, 1995, no written comments were received.

Additionally, as suggested in your letter, Figure 1 has been modified to include an island map indicating the project location and a photorendering of the cell site has been included as Figure 3. Again; thank you for your review of the Draft EA.

Sincerely,



William L. Moore

cc: U.S. Cellular
Department of Land and Natural Resources-Land Management Division