



NOV 08 2010

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Mayor

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October 18, 2010

Katherine Puana Kealoha, Director
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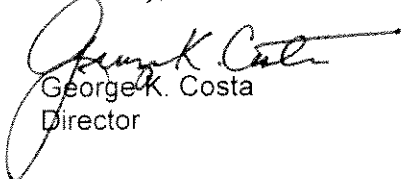
Dear Ms. Kealoha:

Subject: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)
Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
Tax Map Key 4-6-14:26
Kawaihau District of Kapa'a, Kaua'i, Hawaii.

The Office of Economic Development has reviewed all comments received during the 30-day public comment period that began on September 8, 2010 and ended on October 8, 2010. The agency has determined that this project will not result in significant adverse environmental effects and has issued a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). Please publish this notice in the next edition of the Environmental Notice.

One printed copy and one CD of the Final Environmental Assessment are attached. A project summary and Environmental Notice publication form in electronic format will be sent by email. Please call Mr. Glenn Sato of my staff at (808) 241-4951 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

Attachments: Final EA (1 Hard Copy/1 CD)

FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

KAIAKEA FIRE STATION PHOTOVOLTAIC POWER SYSTEM

OWNED BY THE COUNTY OF KAUAI

Office of Economic Development
LIHUE, KAUAI, HAWAII

Prepared by

Glenn Sato, Energy Coordinator
for

County of Kaua'i, Office of Economic Development
Telephone 241-4951
FAX 241-6399

October 2010

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SECTION 1: PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT NAME: Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System

PROPOSING AGENCY: Kauai County Office of Economic Development
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue Kauai, Hawaii 96766

APPROVING AGENCY: Proposing Agency

PROJECT LOCATION: Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii

TAX MAP KEY: 4-6-14:26

TOTAL LAND AREA: 13.877 Acres

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The project involves the installation of a ground mounted 25-30 kW photovoltaic (PV) power system that will provide renewable energy to the fire station and reduce the amount of oil-fired utility power purchased. Improvements will include installation of mounting racks/anchors, solar modules and an inverter(s) to change DC power to AC. The site is located in the Kawaihau District at the northern end of Kapa'a Town.

DETERMINATION: Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)

SECTION 2: CONSULTED AGENCIES

FEDERAL:

U.S. Natural Resources and Conservation Service
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

STATE:

Dept. of Health
Dept. of Business, Econ. Dev. & Tourism
Dept. of Education
Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands
Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
Forestry and Wildlife Division
Dept. of Transportation, Highways Div.
State Historic Preservation Division
Mahelona Medical Center
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands
Office of Environmental Quality Control
Office of Hawaiian Affairs

COUNTY OF KAUAI

Fire Dept.
Department of Parks and Recreation
Department of Water
Planning Dept.
Public Works, Div. of Solid Waste Management
Public Works, Wastewater Div.

UTILITY COMPANIES

Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative
Hawaiian Telcom

OTHERS

Kapa'a Business Association
Kaua'i Economic Development Board

SECTION 3: DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

3.1 Project Objective

The County of Kaua'i, Department of Public Works is constructing a new fire station in northern Kapa'a, to supplement and improve existing services for the Fire Department's Kapa'a service district. The station has been named the Kaiakea Fire Station. Figures 1 and 2 shows the location of the project area relative to Kapa'a. Figures 3 and 4 are an aerial site photo and site plan respectively.

The Kaiakea Fire Station will be a full service facility consisting of an engine and rescue company capable of handling structure fires, wild land fires, emergency medical calls and rescue calls. The fire station will consist of a garage with three bays for the fire trucks, kitchen/lounge, sleeping quarter, office, locker room, exercise room, generator compartment, laundry/storage room, and other accessory spaces. Figure 5 shows the PV array layout while Figure 6 shows an artistic rendering of the PV system.

The facility was designed with energy efficiency in mind, including solar hot water, insulation, occupancy sensors, day lighting and tinted windows. Construction plans for the facility were reviewed for energy efficiency by staff from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL).

In September 2009 the County received a direct allocation block grant from the U.S. Department of Energy via the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The County administration decided to apply the \$267,900 stimulus grant to plan/design and install a 25-30 kW photovoltaic power system for the new fire station. The use of a renewable energy system will serve to enhance the facility and reduce its carbon footprint with the use of renewable energy to offset the use of petroleum-based electricity generated by the local utility.

3.2 Description of the Proposed Action

The 25-30 kW PV system will be 100% funded by federal stimulus funds via a direct allocation to the County of Kaua'i. The PV system is expected to reduce total facility energy use by approximately 40,740 kWh of fossil-fueled generation per year.

