

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

P. O. BOX 621  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

RECEIVED  
'98 MAY 15 P 4:58

MAY 14 1998

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
QUALITY CONTROL

*Renew Hawaii Composting  
& Recycling Operations*

MICHAEL D. WILSON  
CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
GILBERT S. COLOMA-AGARAN

AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM  
AQUATIC RESOURCES  
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION  
CONSERVATION AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS  
CONSERVATION AND  
RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
CONVEYANCES  
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION PROGRAM  
LAND MANAGEMENT  
STATE PARKS  
WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

Mr. Gary Gill, Director  
Office of Environmental Quality Control  
235 South Beretania Street Suite 702  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813


SUBJECT: Finding of No Significant Impact for a month-to-month  
revocable permit for composting and recycling purposes on  
vacant State lands at Waiakea, Hawaii, tmk: (3) 2-1-13-  
portion 11.

Dear Mr. Gill:

The Department has reviewed the comments received during the  
30-day public comment period which began on April 8, 1998. The  
agency has determined that this project will not have significant  
environmental effects and has issued a FONSI. Please public this  
notice in the May 23, 1998 OEQC Environmental Notice.

We have enclosed a completed OEQC Publication Form and four  
copies of the final EA. Please call contact Charlene Unoki at  
(808) 974-6203 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

  
MICHAEL D. WILSON  
Chairperson

xc: Hawaii BM  
Support Services

JUN 8 1998

RENEW HAWAII, INC.

1998-06-08-HI-*FEA-Renew Hawaii*  
*Composting & Recycling Operations*

**FILE COPY**

FINAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
ASSESSMENT

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GREEN DEBRIS RECYCLING AND  
COMPOSTING OPERATION

Renew Hawaii, Inc.

Contact: Andrea Alonzo

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 11046, Hilo, HI 96721-6046

Bus. Phone: (808) 895-5665 Res. Phone: (808) 963-6850

· APPLICANTS PROPOSING ·  
· ACTION: ·

---

Renew Hawaii, Inc.

Contact: Andrea Alonzo

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 11046, Hilo, HI 96721-6046

Bus. Phone: (808) 895-5665 Res. Phone: (808) 963-6850

## RENEW HAWAII, INC.

March 26, 1998

Dear Board Members:

SUBJECT: STATE LAND USE APPLICATION FOR TMK: 2-1-13:11

Renew Hawaii, Inc. (RHI) is a green and wood-debris recycling business based in Hilo. RHI intends to expand its recycling program and is seeking to obtain a lease from the Land Division of the State Dept. of Land & Natural Resources to use state land TMK: 2-1-13-11.

The former 10-acre quarry site was occupied by J. S. Glover and is located near to RHI's existing site. This location has many advantageous qualities for the company's intended use, including a cleared, clean and spacious flat surface area. The "pit" nature of the area would also serve as a natural screening mechanism from drive-by traffic and a deterrent for potential trespassing. Lastly, the proposed expansion of RHI's commercial composting operation would be conducive to the county's General Industrial zoning for this parcel.

Currently the company is contracted by Hawaii County to recover and divert green and wood material from the S. Hilo Landfill and to serve as an educational vehicle for the public. The operation is located on a 1/2-acre parcel across of the Base Yard Office at the Hilo Transfer Station on Leilani Street. The physical area of the current site is extremely small and operations are confined and limited. Operations on the requested site would allow significant improvements, including proper maintenance of composting material, provide a safer working area and ease traffic flow.

The proposed operation would allow the public sectors (commercial and residential) to deposit yard and plant trimmings, as well as land clearing materials at the site. Materials would simultaneously be processed and sold as mulch and compost products. Overall, operations will be similar to existing operation, although incoming materials are projected to increase due to growing public awareness. Transition to the new site would be minimal and can be effective immediately.

The continued recycling of green debris would positively impact the community on all levels, including, socially, economically and environmentally. The public would be able to actively participate in a community-based recycling project and learn more about how "green" and other organic materials are more of a resource than rubbish. Also, job opportunities will begin to develop as both need for a recycling service and markets for products are developed. Lastly, project goals would benefit the environment tremendously! Less valuable materials would enter the S. Hilo Landfill, landfill space would be conserved, less material would need to be hauled to Pu'uana'hulu when the landfill eventually closes, and

less commercial traffic would be generated. Also, having a green recycling opportunity may lead to less "illegal dumping."

Impacts on the actual proposed site would be minimal to none. Large construction projects are not planned in the immediate future, and the embedded nature of the former quarry provides a natural buffer, therefore noise and visual impacts are not a concern. A water catchment system will be the main source of water and a generator will be used to provide power when needed. Traffic flow will be controlled with the aid of effective signage and directors, if needed. Lastly, there is no cultural or historical site known to be located within the former quarry.

In closing, I would like to ask the Board to review the following draft Environmental Assessment and consider leasing the described state land to RHI to be used as a composting operation site.

Thank you for the opportunity to present this to you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Andrea Alonzo".

Andrea Alonzo  
Renew Hawaii, Inc. President

APPROVING AGENCY:

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State Department of Land and Natural Resources

AGENCIES CONSULTED AND  
COMMENTS RECEIVED

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HAWAII COUNTY FIRE ADMINISTRATION



HAWAII COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Stephen K. Yamashiro  
Mayor



Virginia Goldstein  
Director

Russell Kokubun  
Deputy Director

## County of Hawaii

November 13, 1997

PLANNING DEPARTMENT  
25 Aupuni Street, Room 109 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252  
(808) 961-8238 • Fax (808) 961-8742

Ms. Andrea Alonzo, President  
Renew Hawaii, Inc.  
P.O. Box 11046  
Hilo, HI 96721-6046

Dear Ms. Alonzo:

Request for Preliminary Comments:  
Preparation of Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) -  
Proposed Relocation of Renew Hawaii, Inc. (RHI)  
TMK: 2-1-13: 11, Waiakea, Hilo, Hawaii Island

In answer to your request, provided are comments on land use and other related information that pertains to parcel 11 and the proposed project. In addition, the department has three files on this parcel: Use Permit Nos. 84, 93, and 136. You may want to consider reviewing these files for any information that may be relevant in preparing the draft EA for this project.