The PV system will be ground-mounted and will include a computer-

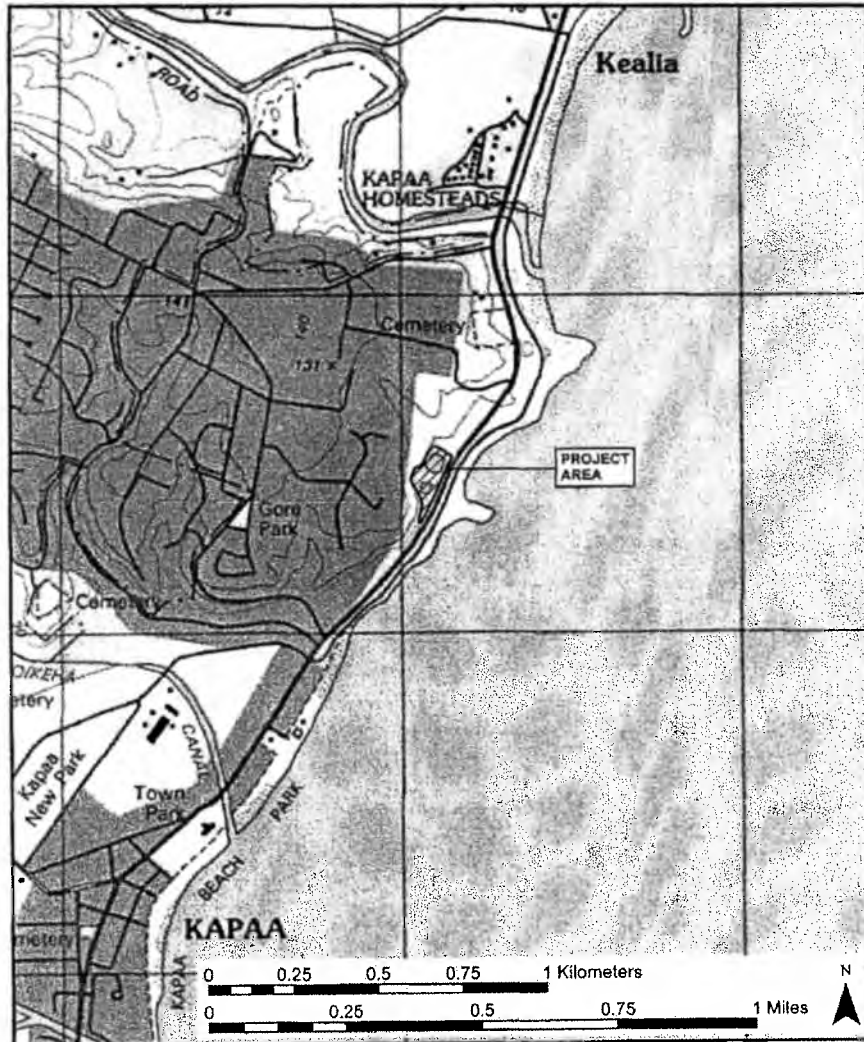


Figure 1. USGS Map showing location of project area

TMK (4) 4-6-014: 26

Figure 1: Project Location

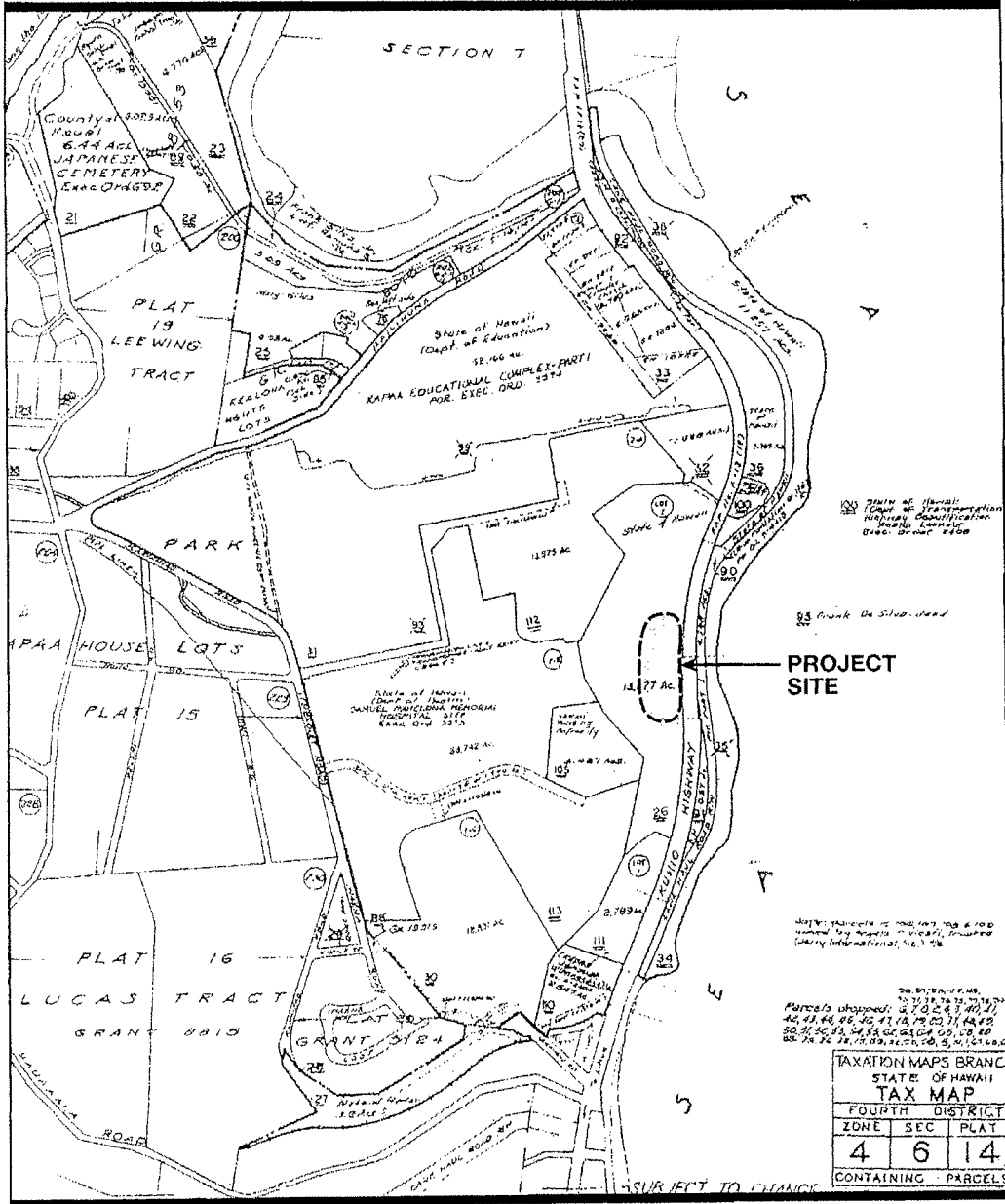


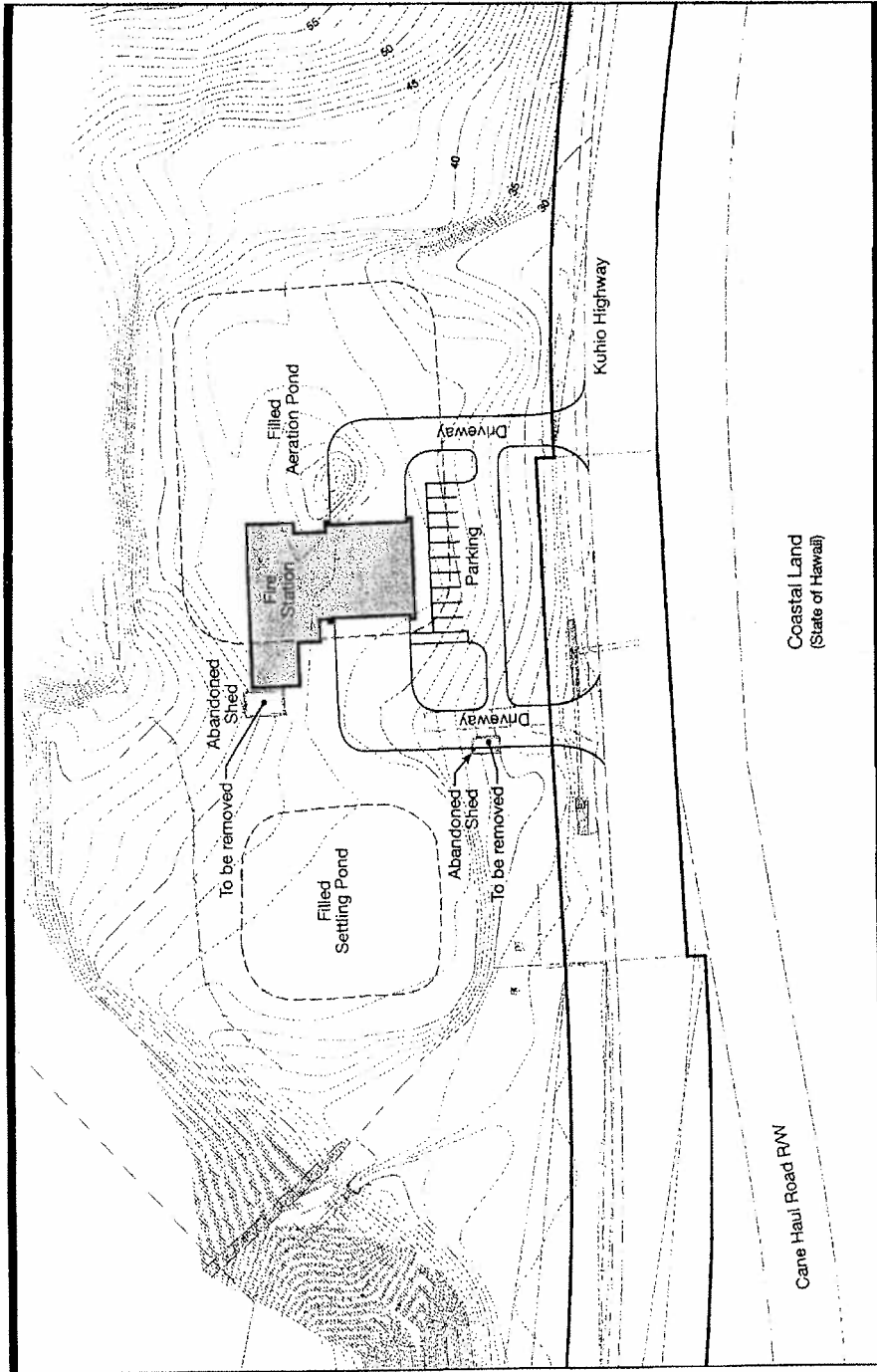
Figure 2
TAX MAP (Portion)
Kapaa, Kauai

Figure 2: Tax Map (Portion)



Figure 3
SITE PHOTO
Kapaa, Kauai





NORTH

Figure 4
FIRE STATION SITE PLAN
Kapaa, Kauai

based data monitoring system that will show and record the amount of electricity generated by the PV system and used by the fire station. The PV system will be grid connected and station power will be supplemented by the local utility. If the PV system produces excess power at any time, the excess will be metered and fed into the grid. The Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative is expected to pay the County for excess PV power fed into the grid under its Schedule Q rate. Stainless steel and aluminum will be used as much as possible to withstand the harsh marine-type environment and the useful life of the PV system is expected to be greater than 20 years. Figure 5 shows the Photovoltaic Array layout relative to the fire station.