**General Project Description.** Essentially, RHI is an existing green waste recycling business proposing to relocate its community based recycling project onto parcel 11. This parcel is a former quarry site that is subject to a state leasehold. The new site will be used to expand RHI's operations, increasing its capacity to process, produce, and store compost and mulch products.

**Land Use Designations.** The department's reference maps confirm that parcel 11 is zoned or designated according to the following land use information. A brief discussion follows indicating whether the proposal is consistent with the land use regulation.

- County Zoning: MG-1a (General Industrial - 1 acre)
- State Land Use: "Urban" ("U")
- Special Management Area (SMA)  
The proposed project site is not situated within the SMA zone.
- HI County General Plan (GP) Land Use Designation: Industrial.  
The GP land use designation is according to the LUPAG (Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide) Map - HI County GP, Ordinance No. 89-142 (effective: November 14, 1989).

Ms. Andrea Alonzo, President  
Renew Hawaii, Inc.  
Page 2  
November 13, 1997

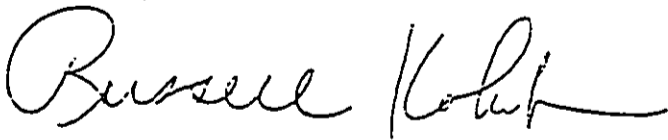
1. **County Zoning: Permitted Use.** Recycling centers and reduction of refuse or waste matter are permitted within the county's MG-1a zone district, according to Zoning Code sec. 25-5-152(a)(48) & (25). The Zoning Code defines recycling centers as establishments where *used materials are separated and processed for shipment for eventual reuse in new products.* Sec. 25-1-5(b)(87).
2. **State Land Use: "Urban" District.** County government is the primary jurisdiction for determining permitted uses within this district. Hawaii Revised Statutes sec. 205-2(b).
3. **Consistent with GP Industrial Designation.** RHI's recycling business appears to be consistent with the GP's industrial land use policies for population oriented nonbasic service type of industrial development. GP Support Document, at 87-88.

**Request for Information: Total Area of Leasehold & Site Plan of Parcel 11.** The draft EA will need to clarify the total leasehold area in square feet or acres. Please prepare a site plan of parcel 11 showing the total lot area of 37.300 acres and the portion of the parcel that will be leased from the state. If the leasehold is for the entire parcel, then the site plan needs to be designated accordingly.

**Plan Approval Requirement.** RHI's relocation to parcel 11 will require the establishment of a new structure, the baseyard office. Zoning Code regulations of the General Industrial district requires that the baseyard office receive Plan Approval before it can be established on the lot. Sec. 25-5-157(c). Plan Approval must be completed before a building permit can be issued.

For any questions or other assistance, please discuss with either Daryn Arai or Earl Lucero of this department at 961-8288.

Sincerely,



VIRGINIA GOLDSTEIN  
Planning Director

EML:jkg  
f:\wp60\earl\letters\lalonzo.eml

HAWAII COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS

Stephen K. Yamashiro  
Mayor



Donna Fay K. Kiyosaki  
Chief Engineer

Jiro A. Sumada  
Deputy Chief Engineer

County of Hawaii  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
25 Aupuni Street, Room 202 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252  
(808) 961-8321 • Fax (808) 961-8630

November 25, 1997

MS ANDREA ALONZO  
RENEW HAWAII INC  
PO BOX 11046  
HILO HI 96721-6046


SUBJECT: TAX MAP KEY: 2-1-13:11  
(Former Glover Quarry)

I appreciate your courtesy to advise the department that Renew Hawaii, Inc. (RHI) is proposing to start a green debris recycling and compost business at the former Glover quarry site.

The department can and will support a short-term lease request for the subject site. However, we will not be able to support a long-term lease request because, with the encouragement of the State Department of Health, the County has been exploring the possibility of starting and operating a construction and demolition (C&D) waste landfill. The primary purpose for a C&D landfill is to reduce the waste stream flow to the main Hilo Landfill, thereby extending its life while simultaneously reducing overall County waste disposal expenses. The former Glover quarry is one of the primary sites being considered by the County for the proposed C&D landfill.

For the above reason, the department is unable to support RHI's request to the State Department of Land and Natural Resources at this time.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on your proposal.

  
DONNA FAY K. KIYOSAKI, P.E.  
Chief Engineer

cc: SWD

HAWAII COUNTY WATER SUPPLY



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY • COUNTY OF HAWAII

25 AUPUNI STREET • HILO, HAWAII 96720  
TELEPHONE (808) 961-8660 • FAX (808) 961-8657

December 12, 1997

Ms. Charlene E. Unoki  
State of Hawaii  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Division of Land Management  
P.O. Box 936  
Hilo, HI 96721-0936

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT REQUEST FOR A MONTH TO MONTH REVOCABLE PERMIT OR A  
LONG TERM LEASE FOR COMPOST PURPOSES ON VACANT STATE LAND AT WAIAKEA, HAWAII  
APPLICANT - ANDREA ALONZO  
TAX MAP KEY 2-1-013:PORTION OF 011

We have reviewed the subject request and have the following comments.

Water can be made available from the end of an existing 8-inch waterline along  
Auwae Road, approximately 5,500 feet from the property.

Should there be any questions, the applicant can contact our Water Resources and  
Planning Branch at 961-8660.

Milton d. Pavao, P.E.  
Manager

WA:gms

copy - Ms. Andrea Alonzo ✓

STATE OFFICE OF HAWAIIAN AFFAIRS



RENEW HAWAII, INC.

April 15, 1998

APR 16 1 40 PM '98

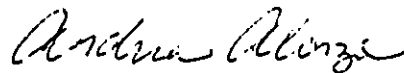
Mr. Richard Stook  
Office of Hawaiian Affairs  
Land Division  
711 Kapiolani Blvd., #500  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813  
Tel: (808) 594-1755

Dear Mr. Stook:

It was a pleasure talking with you today regarding Renew Hawaii Inc.'s green debris recycling program. Please find a copy of the prepared Draft Environmental Assessment as requested. Should you have any questions or would like to discuss anything further, please do not hesitate to call or write to me at the address/phone no. below.

Thank you for your interest and the invitation is always open to visit our site whenever you are in Hilo!

Sincerely,



Andrea Alonzo  
Renew Hawaii, Inc. President

→ Cc: Charlene Unoki, DLNR Land Division, Big Island

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS.

STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
OFFICE OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANG  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
P.O. BOX 3378  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96801

LAWRENCE MIKE  
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

In reply, please refer to:  
EMD/SHW

November 13, 1997

Ms. Andrea Alonzo  
Renew Hawaii, Inc.  
P.O. Box 11046  
Hilo, Hawaii 96721-6046

Dear Ms. Alonzo:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on your proposed new site for Renew Hawaii, Inc. I am familiar with the proposed site, as well as the site at which you are presently operating.

Composting is identified as a priority for solid waste management within the state of Hawaii. Our office is very supportive of composting as an alternative to landfilling of greenwastes. Permit requirements for a compost facility are developed to ensure that the operation does not affect the surrounding properties. Surface water run-on and run-off is one of the key considerations in the proper siting of such an operation. The proposed site will be well suited to managing run-off. The solid waste management permit process will allow our Office to ensure that the composting operation is environmentally protective.

The proposed site should greatly enhance the efficiency of your operation, by affording you more space to manage your greenwaste and compost operations. It will also be beneficial in that it is located adjacent to the existing landfill. Greater volumes of greenwaste can be diverted by the public and private sector without significant disruption of their current routes or procedures. Should you need further clarification of these comments, or any other assistance, please contact me at (808) 586-4240.

Sincerely;

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Harder".

John Harder, Coordinator  
Office of Solid Waste Management

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

BENJAMIN J. CAYETANO  
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION  
33 SOUTH KING STREET, 6TH FLOOR  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

MICHAEL D. WILSON, CHAIRPERSON  
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DEPUTIES

GILBERT COLOMA-AGARAN

AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM

AQUATIC RESOURCES  
CONSERVATION AND

RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT  
CONVEYANCES

FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE  
HISTORIC PRESERVATION

DIVISION

LAND DIVISION

STATE PARKS

WATER AND LAND DEVELOPMENT

October 28, 1997

Ms. Andrea Alonzo  
Renew Hawaii, Inc.  
P.O. Box 11046  
Hilo, Hawaii 96721-6046

LOG NO: 20379 ✓  
DOC NO: 9710PM10

Dear Ms. Alonzo:

**SUBJECT: Land Use Application**  
**Hilo, South Hilo, Hawaii Island**  
**TMK: 2-1-13:11**

Thank you for your letter of October 15, 1997 and the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed use of an old quarry on State owned land.

Given the extensive land alteration caused by quarrying activity, there are obviously no known historic sites in the project area.. Your proposed use of the quarry will have "no effect" on significant historic sites.

Aloha,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Don Hibbard".

DON HIBBARD, Administrator  
State Historic Preservation Division

PM:ds

GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF  
THE PROPOSED ACTION:

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TECHNICAL

**Location and land area required.**

*Parcel being sought:* TMK: 2-1-13-11 (approximately 10 acres)

*Community Districts that project is to be located:* Hilo, Hawaii

*Land Title Status:* The state property land title status is Subsection 5(b) ceded land (public lands, presently vacant and unencumbered).

**Use.**

*Length of time for intended use of property:* Long term lease.

*Intended Use:* Industrial Use; processing green and wood debris and producing mulch and compost.

*Materials to be processed/composted:* Five to ten tons of clean green organic debris is projected to be diverted from the waste stream daily. Materials include:

1. Yard and plant trimmings.
2. Tree prunings.
3. Grass Clippings.
4. Non-treated wooden pallets.

**There are no plans to incorporate any other organic materials into the composting program (biosolids, food wastes, livestock manures, etc.).**

**Operation:**

*Hours:* Work hours shall be daily from 6:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

*Composting Processes to be used:* Windrows will be formed and maintained with a regular temperature monitoring and aerating schedule. Methane gas will not be a problem due to the frequent scheduled turning of windrows. Materials will be cured in a separate area once it stabilizes and reaches ambient air temperatures.



*Composting Program:* A maintenance program shall be implemented to standardize products. The daily procedures shall include monitoring of temperature, odor and moisture content. A regular aerating/turning schedule shall also be implemented to prevent any concern of nuisance odors.

*Equipment to be used:* A commercial grinder and tractor/front loader will serve as the main pieces of equipment used in the operation.

*Washing and Cleaning:* A main water source does not exist on the site and a water catchment system shall be used to supply water for basic operational needs. The tractor/front loader shall be rinsed daily in a remote or designated area and there shall be minimal to no major effluent concerns.

#### Operation Layout.

*Processing area:* Approximately 8 acres shall be designated the processing and maintenance area.

*Curing/Bagging Area:* 1/2 acre

*Public Education/Demonstration area:* 1/2 acre

*Public Drop-Off Area:* 1 acre

#### *Building Dimensions:*

Portable Office - 10'W X 15'L X 6'H

Storage Building - tba; approximately 1,500 sq. ft.

*Landscaping:* A fast-growing hedge shall be planted around the border facing the roadside. The hedge will further provide a natural and aesthetic screen to minimize air, noise and visual concerns. Lastly, the hedge will also assist in retaining water and provide a natural erosion deterrent.

*Traffic Flow:* There is one road approximately 20 feet in width leading into the pit that will serve as both entrance and exit. Traffic will be minimal and monitored for easy flow. Signage will be posted to inform all incoming vehicles of traffic flow and pattern.

#### Adjacent Neighbors.

The following are neighboring projects and occupants located within 1/2 mile from the proposed site: Hawaii County South Hilo Landfill, various quarry operations and Kiyosaki Tractor Works.

# CORRECTION

THE PRECEDING DOCUMENT(S) HAS  
BEEN REPHOTOGRAPHED TO ASSURE  
LEGIBILITY  
SEE FRAME(S)  
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING

*Composting Program:* A maintenance program shall be implemented to standardize products. The daily procedures shall include monitoring of temperature, odor and moisture content. A regular aerating/turning schedule shall also be implemented to prevent any concern of nuisance odors.