3.3 ESTIMATED COST

The estimated project costs of the PV system are:

Planning and Design	\$25,000
Construction	\$242,900

Funds for the PV system are stimulus American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) grant funds via the U.S. Department of Energy's Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) program.

3.4 CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULE

The PV system planning and design are expected to be completed by August 2010. The system plans and specifications will be placed in a bid solicitation and advertised soon after. A low bid is expected to be awarded by October/November 2010. Construction should follow soon after and is expected to be completed in 4-6 months following the Notice to Proceed.

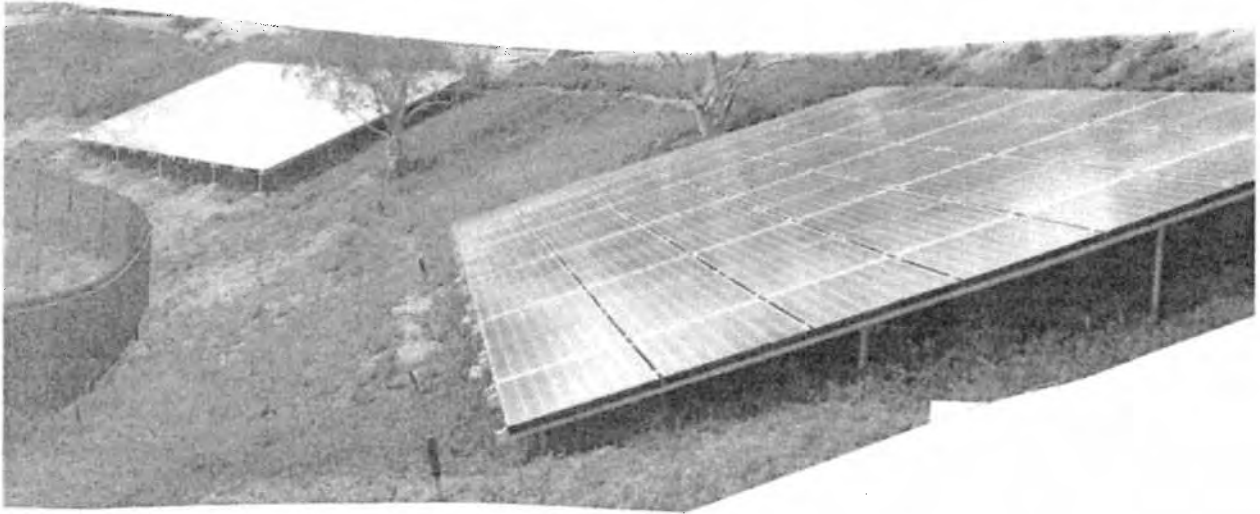


Figure 6

Kaiakea Fire Station PV
Artist Rendering

SECTION 4: DESCRIPTION OF THE AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

4.1 REGIONAL SETTING

The proposed site, situated in Kawaihau, Kaua'i, is in a region that extends from the ocean to the mountains. The town of Kapa'a, beach resorts of Wailua and Waipouli, residential homes, agricultural farms, grazing lands, and large open spaces comprise the region. Most of the uplands in the district are homestead lands that are in rural and agricultural uses.

A mix of long-term residents, newcomers, and visitors populate the region. Kuhio Highway, a State right-of-way, serves as the main access through Kapa'a, and extends approximately 30 miles from Lihu'e to Hanalei with numerous local side roads that provide access to the inland and coastal areas. The project site lies on Kuhio Highway between Kawaihau and Mailihuna Roads, approximately one mile north of the Kapa'a town center.

4.2 EXISTING LAND USE

A wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) previously occupied the project site to service the Mahelona Medical Center, Kapa'a Elementary, Middle and High Schools (Kapa'a Educational Complex), and a nearby low-income elderly housing development. According to the County Department of Public Works, the WWTF ceased operations about 14 years ago and two ponds (aeration and settling) were filled.

The site is now the new home for the Kaiakea Fire Station and construction activities are currently underway. All former structures on the project site have been cleared during pre-construction activities for the fire station. The Kaiakea Fire Station is expected to be completed in late 2010.

4.3 LAND TENURE

The PV system would be located adjacent to the Kaiakea Fire Station now under construction. The 50,000 square foot fire station project site is located on a 13.877 acre state parcel acquired by the County via Governor's Executive Order

No. 4217 setting aside the land for public purposes.

4.4 TOPOGRAPHY

The topography of the project area generally slopes from its western boundary at approximately 45-foot elevation to Kuhio Highway at its eastern boundary at approximately 27-foot elevation. Surrounding the site on three sides are steep banks of over 20 percent grade. The fourth side, which is opened to Kuhio Highway, is the longest side of the property. The level area of the site, which consists of approximately 58,000 sq. ft. or 1.4 acres, includes the filled ponds of the former wastewater treatment facility. The new fire station site will occupy approximately 50,000 sq. ft. of the level area. The PV system will be located just north of the main building on land that will be graded and grassed as part of the fire station construction work.

4.5 GEOLOGY:

Kaua'i, the oldest of the major Hawaiian Islands and the most weathered or eroded geologically, consists of at least one extinct volcano. Lavas from the shield, post shield, and rejuvenated stages formed the island. Kaua'i, which notably lacks rift zones, contains an enormous caldera complex with a graben, or down-dropped block on the caldera's south side. Rejuvenated-stage lavas have covered much of the eastern half of the island. Over time, numerous landslides and long-term erosion have modified Kaua'i's northern, northeastern, eastern and southern flanks.

The project site is situated on the eastern side of Kaua'i along Kuhio Highway across coastal land comprised of a rocky shoreline. The frequent high surf and predominant trade winds contribute to the long-term modification of this coastal area.

4.6 SOILS

According to the *Soil Survey of the Islands- Kaua'i, O'ahu, Maui, Molokai, and Lanai, State of Hawai'i* (1972), soil on the property consists of "Lihue silty clay, 25 to 40 percent slopes, eroded." This well-drained soil type developed in material weathered from basic igneous rock. Runoff on this soil is rapid and its potential erosion hazard severe. Its

Capability Classification is Vle, non-irrigated, which indicates that the soil has severe limitations (hazard of erosion) that make it generally unsuited for cultivation.

Approximately 14 years ago, the wastewater treatment facility ceased operations on the site and its aeration and settling ponds were filled. According to the contractor, the berm around each pond was pushed in to fill the basin. It is not known, however, whether off-site or on-site material was used to complete the fill.

In the April 2006 Final Environmental Assessment prepared by Belt Collins Hawai'i, Ltd., a preliminary investigation of the ponds by Belt Collins Hawai'i revealed that an official at the Mahelona Medical Center indicated that the hospital, adjacent schools, and nearby low-income elderly housing project used the WWTF for domestic wastewater treatment. Wastewater from the hospital consisted only of domestic waste and did not include industrial waste or hazardous materials. It is not known whether the ponds were lined or not.

In the mid to late 1990s, the WWTF ceased operations after the hospital, schools, and housing project were able to connect to the County's expanded sewer system. The closure included pumping of the liquid out of the ponds, allowing the accumulated wastewater sludge to dry, excavating the soil berms from the pond perimeters, and backfilling the ponds with soil from the berms.

In the 2006 Fire Station EA, an official from the State Department of Health (DOH) indicated that the Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR), specifically Title 11, Chapter 62, Part 23, on *Wastewater Systems*, provides general guidance and could be interpreted to mean that filling of the ponds would indicate sufficient closing of the facility.