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## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:

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### ECONOMIC

Following the Board's approval, the following tasks and projects shall be completed.

#### 1 Month

- A landscaped border shall be planted on the roadside edge.
- Visible signage shall be posted indicating site location and traffic flow.
- Operations begin; green debris acceptable and processing starts at new site.
- Water tanks set up.

#### 12 - 18 Months

- Building/Setting Up storage structures.

The buildings shall have a value of no less than \$5,000.

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:

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### SOCIAL

The proposed use for the site also complies with the county's General Industrial Use Zoning.

There are no negative social impacts. The proposed use may hold many *positive* social impacts:

- Job creation.
- Local money circulation on island.
- Increased community resource awareness and program participation.

# GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION:

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## ENVIRONMENTAL

There shall be no negative environmental impacts on the property (a former quarry pit). There are no threats to the surrounding area, nor are there any cultural or historical sites located on this parcel.

The overall project has tremendous potential to benefit the environment:

- Material would be diverted from the landfill.
- The public would be able to deposit green/wood debris at the site, which in turn may decrease illegal dumping and prevent pollution.

### Environmental Setting.

The site is a former quarry and located approximately 60 feet below the road way surface. The following sub-headings further describe the current setting of the parcel.

*Existing Flora and Fauna:* There is little growing on the base of the pit with the exception of some brush that has rooted from the layer of soil spread by the former tenant. Along the perimeter of the property, a fence line had been installed and still remains. Various trees and grasses grow along the fenced boundary. There are no native plants.

*Historical, Archaeological and Cultural Sites:* There are no significant sites as determined by Don Hibbard, Administrator of the State Historic Preservation Division. Hibbard said, that the proposed use of the site will have "no effect" on significant historic sites, and wrote: "Given the extensive land alteration caused by quarrying activity, there are obviously no known historic sites in the project area."

*Soil Types:* There is no soil found on the site with exception to a layer spread in one corner of the pit. However, soil in the area is known to be of the Papai series (rPae). This type of soil is known to be a thin, stony organic soil, over fragmental 'A'a lava.

*Prevailing wind pattern:* The prevailing wind pattern is northeasterly although there is not significant wind pattern within the pit.

*Depth to the water table:* Water table is approximately 30 feet below the lowest point of the pit (consulted with a representative of the former tenant in late 1997).

*Water Run-Off Management:* The site is ideal for managing any potential run off as described by John Harder, Dept. of Health Solid Waste Coordinator. Harder states: "Permit requirements for a compost facility are developed to ensure that the operation does not affect the surrounding properties. Surface water run-on and run-off is one of the key considerations in the proper siting of such an operation. The proposed site will be well suited to managing run-off."

Run off caused by excessively heavy rains will likely run into the site and will pond in the extreme lowest point. Run off will have minimal to no negative affect on adjacent neighbors of the pit.

*Climate:* Overall, Hilo experiences more than 120 inches of annual rainfall.

*Water Table:* A water well exists approximately 3,000 feet from the projected site (determined by a County Water Dept. representative).

## SUMMARY OF THE MAJOR IMPACTS:

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The project shall be located in a non-sensitive environment. The entire area is relatively flat with minimal to no vegetation growing. Surrounding areas and neighbors are located above the former quarry pit and will not likely be affected by the noise, traffic or sights.



**Short Term Impact.**

Construction of a portable office and storage building within 1 year of the lease date.

**Long Term Impact.**

*Surface Water Run-Off:* Surface water run-off and ponding may occur following continuous heavy rainfall.

*Mitigation Measures:* Large boulders are already located alongside the roadway leading into the pit, all the way down to the extreme low point in the pit parallel to the public road. This particular corner is slightly embedded and may serve as a holding pond for any excess water that may accumulate. Also, a hedge may be planted alongside the boundary side fronting the road to prevent additional erosion.

*Ground Water Contamination:* There shall be minimal to no impact on ground water resources.

*Mitigation Measures:* Composting piles/windrows shall be turned and aerated regularly to avoid over saturation of material. This process also allows air circulation to occur and deter any type of ponding accumulation. Material to be processed shall also be limited to clean green debris and wood pallets only (no biosolids or other organic feedstocks).

*Air, visual and audible impacts:* Operational activities include use of a grinder and loader, having minimal impact on surrounding environment.

*Mitigation Measures:* The "pit" nature of the site offers a natural screening mechanism for loud noises, as well as negative air and visual impacts. A hedge planted on the roadside border shall further enhance screening to prevent concerns over the mentioned negative impacts.

*Degradation of Cultural and Historical Sites:* There are no significant sites as determined by the State DLNR Historic Preservation Division. Therefore, mitigation measures are non-applicable.

*Degradation of flora and fauna resources:* There are no significant resources located in the former quarry pit, therefore, mitigation measures are non-applicable.

*Resource Conservation:* The community will actively participate in an efficient solid waste management program, whereby green resources shall be diverted from the landfill and recycled into a valuable soil amendment. Community participation will likely increase with growing awareness. As a result, a larger volume may be diverted from the landfill. Such diversion will assist Hawaii County in conserving landfill space, provide a cost-effective alternative and extend the operational capacity. RHI shall also continue to foster community involvement in successful resource conservation program.

#### Alternative Methods.

The proposed site is the only site available in close proximity that offers the physical attributes needed and convenient location to conduct a safe and effective green debris recycling and composting operation.

The only alternative would be to not have the green resource recovery and composting program. Repercussions of having no such program would affect the community's involvement with recycling and recovering important resources. The county would also see increased volumes of green and wood debris entering the landfill unnecessarily.



View of the road leading into quarry pit. The gate is visible at very top.