The nutrients and organisms in the accumulated bio-solids have undergone several years of anaerobic decomposition and are expected to be a stabilized, insoluble material. Although wastewater sources into these former ponds were non-industrial, the possibility exists that the domestic wastewater contained metals and organic contaminants from household products such as pesticides and personal hygiene products.

According to HRS Chapter 128D, *Environmental Response Law*, releases from sewerage systems collecting and treating primarily domestic wastewater are not considered to be releases of hazardous substances or pollutants into the environment.

4.7 FLOOD HAZARD

Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) - Map No. 1500020210E (September 16, 2005) indicates that the project site is located in Zone X. Areas included within this zone are determined by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to be outside the 0.2 percent annual chance flood.

Although situated near the coastline, the site does not fall within the Special Flood Hazard Area, which is subject to coastal inundation by the 1 percent (100-year flood) annual chance flood. The Special Flood Hazard Area has a 1 percent chance of being equaled or exceeded in any given year, and includes zones A, AE, AH, AO, AR, A99, V and VE. The base flood elevation as shown on the FIRM for each zone is the water-surface elevation of the 1 percent annual chance flood.

Additionally, the site is not located within any tsunami evacuation area as identified on Kauai's Civil Defense Tsunami Evacuation Map No. 3: Ke lia to Alakukui Pt.

As aforementioned, vegetation on the site consists primarily of low groundcover. However, a moderately dense growth of ironwood trees occurs on the steep slopes surrounding the site. On the plateau above the slopes, open lawns landscape the hospital and school grounds. Brush fires may pose a potential threat. However, its impact may be limited to the location of the trees. The site is susceptible to high winds which could stir up or accelerate any brush fire that might occur there.

4.8 FLORA AND FAUNA

The project site was previously cleared of vegetation and used by the WWTF. After closure of the WWTF, the area was overtaken by stray salt-torrent vegetation from adjoining coastal areas. The vegetation included primarily California grass, wedelia, sandbur, indigo, morning glory, and

asystasia. There were some light scatterings of Guinea grass, koa haole, and Christmas berry. On the steep slopes surrounding the site are stands of ironwood trees. No rare, threatened, or endangered species are known to occur on the site. Current construction activity for the fire station has removed all scrub vegetation. After construction of the fire station is completed, the landscaping plans call for plantings of beach heliotrope, milo, and kukui trees; kului shrubs; and seashore paspalum grass.

Located along Kuhio Highway and formerly being covered with low weedy groundcover, and now under full construction activities, the attributes of the site deter species that favor quiet, remote areas with tall, dense vegetation. Avifaunal species that have been observed or are expected to occur in the area, are typically low-land urban species, which include the common myna, zebra dove, house finch, Japanese white eye, house sparrow, red-crested cardinal, chestnut munia, and spotted dove. Feral chickens are also common in this area.

The Pacific golden plover, a migratory shorebird that spends winters in the islands from August to late April, typically frequent inter-tidal reef flats at low tide in the coastal areas and open lawns in the adjacent mauka lands. Also known to occur in the general area are wedge-tailed shearwater and white-tailed tropicbird. Both are indigenous and were observed during a faunal survey of the Kapa'a- Kealia coast. The survey also noted that there were observations of the endangered dark-rumped petrel and the threatened Newell's shearwater along the coast.

Although no feral mammals were observed on the project site during a site inspection on March 26, 2010, feral cats, dogs, and rodents are expected to occur in the area. The existing landscape and vegetation do not suggest the presence of feral pigs. Rare, threatened, or endangered avifauna or feral mammals are not known to occur specifically on the project site, but the endangered Hawaiian hoary bat has been observed along the Kapa'a coast.

4.9 CLIMATE

The project site faces the predominant northeast trade winds of the Kapa'a coastline. These winds are typically breezy

and at times relatively strong with speeds of 13 to 24 mph.

The air is generally warm and mild with temperatures averaging 70 F throughout the year. The average annual rainfall is between 40 and 50 inches with the heaviest occurring during the winter months and least during the dry summer months.

4.10 HYDROLOGY

There are no natural surface water features such as lakes, ponds, streams or springs on the site. Groundwater occurs near mean sea level. Surface runoff across the fire station site will be channeled to rainwater retention basins which will then flow into the county storm drain system.

4.11 ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

An archeological reconnaissance was conducted for the fire station EA by Cultural Surveys Hawai'i. The survey found the site to have undergone extensive alteration. During the survey, two modern, abandoned wastewater treatment facility sheds were found but no traditional Hawaiian or historic sites were observed. The archeological consultant indicated that the likelihood of encountering intact subsurface cultural deposits is low. Nonetheless, should iwi or Native Hawaiian cultural or traditional deposits be found during ground disturbance required for PV installation, work will cease immediately and the appropriate agencies will be contacted pursuant to applicable historic preservation law.

4.12 CULTURAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Cultural Surveys Hawai'i also conducted a cultural impact evaluation as part of the fire station EA process. The consultant conducted historic research and contacted local people knowledgeable of the project area regarding cultural resources and practices. The fire station site was not specifically identified as having any notable presence in the past or present other than functioning as a wastewater treatment facility. The cultural study concluded that the proposed station will have very minimal or no impact on Hawaiian culture, its practices, or traditions. The PV system, located close to the fire station is also expected to have minimal or no impact to Hawaiian culture, its

practices, or traditions.

SECTION 5 SOCIOECONOMIC SETTING

5.1 SOCIOECONOMIC BACKGROUND OF THE REGION

The Wailua-Kapa'a region is populated by approximately 16,000 residents, making it the most populated area on the island. Three geographic sub areas define this region: 1) the coastal urban areas of Wailua/Waipouli and Kapa'a Town proper; 2) the inland homestead lands of Wailua; and 3) the mauka homestead lands of Kapa'a.

The Wailua/Waipouli and Kapa'a town areas have become the resort destination for the east side, with hotels and shopping complexes attracting visitors as well as residents. Economic activities in this area have attracted many support businesses and services. A consequence of the business activities has been traffic congestion. Current highway improvements along K hi' Highway near the two bridges crossing the Wailua River are under construction to alleviate traffic congestion. The current construction activities have resulted in long traffic lines through Kapa'a Town.

5.2 ECONOMIC IMPACTS ASSESSMENT

Construction of the new fire station is generating construction activity during a prolonged economic recession and the positive economic impacts through the employment of construction labor and equipment are quite evident. Construction workers shop and patronize the local businesses in the Kapa'a-Wailua area, multiplying the economic impact beyond the amounts in their weekly paychecks. The PV system construction, although small in comparison to the fire station cost, will also generate some short-term construction activity. If a local company wins the bid, most of the employment dollars associated with labor costs are expected to stay on Kaua'i. If an outer island company wins the bid, there will be some tradeoffs due to outside workers needing food and lodging as well as commuting expenses that will benefit local businesses. The PV system will provide the facility with renewable energy and will help to stabilize electrical billings for the Fire Department.

The Kauai and United States economy will be favorably impacted during construction. The stimulus funds require that the PV system components be American-made and that the labor for installation be paid at the higher of Davis Bacon or State of Hawai'i wage rates. The dollars spent for labor will have a very positive impact on the state and local economy.

5.3 SOCIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

It is difficult to single out only the PV system when discussing community impacts. The PV system will be part of the infrastructure for the new fire station that will provide emergency and rescue services that will benefit both residents and visitors. The facility will operate 24/7 with staff living on a rotational basis in on-site boarding facilities. The station is located within the community but not among the homes and businesses of the area. Any negative impacts from station operations due to siren soundings, periodic fire alarm drills and practices and other station activities will be short-term and be offset by the positive public safety services provided.

The PV system will make the fire station partly energy self sufficient and will be a good example of government reducing its long-term operational costs to the taxpayers. As oil and electricity prices continue to rise, these benefits will become more evident over time. Long term impacts of the project will be continued production and use of renewable energy at the fire station. The PV system will be visible from the adjacent highway and will remind residents and visitors that the County is being a responsible steward in promoting the use of indigenous energy for the county fire station.