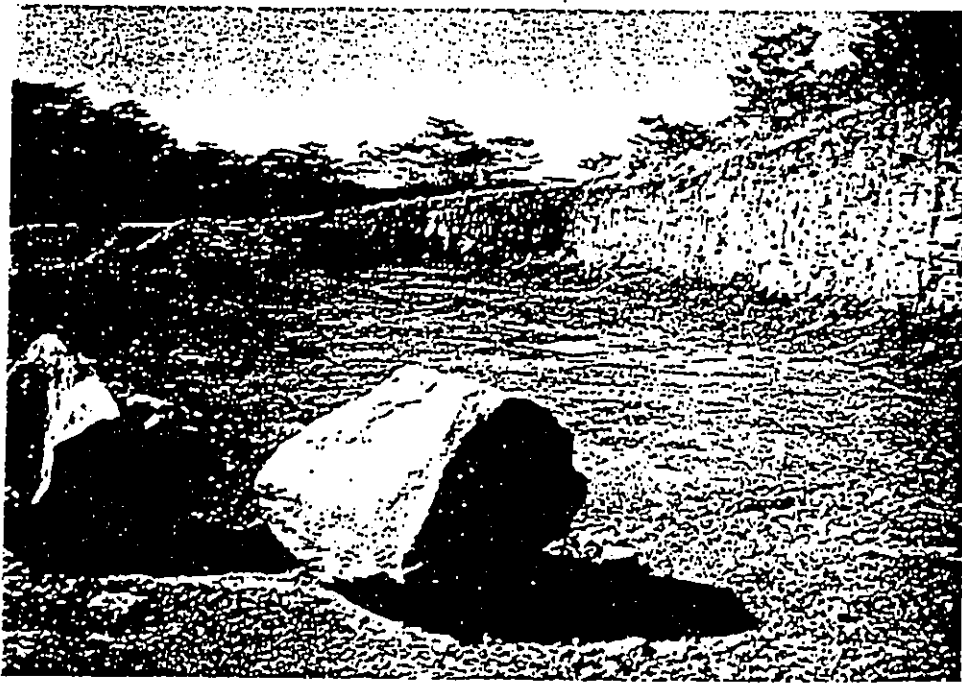
View of the deepest inset co located next to the roadway lead into the pit and fronting the pu road.



View of the boulders providing a be leading into the inset.



The road/driving path leading down into the pit. The large boulders line the side with a deeper embedded surface area.

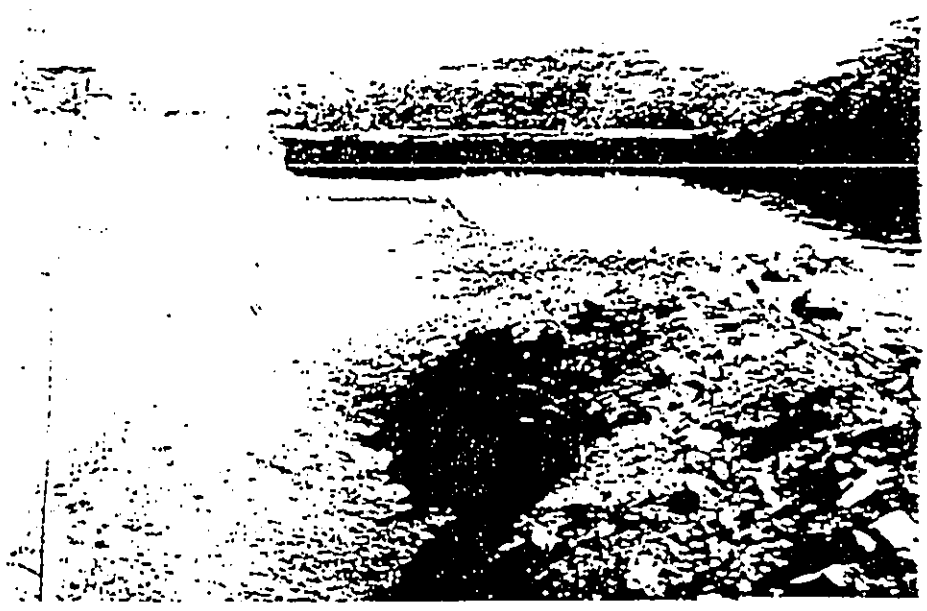


This area is an inset to the surface area within the pit. This is where any potential water run-off will lead to. The boulders line the entire pathway leading into this ponded area.

DOCUMENT CAPTURED AS RECEIVED



Full length view of the parcel.



Side view of the parcel.



Another side view of the parcel.  
Notice dried spots where little water  
ponds probably formed.