SECTION 6 INFRASTRUCTURE AND UTILITIES

6.1 CIRCULATION AND TRAFFIC

The fire station's location on Kuhio Highway provides immediate access to Kaua'i's major roadway system. Kuhio Highway, a primary collector road, connects all of the communities along the east and north coasts of the island between Lihue and Haena. As a consequence, a high volume of

traffic occurs on this right-of-way throughout the day. The heaviest traffic occurs south of the project area in Kapa'a town and between Kapa'a and Lihue during peak commuter hours. At the project site, Kuhio Highway is a two-lane State right-of-way with limited access.

The 24-hour traffic count on Kuhio Highway in the project vicinity is approximately 14,300 vehicles. The morning peak-hour traffic, which occurs between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., is 1,013 vehicles. The afternoon peak hour traffic, which occurs between 3:45 p.m. and 4:45 p.m., is 1,225.

The under-construction fire station is expected to have minimal impact on traffic. Staff personnel, who will be living on-site in boarding facilities on a rotational basis, will not be contributing to the daily commuter traffic.

During construction of the PV system, construction equipment and supplies would be scheduled for site delivery during off-peak hours to avoid traffic congestion, and construction workers are likely to arrive at the project site from the Lihue/South Kauai sections of the island traveling in the opposite direction of the peak morning commuter traffic.

Two access points on Kuhio Highway are provided for the fire station. An ingress is located at the existing driveway that served the former wastewater treatment facility. A second access is located a short distance to the north for the facility's egress.

6.2 WATER

An 8-inch water line, owned by the County Department of Water, extends from Kapaa town along Kuhio Highway up to approximately 1,100 feet from the project site. A 12-inch line is located along Kawaihau Road approximately 1,900 feet from the project site. Water service for the fire station site will be provided by a line extension from the main water line along Kuhio Highway. Water may be required to periodically clean the PV modules but the existing fire station water system and hoses will be sufficient for this purpose.

6.3 WASTEWATER

The sewer lines that were installed to bypass the now abandoned wastewater treatment facility continue to operate over the project site. The sewer lines traverse the central and southern sections of the property to link with a manhole located within the adjacent Kuhio Highway right-of-way. Wastewater is then conveyed through the Kapaa system and collected at the Wailua WWTF where it is treated and disposed. The fire station will be connected to the County system. In the 2006 Fire Station EA, a County Wastewater official indicated that the existing Wailua WWTF was at approximately 60 percent capacity with several planned projects to be on line in the near future. Still, it is anticipated that the County's existing WWTF will be adequate to accommodate the new fire station, when completed.

6.4 POWER AND COMMUNICATIONS

There is electrical power, telephone and cable TV in the Kuhio Highway right-of-way. Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative's overhead 57 Kv lines are located along the K hi' Highway corridor and will service the fire station. The existing electrical capacity is adequate to serve the fire station, however, the County desires to self-generate a portion of the facility power requirements via renewable energy, thus reducing it's reliance on oil-fired generation from KIUC.

Hawaiian Telcom also has telephone lines along K hi' Highway and the station will be connected to those overhead lines. Cell phone service and 800 MHz communications are also available.

6.5 SOLID WASTE

Solid Waste generated by the new station will be taken to Kapa'a Transfer Station then hauled to the County landfill at Kekaha. Currently, the landfill has adequate space to accommodate the trash generated from the new station. The PV system will come with associated packing materials and construction debris. The PV contractor will be responsible to hire a private contractor to haul construction-related waste to the landfill. Any recyclable materials such as cardboard, wood pallets and metals will be recycled. Contractor will be advised to contact the County Division of Solid Waste Management for guidance and technical

assistance.

SECTION 7 PUBLIC FACILITIES AND SERVICES

7.1 SCHOOLS

Kapa'a High School is located less than one mile away on Mailehuna Road. Kapa'a Elementary School is located adjacent to Kapa'a High School. St. Catherine School is also located nearby on Kawaihao Road.

7.2 PARKS

Several parks are located in the Kapa'a Town area approximately 1-1.5 miles from the fire station site. Kapa'a Town Park across from Miura Store is used for special events like the Coconut Festival, Veteran's Day Parade, and soccer. People also use the pavilion for family picnics.

The park across the Kapa'a Armory is the Kapa'a New Park Stadium complex. There is a skateboard park, a roller hockey rink, tennis courts, basketball court, as well as softball, baseball, football, and soccer fields. Sometimes special events are held on these fields. Residents also use the pavilion for family gatherings. Farmer's market sets up there once a week, catering to both residents and visitors.

7.3 FIRE

Kapa'a Fire Station is located approximately 3 miles away in Kapa'a Town, near the Foodland Super Market and McDonald's Restaurant.

7.4 HOSPITAL AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

The nearest hospital and emergency service room is the Mahelona Medical Center in Kapaa, located less than one mile from the site on Kawaihao Road.

SECTION 8 RELATIONSHIP TO PUBLIC LAND USE POLICIES

8.1 Hawaii'i State Plan

The Hawaii'i State Plan was enacted by State law to serve as a guide for the future long-range development of the State.

It is intended to identify the goals, objectives, policies, and priorities of the state government to: (1) provide a basis for determining priorities and allocating limited resources, such as public funds, services, human resources, land, energy, water and other resources; (2) improve coordination of federal, state, and county plans, policies, programs, projects, and regulatory activities; and (3) establish a system for plan formulation and program coordination to provide for an integration of all major state and county activities. State Plan objectives and policies that are relevant to the use of renewable energy at appropriate public facilities in the Kapa'a community are:

- to ensure that required facility systems can be supported within resource capacities and at reasonable cost to the user;
- to encourage flexibility in the design and development of facility systems to promote prudent use of resources and accommodate changing public demand and priorities;
- to increase energy self-sufficiency where the ratio of indigenous to imported energy use is increased;
- to have greater energy security and diversification in the face of threats to Hawai'i's energy supplies and systems;
- to reduce, avoid, or sequester greenhouse gas emissions from energy supply and use;

8.2 State Land Use Law

The State Land Use District Maps, as administered by the State Land Use Commission, defines the site as part of the Urban District. According to the land use law, urban districts shall include activities or uses as provided by ordinances or regulations of the county within which the urban district is situated. The fire station is a permitted use in the Urban District.

8.3 State Environmental Policy

The proposed PV system construction is consistent with the State Environmental Policy, Hawai'i Revised Statute (HRS), Chapter 344. One of the guidelines outlined in Chapter 344 is to encourage the efficient use of energy resources which

supports the use of photovoltaic power production for the fire station.

8.4 Kaua'i County General Plan

The County of Kaua'i updated and adopted the General Plan in November 2000. The plan sets forth policies that govern the future development of the County. The General Plan supports the need to build and upgrade public facilities and services to support current and projected economic and population growth by the year 2020.

The General Plan recognizes the value of reducing Kaua'i's reliance on imported oil by advocating that the County:

- Promote the use of renewable energy resources;
- Invest capital funds to make County facilities energy efficient and to reduce operating costs;

The Land Use Map of the General Plan designates the project area as "Open." The intent of the Open designation is to preserve, maintain, or improve the natural characteristics of non-urban lands and water areas that:

- (a) are of significant value to the public as scenic or recreational resources;
- (b) perform essential physical and ecological functions important to the welfare of surrounding lands, waters and biological resources;
- (c) have the potential to create or exacerbate soil erosion or flooding on adjacent lands;
- (d) are potentially susceptible to natural hazards such as flood, hurricane, tsunami, coastal erosion, landslide or subsidence; or
- (e) form a cultural, historic or archaeological resource of significant public value.

The fire station site is located on the base of steep sloping lands which have been identified by the General Plan as susceptible to soil erosion and other possible coastal climatic and ocean/shoreline processes. The new station, however, is being constructed on a small portion of this area on level, stable land mauka of the State highway and from coastal lands. The PV system will be located just north of the fire station and construction of the PV system

will consider the area's susceptibility to soil erosion and possible sedimentation.

One of the elements of the General Plan is the identification and designation of scenic roadway corridors on the island. The fire station site as well as the PV project site and adjacent areas are not designated as a scenic corridor.

8.5 Kapa'a-Wailua Development Plan

The Kapa'a-Wailua Development Plan, adopted in 1975 details the County's development guidelines for the Kapa'a-Wailua region. The Development Plan primarily focuses on built up areas of the coastal and makai lands of the Kapa'a-Wailua region between Lydgate Park and Kawaihau Road. The Development Plan does not designate any specific long-range land use for the property.

8.6 Kaua'i County Zoning Ordinance

The Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance (CZO) of the County of Kaua'i provides regulations and standards for land development and the construction of buildings and other structures in the County of Kaua'i. The regulations and standards prescribed by the CZO are intended to promote development that is compatible with Kaua'i's scenic beauty and environment and to preclude inadequate, harmful or disruptive condition that may prove detrimental to the social and economic well-being of the residents of Kaua'i. The project site is currently zoned Special Treatment District-Public (ST-P) with an underlying zoning designation of Residential R-1. Development of the site for the fire station required a Class IV Zoning Permit and Use Permit. A ground mounted PV system would require an amendment to the existing permits approved for the fire station.

8.7 Special Management Area

A very limited portion of the project site is located in a Special Management Area (SMA) and the fire station application was not processed as an SMA permit. It is also anticipated that an SMA permit will not be required for the PV system.

SECTION 9 SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS

9.1 SHORT-TERM CONSTRUCTION-RELATED IMPACTS

Construction of the PV system for the new fire station will require some site preparation, minor grading, mounting rack installation/anchoring and assembly of the modules to the mounting racks and final connection to the fire station. Prior to the site preparation work, existing debris will be removed. The preliminary site work will be minimal because the location will be graded and grassed as part of the fire station construction. Construction equipment will include trucks, concrete mixers, a backhoe, and generator(s). After the anchor points and mounting racks are in place, workers will assemble and attached the PV modules to the racks and fasten them in place. The modules will be connected to the inverter(s) via underground conduits. The inverter(s) will be located outside, close to the fire station. The inverter(s) will then be connected to the fire station's power system. A commissioning process will ensure that the system is functioning properly and according to design standards. Construction will be completed after the site is cleaned up and all construction debris removed from the property.

During construction of the PV system, there will be no impact to native plants and fauna. No rare, threatened or endangered vegetation or wildlife species will be affected. Since no surface water features traverse the project area, no impacts are anticipated to U.S. waters. Groundwater is located more than 20 feet beneath the surface of the site. Therefore, natural foundations and utility installations are not expected to penetrate this natural resource.

The PV system will be anchored with sturdy concrete anchor points which will support the aluminum/stainless steel mounting system. The power inverter(s) will be installed on a concrete base. The inverter(s) will be connected to the station's electrical system.

The site's elevated location along the coast provides a margin of safety from potential tsunami inundation. FIRM maps show a base flood elevation of 18 feet along the coastline and the project site has a minimum elevation of 27

feet, well over the potential flood level.

Brush fires are a potential threat to the site, but landscaping and irrigation will offer little fuel for wildfires and the fire station will be prepared to control that threat.

Earthwork during PV construction may generate construction dust. Areas where vegetation are to be removed for installation of the concrete anchor points will be the most susceptible to strong winds. Down-wind of the predominant northeast tradewinds is the Mahelona Medical Center. Implementation of dust control measures and the hospital's location on a high bluff, will help buffer or reduce the impacts of fugitive dust during PV construction and installation.

The use of equipment during site grading will generate noise levels that could be audible at surrounding properties. Although noise would be generated during the entire construction phase, the level of noise would vary depending on the specific phase of construction. Other than grading activities, the assembly of the PV system is expected to generate very minimal noise levels mostly associated with the use of small portable tools such as drills, saws and ratchets. The most audible noises would occur during the construction of the anchor points with the use portable saws and hammers for form construction, and the sounds from concrete truck(s). The noise impacts on surrounding properties will be minimal and short-term. Contractor shall be required to comply with HAR Chapter 11-46, Community Noise Control.

Although no archaeological features or historic structures have been identified on the property via an archeological literature review and field inspection for the fire station site by Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, Inc., the County will be on guard if any unexpected features are uncovered during the PV site preparation stage. Should historical remains such as artifacts, burials, concentrations of charcoal and shells be encountered during construction activities, work shall cease immediately in the immediate vicinity of the find and the State Historic Preservation Division and the Kaua'i Planning Department will be notified. These agencies will assess the significance of the find and recommend the appropriate

mitigation measures, if necessary.

Cultural and traditional practices occur in the region but none has been specifically identified on the project site. As a result, no cultural preservation measures are being proposed for the PV site.

The use of heavy construction vehicles will not be required for site preparation.

Construction of the PV system will not impact utility services to the area. Water will be provided via the fire station and portable toilets will be provided by the PV contractor or via the fire station. Power requirements will either be provided by the fire station or via portable generators. Phone service will be provided by cellular phones. Also, solid-waste and construction debris will be removed from the site by the contractor and hauled to the landfill in Kekaha.

The fire station's location on Kuhio Highway provides immediate access to Kaua'i's major roadway system. Kuhio Highway, a primary collector road, connects all of the communities along the east and north coasts of the island between Lihue and Haena. As a consequence, a high volume of traffic occurs on this right-of-way throughout the day. The heaviest traffic occurs south of the project area in Kapa'a town and between Kapa'a and Lihue during peak commuter hours. At the project site, Kuhio Highway is a two-lane State right-of-way with limited access.

The 24-hour traffic count on Kuhio Highway in the project vicinity is approximately 14,300 vehicles. The morning peak-hour traffic, which occurs between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m., is 1,013 vehicles. The afternoon peak hour traffic, which occurs between 3:45 p.m. and 4:45 p.m., is 1,225.

The under-construction fire station is expected to have minimal impact on traffic. Staff personnel, who will be living on-site in boarding facilities on a rotational basis, will not be contributing to the daily commuter traffic.

During construction of the PV system for the fire station, construction equipment and supplies would be scheduled for site delivery during off-peak hours to avoid traffic

congestion, and construction workers are likely to arrive at the project site from the Lihue/South Kauai sections of the island traveling in the opposite direction of the peak morning commuter traffic.

It is anticipated that the PV system will support the retention of 8 full-time workers during the planning/design stage and construction/installation period. These include one PV system designer; one PV installation manager; one licensed electrician; four PV system installers and one equipment operator.

9.2 LONG-TERM IMPACTS

The new fire station is not expected to generate long term negative impacts. As an infrastructure addition, the PV system is also not anticipated to generate any long term negative impacts. Once constructed, the PV system will not impact traffic. The PV site will be located on land that will be graded and planted in grass as part of the fire station construction. Once the PV system anchor foundation has been constructed, the area will be re-grassed if needed. The visual impact of the ground-mounted PV system will be minimal with no significant glare that would impact drivers on K hi' Highway. No view planes will be impacted.

The PV system will not generate any air emissions so air quality will not be impacted. The PV system will reduce the amount of oil-based electricity purchased from the local utility, so there is an indirect, long-term benefit associated with PV power.

Additional utility services beyond what is required for the new fire station will not be required due to the PV system addition.

There will be positive, long-term impacts to the community, including reduced electrical bills resulting in lower operational costs, a reduced carbon footprint from station operations and a valuable community educational example of renewable energy use at a public service facility.

SECTION 10 PROPOSED MITIGATION MEASURES

As discussed in the previous section, most negative impacts are

related to the short-term construction period. Since the fire station construction will be well underway, water will be available onsite and can be used to control fugitive dust by water sprinkling or exposed dirt areas, if required. The site will be graded and grassed as part of the fire station construction project so major dust problems are not anticipated when the PV system is installed.