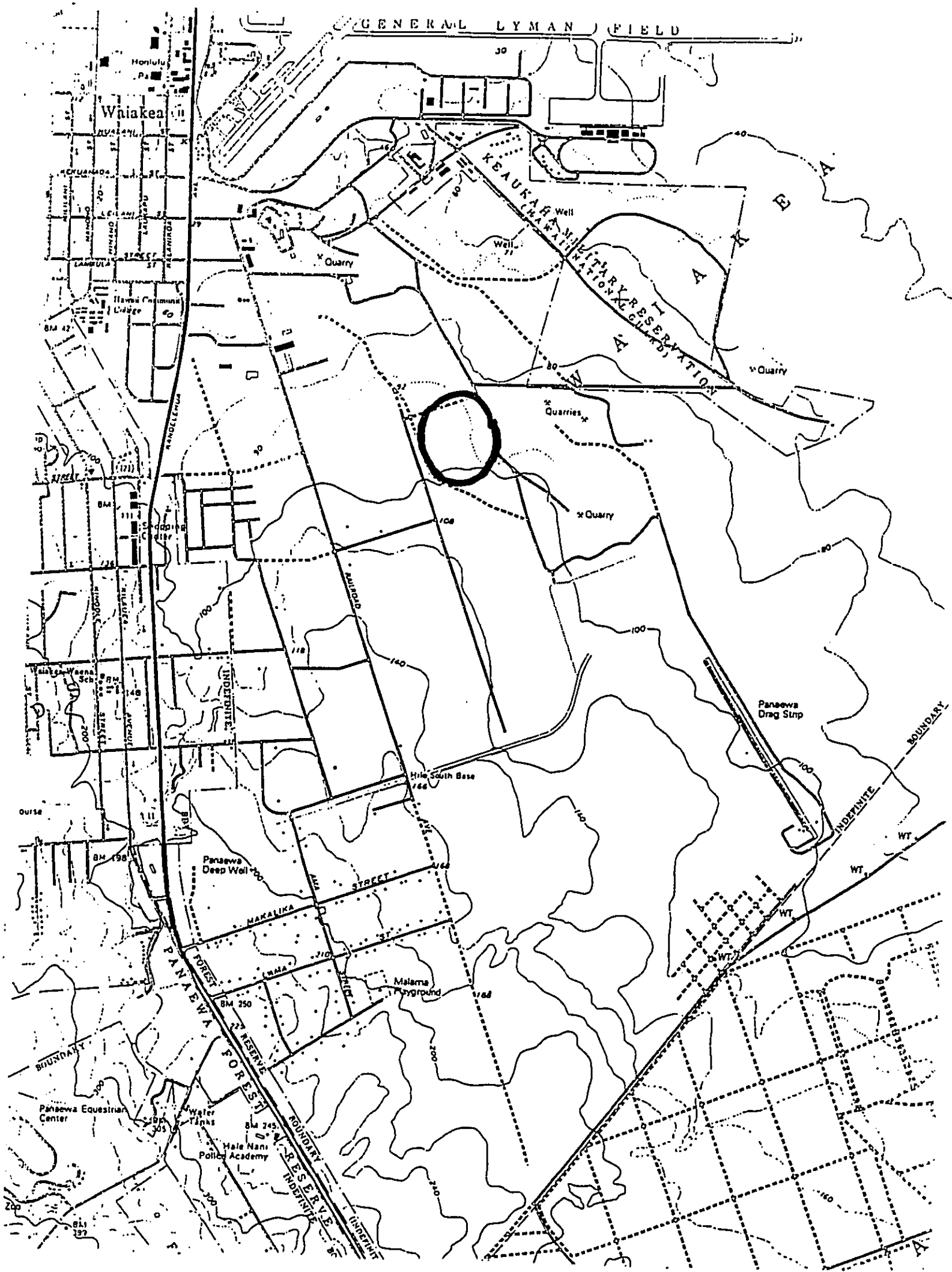


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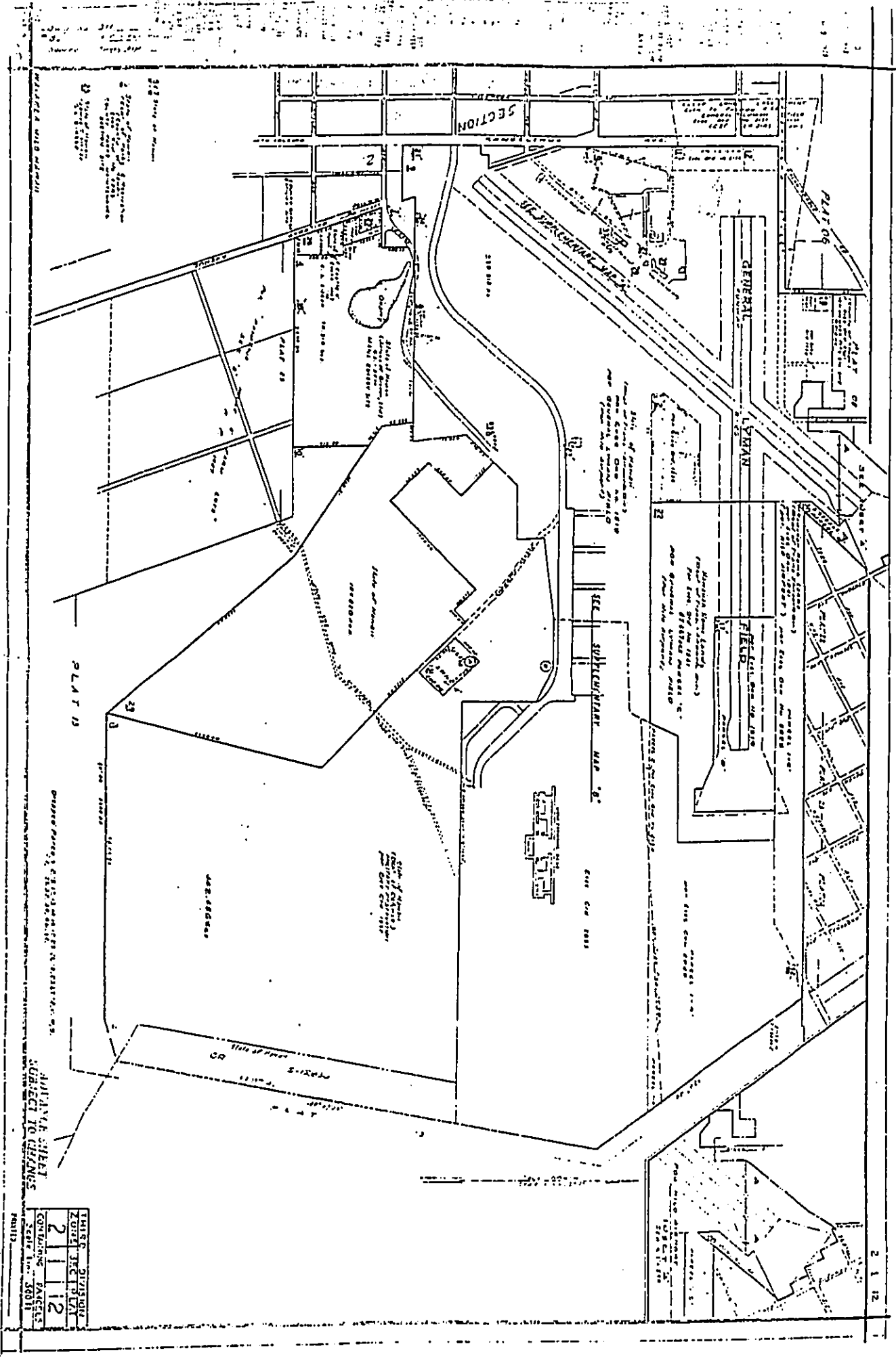


There is minimal vegetation found in the corner of the parcel, where a thin layer of soil had recently been spread by former land tenants (6 - 8 months ago).

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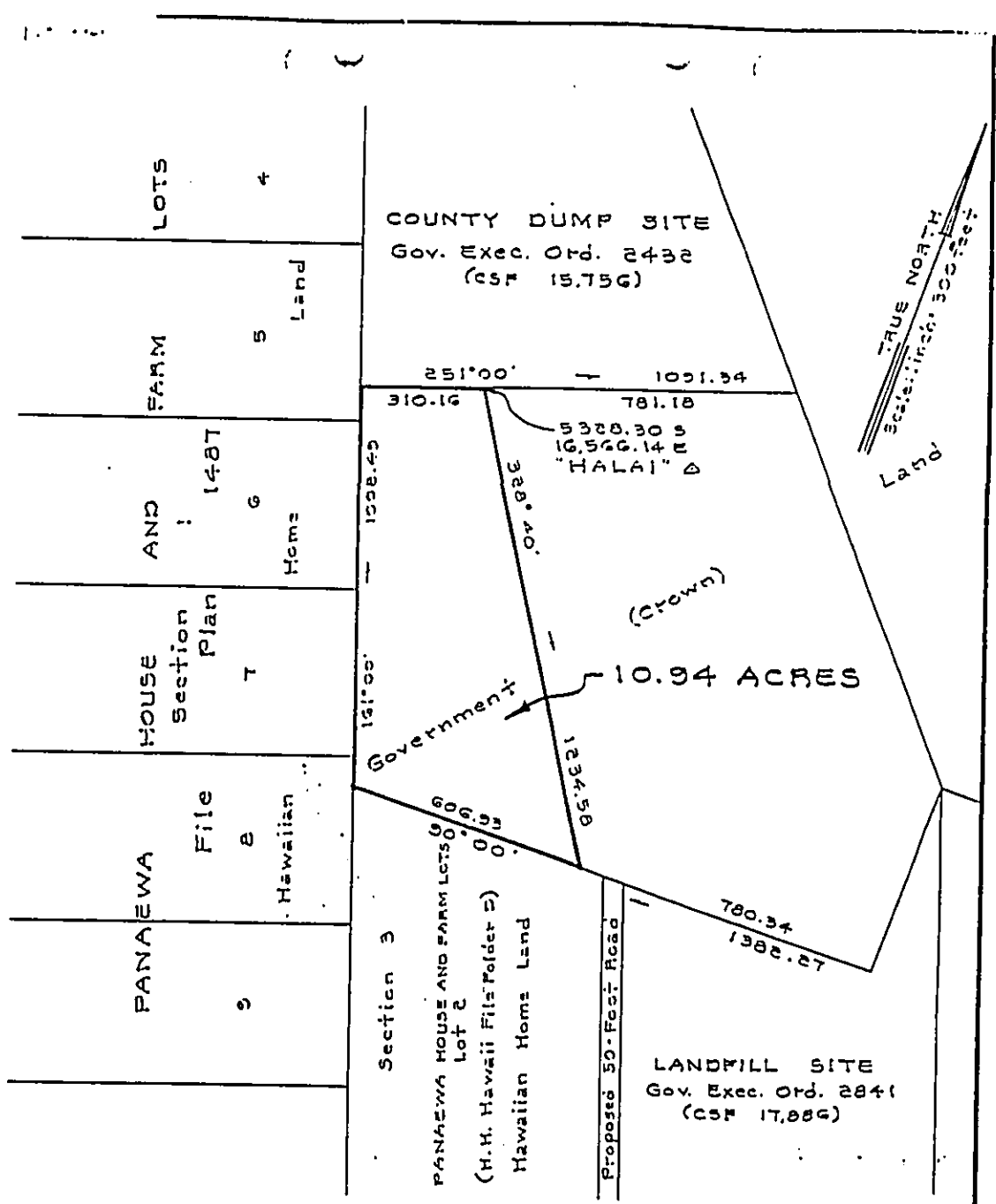




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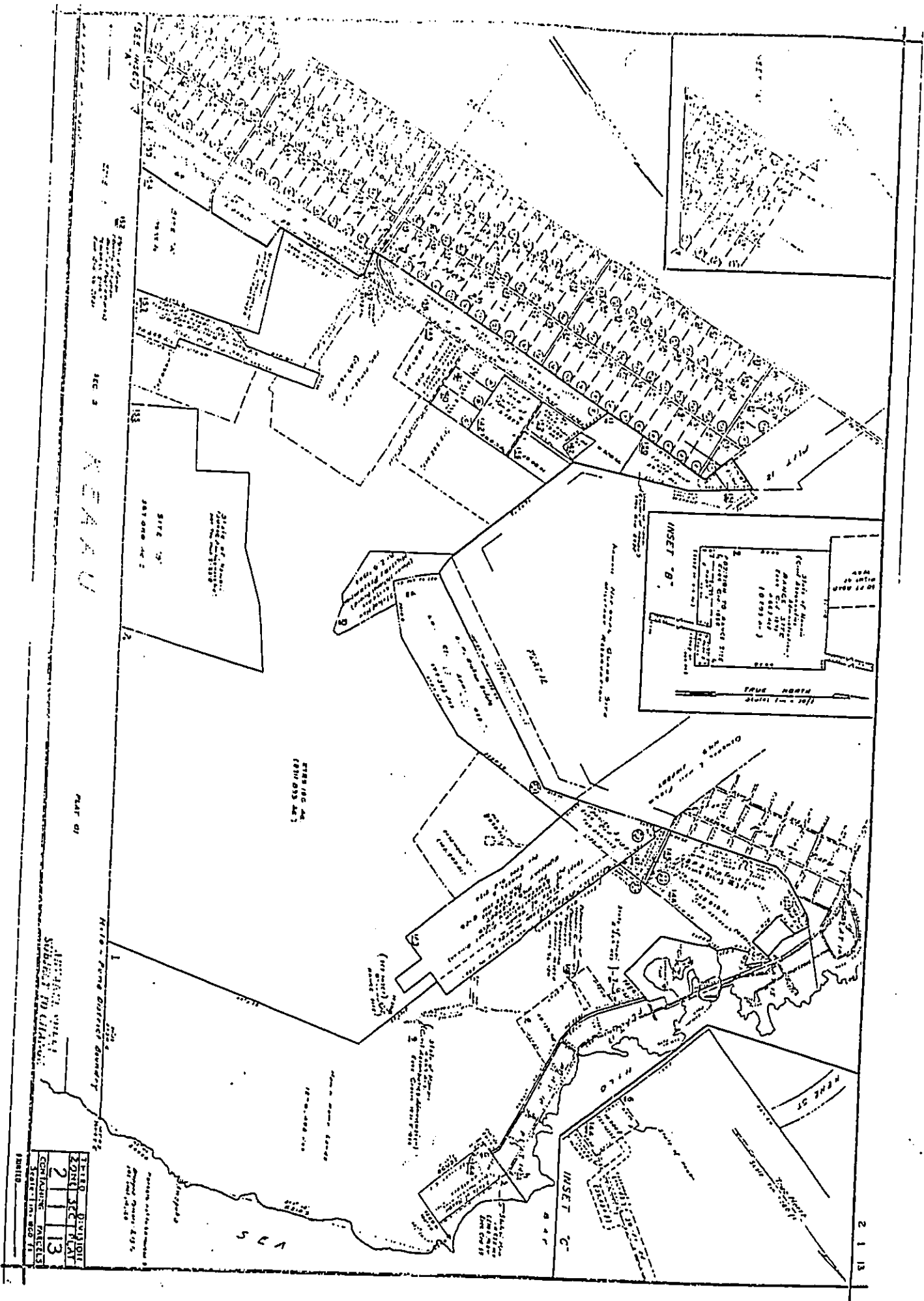
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ROCK AND WASTE DEPOSITS EXCAVATION SITE  
 Waiakea, South Hilo, Island of Hawaii, Hawaii  
 Scale: 1 inch = 300 feet