Noise activities associated with PV construction should be insignificant. The nearest occupied lands are located high above the fire station site more than 300 feet away. There will be no early morning or late evening work associate with PV system installation. Contractor shall comply with HAR Chapter 11-46, Community Noise Control.

Potential runoff and sedimentation that might occur will be the responsibility of the PV contractor and will be monitored by the County. Runoffs and sediment movement will be directed to the sedimentation basins and cut-off swales and ditches. Ground cover will be re-planted as soon as construction is completed.

The PV contractor will be required to remove all construction-related debris and to recycle all recyclables generated by the project.

SECTION 11 ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

11.1 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

The No Action alternative involves no installation of a PV system for the fire station. A no action alternative would have the fire station receiving 100% of its power from the local utility grid whose overall generation is roughly 90% from fossil fuels.

11.2 ALTERNATIVE LOCATION OFF-SITE

An alternative location offsite on an adjacent or nearby property was explored but was determined to be unfeasible. A site on an adjacent or nearby property would require a lengthy land acquisition process and the high cost of land purchase or lease rent. The current parcel is 13.877 acres, with the fire station occupying 50,000 square feet. The close location of the PV system to the facility would also lower transmission costs to move power from the PV system to

the facility.

11.3 ALTERNATIVE RENEWABLE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS

Alternate renewable energy systems such as a wind turbine or concentrated solar system were also considered. Additional considerations also included a fuel cell power system. The fire station site was deemed unsuitable for a wind turbine due to its close proximity to the highway and also in consideration of danger to shearwaters or other threatened and endangered bird species. A concentrated solar power system and a fuel cell power system were determined to be too expensive or not suited for the facility size and power requirements.

SECTION 12 DETERMINATION

This environmental assessment demonstrates that the proposed construction of a photovoltaic power system for the Kaiakea Fire Station will have no significant adverse impacts on the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted. A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) is, therefore, determined for this project.

SECTION 13 FINDINGS & REASONS FOR SUPPORTING THE DETERMINATION

13.1 SIGNIFICANCE CRITERIA

According to Department of Health Rules (11-200-12), an applicant or agency must determine whether an action may have a significant impact on the environment, including all phases of the project, its expected consequences both primary and secondary, its cumulative impact with other projects, and its short and long-term effects. In making the determination, the Rules establish "Significance Criteria" to be used as a basis for identifying whether significant environmental impact will occur. According to the Rules, an action shall be determined to have a significant impact on the environment if it meets any one of the following criteria:

- A. Involves an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any natural or cultural resources;

The proposed PV project will not cause any irrevocable loss

of natural or cultural resources. The site has been a former wastewater treatment facility which will soon be a new fire station serving the eastside of Kauai. View planes will not be impacted and there will be no blockage of mauka or ocean views from the surrounding areas. The PV array will not be higher than 8 feet off the ground.

As previously noted, no significant archaeological or historical sites are known to exist on the site. Should any archaeologically significant artifacts, bones, or other indicators of previous on-site activity be uncovered during the construction phase, their treatment will be conducted in strict compliance with the requirements of the Department of Land and Natural Resources.

B. Curtails the range of beneficial uses of the environment;

The project site will house a fire station when construction is completed in late 2010. The PV system will be part of the fire station infrastructure and will provide renewable energy for station use. The system will also be grid connected and any excess PV power will be sent to the grid for use by other users. The proposed PV system will not require changes that would curtail the range of beneficial uses of the environment.

C. Conflicts with the State's long-term environmental policies and guidelines as expressed in Chapter 344, HRS; and any revisions thereof and amendments thereto, court decisions, or executive orders;

The proposed development is consistent with the Environmental Policies established in chapter 344, HRS, and the National Environmental Policy Act. In applying for the EECEBG grant, the county filled out an Environmental Questionnaire as part of the U.S. Dept. of Energy's grant review process. The Dept. of Energy National Environmental Policy Act Implementing Procedures Act (10 CFR 1021) required careful consideration and discussion of the potential environmental consequences of all proposed actions during the early planning stages of a project or activity. The County's grant application submittal for a 25-30 kW roof or ground mounted PV system for the Kaiakea Fire Station met

these requirements and the project was approved on September 28, 2009.

- D. Substantially affects the economic or social welfare of the community or state;

The proposed PV project will provide a significant and positive impact on the Kauai community by providing an example of government striving to use renewable energy on public facilities. The construction activity associated with the proposed action will generate jobs and stimulate local economic activity. The proposed project will not negatively or significantly alter existing residential areas, nor will it encourage unplanned population growth.

- E. Substantially affects public health;

During the construction period there will be minor impacts to air quality and noise levels. After completion of the construction work, these will be insignificant or not detectable. The positive aspects of the proposed project in the areas of economic and social benefits to the community are greater than the "no action" alternative.

- F. Involves substantial secondary impacts, such as population changes or effects on public facilities.

The PV system will have very positive impacts on the fire station. It is unlikely that the project will have any substantial secondary impacts on population or on public facilities.

- G. Involves a substantial degradation of environmental quality;

The new PV system will not involve any degradation of environmental quality but will serve to enhance environmental quality by reducing the burning of fossil fuels.

- H. Is individually limited but cumulatively has considerable effect on the environment, or involves a commitment for larger action; PV systems typically have a useful life of at least twenty years of service and

we do not anticipate any increased impacts to the environment. In its small way, the PV system will actually serve to reduce the production of greenhouse gases by reducing the amount of oil-fired electricity used by the fire station.

- I. Substantially affects a rare, threatened or endangered species or its habitat;

No endangered plant or animal species are located on or around the project site.

- J. Detrimentally affects air or water quality or ambient noise levels;

No air quality issues are anticipated from construction of the PV system. A ground-mounted system may require some grading but air quality can be controlled with proper dust control measures. Ambient noise levels are established and have been found to be well within acceptable levels for urban uses. The PV system will not generate any noise.

- K. 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 areas, geologically hazardous land, estuary, freshwater, or coastal areas; The proposed PV project site is not located in or near any environmentally sensitive or geologically hazardous area. As the property is currently developed for agricultural uses, and has had that use for many years, the site no longer reflects a natural environment.

- L. Substantially affects scenic vistas and view planes identified in county or state plans or studies;

The property is essentially flat, surrounded by bluffs to the northwest and the ocean to the northeast. No scenic vistas or view planes will be affected.

- M. Requires substantial energy consumption.

The size and scope of the project will not have a measurable impact on energy supplies. In fact, the new PV system will reduce the County's dependence on fossil fuels.

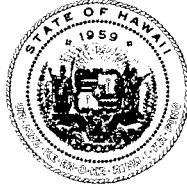
SECTION 14 COMMENTS FROM AND RESPONSES TO PUBLIC AGENCIES AND INTERESTED PARTIES

The draft Environmental Assessment for this project was transmitted to the following agencies and interested parties for review and comment. The parties that responded are indicated below and a copy of their correspondence with a response from the proposing agency is attached to this section. Comments from these agencies and interested parties that are applicable have been incorporated into this final EA.

Reviewing Agencies & Parties	Agencies Responded	Agencies Responding w/No Comment or Concern	Agency Letter & Responses Attached in this Section
FEDERAL			
U.S. Natural Resources & Conservation Service			
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service			
STATE			
Dept. of Health	X		X
Dept. of Business, Econ. Dev. & Tourism			
Dept. of Education	X	X	X
Dept. of Hawaiian Home Lands	X	X	X
Dept. of Land and Natural Resources	X	X	X
DLNR-Forestry and Wildlife Division	X	X	X
Dept. of Transp. Highways Div.	X		X
State Historic Preservation			
Mahelona Medical Center	X	X	X
Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands			
Office of Environmental Quality Control			
Office of Hawaiian Affairs			

COUNTY			
Fire Dept.			
Dept. of Parks & Recreation			
Dept. of Water	X	X	X
Planning Dept.			
PW-Wastewater Div.	X	X	X
PW-Solid Waste Management Div.	X		X
UTILITY COMPANIES			
Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative			
Hawaiian Telcom			
OTHERS			
Kapa'a Business Association			
Kaua'i Economic Dev. Board			

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LAURA H. THELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

RUSSELL Y. TSUJI
FIRST DEPUTY

KEN C. KAWAHARA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
1151 PUNCHBOWL STREET, ROOM 325
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813
TEL (808) 587-0166 FAX (808) 587-0160

AQUATIC RESOURCES
BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS
CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT
ENGINEERING
FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
HISTORIC PRESERVATION
KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION
LAND
STATE PARKS

September 9, 2010

Mr. Glenn Sato
Energy Coordinator
County of Kaua'i
Office of Economic Development
4444 Rice Street, Ste. 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300

Dear Mr. Sato:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
Kapa'a, Kauai, Hawai'i

We have reviewed the subject matter draft environmental assessment regarding the Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System project. We have no comments or objections to the project.