JOB H-286 (91)  
 C. BK.

TAX MAP: 2-1-13: part II	SURVEY DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF ACCOUNTING AND GENERAL SERVICES	EXHIBIT "B"
C.S.F. NO. 21,506	STATE OF HAWAII	R.S.N. August 26, 1991



## SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA:

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The following section describes how RHI's proposed project does not meet any of the Significance Criteria.

1. *Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural cultural resource.*

The proposed project will not impact historical, cultural or flora/fauna resources because none exist on the property. The site is also located approximately 60 feet below the road surface and shall not infringe on any view or ridgeline. Surrounding active neighbors include the S. Hilo Landfill and other quarries.

2. *Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment.*

The site has been quarried and would not serve numerous purposes. However, the pit is well suited for the proposed project because of its quarried state and the physical attributes it offers (embedded, flat, screened from view).

3. *Conflicts with the state's long-term environmental policies or goals and guidelines as expressed Chapter 344, HRS, and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions, or executive orders.*

The proposed project complies with the Environmental Policies established in Chapter 344, HRS and the National Environmental Policy Act.

4. *Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or state.*

The proposed project would positively affect the local community socially and economically. The public would actively participate in the solid waste management and assist the county in achieving the statewide goal of diverting 50% of the waste stream by the year 2000. Project development will also lead to more money circulation on island and potentially create additional jobs.

5. *Substantially affects public health.*

The public will not be negatively affected by air, noise and water quality impacts related to the project due to the inset of the parcel and proper maintenance of composting material. The embedded nature of the lot will shield passersby and neighbors from loud noises and dusty conditions while processing. Water quality also will not be endangered due to regular aerating to prevent excessive ponding and leaching.

6. *Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities.*

The project shall positively affect the community. The site shall serve as a convenient location to recover and divert green debris, offering the public an alternative to landfilling recoverable resources. Also, job creating potential exists as awareness grows, participation increases and markets developed.

Significant negative impacts on the community would be felt with a "no action" alternative, leading to higher volumes of landfilled material and illegal dumping. Serious repercussions would also surface once the S. Hilo Landfill closes, necessitating hauling of material to the only other operating landfill in Pu`uanahulu (about a two hour drive away). Illegal dumping will likely increase as well.

*7. Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality.*

The project would be situated in a former 10-acre quarry pit. The sub-surface nature reflects the lack of concern for any blocked views.

A hedge fronting the roadside boundary shall also enhance the aesthetic quality and assist in erosion and water run-off prevention and management.

*8. Is individually limited but cumulatively has considerable effect upon the environment or involves a commitment for larger actions.*

The proposed program is a stand-alone project and moderate in scope. It is not a stringer for any additional and/or larger projects. As such, it holds no cumulative negative affect on the environment.

*9. Substantially affects a rare, threatened, or endangered species, or its habitat.*

The site is barren with little soil nor vegetation, with exception to minimal brush growth on one side of the site, where former tenants spread a thin layer of soil. There are no rare, threatened or endangered species or habitats found at this site.

*10. Detrimentially affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels.*

The embedded nature of the site provides a natural buffer to any potential air and/or noisy conditions. Aerating compost piles, preventing excessive water ponding and sale and removal of end products shall also safeguard water quality.

*11. Affects or is likely to suffer damage by being located in an environmentally sensitive area such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, beach, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary, fresh water, or coastal waters.*

The operation is not located in an environmentally sensitive area and will not have any negative impact. It is already in an area designated for industrial use. Other activities in the area include a landfill, quarrying, a drag strip and shooting range.

*12. Substantially affects scenic vistas and viewplanes identified in county or state plans or studies.*

The site is a former quarry pit and situated approximately 60 feet below the road surface. Due to the deep-seated nature, the project will not have any negative impact on surrounding views. Also, adjacent neighbors and land tenants and activities include commercial contractors, additional quarries and the S. Hilo Landfill.

*13. Requires substantial energy consumption.*

The site is conveniently located to minimize travel distance. Also, electricity is not available at the proposed site nor has it been at the existing site. Electricity is not anticipated to be required at the projected site.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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### *GENERAL LIABILITY INSURANCE*

RHI already holds a two-year policy to expire in December January 6, 1999.

RHI is also in compliance with employer/employee insurance laws and holds both Worker's Compensation and TDI insurance coverage.

### *PERMITS*

Department of Health Permit

RHI already holds a Permit By Rule sanctioned by the State Department of Health - Office of Solid Waste Management to operate a small, low impact composting facility.

The permit expires on December 10, 2001.