Very truly yours,

PAUL J. CONRY
Administrator



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

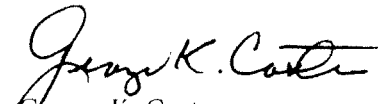
Mr. Paul J. Conry
Administrator
Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
Division of Forestry and Wildlife
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 325
Honolulu, HI 96813

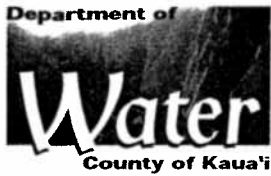
Dear Mr. Conry:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of September 9, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. Although the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife had no comments or objections to the project, we thank you for your time and effort in reviewing the draft EA document.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director



Water has no substitute.....Conserve it

September 17, 2010

UID #1692
LU-UID #2738

Mr. George Costa
COK - Economic Development
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, HI 96766

Dear Mr. Costa:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment - Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System, TMK: 4-6-14: por. 26, Kuhio Highway, Kapa'a, Kaua'i

This is in regard to your letter dated September 1, 2019. We have no comments to the proposed Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System. However, the applicant is made aware that water service will be limited to the existing water meter serving this parcel. Requests for additional water meters or increase in water meter size will be dependent on the adequacy of the source, storage, and transmission facilities existing at that time.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Edward Doi at (808) 245-5417.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "GF", written over a horizontal line.

Gregg Fujikawa
Chief of Water Resources and Planning Division

ED:l00
T-12521 Kapa'a, Costa – Draft EA

c: Glenn Sato, Economic Development



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

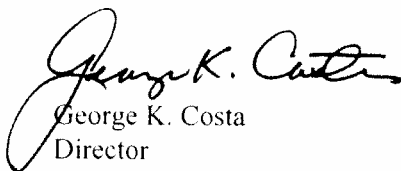
Mr. Gregg Fujikawa
Chief of Water Resources and Planning Division
County of Kaua'i, Department of Water
4398 Pua Loke Street
Lihu'e, HI 96766

Dear Mr. Fujikawa:

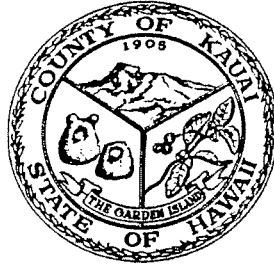
Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of September 17, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. Although the Department of Water had no comments to the project, we thank you for your time and effort in reviewing the draft EA document. We also acknowledge that we are aware that water service will be limited to the existing water meter serving this parcel. We do not anticipate that the photovoltaic power system will require additional water meters or an increase in water meter size.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.
MAYOR



DONALD M. FUJIMOTO
COUNTY ENGINEER
TELEPHONE 241-4992

GARY K. HEU
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

EDMOND P. K. RENAUD
DEPUTY COUNTY ENGINEER
TELEPHONE 241-4992

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
4444 RICE STREET
MO'IKEHA BUILDING, SUITE 275
LIHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAII 96766-1340

September 22, 2010

County of Kaua'i
Office of Economic Development
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Līhu'e, HI 96766

Attention: Mr. Glenn Sato

SUBJECT: KAIAKEA FIRE STATION DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT,
TMK 4-6-014:026 KAUA'I, HAWAII.

The Department of Public Works, Wastewater Management Division acknowledges receipt of the Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the subject Project. We have no objections to the proposed project, and do not otherwise have any comments on the DEA.

Thank you for providing this opportunity for consultation on this pending project. If you have any questions, please call Edward Tschupp at (808) 241-4084.

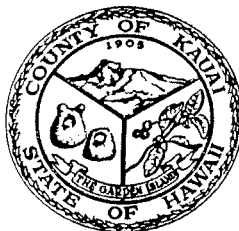
Very truly yours,

EDWARD TSCHUPP
Chief, Wastewater Management Division

CONCUR:

DONALD M. FUJIMOTO
County Engineer

cc: Engineering Division
Planning Department



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
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October 15, 2010

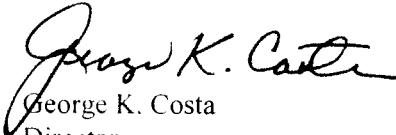
Mr. Edward Tschupp
Chief, Wastewater Management Division
County of Kaua'i, Department of Public Works
4444 Rice Street, Suite 275
Lihu'e, HI 96766

Dear Mr. Tschupp:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of September 22, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. Although the Department of Public Works, Division of Wastewater Management had no comments and no objections to the proposed project, we thank you for your time and effort in reviewing the draft EA document.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

September 28, 2010

Mr. George Costa, Director
Office of Economic Development
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, Hawaii 96766-1300

Dear Mr. Costa:

Subject: Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
TMK: (4) 4-6-014: Por. 026, Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Draft Environmental Assessment for the above-referenced project. The Department of Education has reviewed the draft report and has no comment or concern.

If you have any questions, please call Roy Ikeda of the Facilities Development Branch at (808)377-8301.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Matayoshi", written over a horizontal line.

Kathryn S. Matayoshi

✓ Superintendent

KSM:jmb

c: Randolph Moore, Asst. Supt., OSFSS
✓ Glenn Sato, Energy Coordinator, County of Kauai



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
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FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

Ms. Kathryn S. Matayoshi
Superintendent
State Department of Education
P.O. Box 2360
Honolulu, HI 96804

Dear Ms. Matayoshi:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of September 28, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. Although the Department of Education had no comment or concern relating to the proposed project, we thank you for your time and effort in reviewing the draft EA document.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director



SAMUEL MAHELONA MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

...a hospital of the Hawaii Health Systems Corporation

September 29, 2010

Mr. Glenn Sato
Energy Coordination
Office of Economic Development, County of Kauai
444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, HI 96766

Subject: Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
TMK: (4) 4-6-014: Por. 026
Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii

Dear Mr. Glenn Sato:

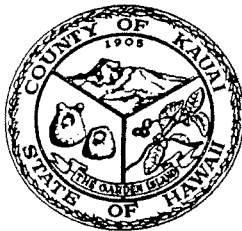
Thank you for the opportunity to participate in the environmental review process for the Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System.

In reviewing the Draft Environmental Assessment, there seems to be no negative impact on Mahelona Medical Center.

Please keep us in consideration in the Environmental Assessment as the project moves forward.

Sincerely,

Myra B.W. Ornellas RN
Administrator
Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

Ms. Myra B.W. Ornellas, RN
Administrator
Samuel Mahelona Memorial Hospital
4800 Kawaihau Road
Kapa'a, HI 96746

Dear Ms. Ornellas:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of September 29, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. We thank you for your time and effort in reviewing the draft EA document and in determining that there seems to be no negative impact on the Mahelona Medical Center. We will follow all acceptable construction practices to mitigate any short-term impacts to the surrounding neighborhood.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII

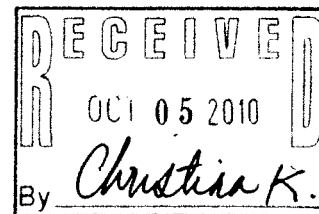


CHIYOME L. FUKINO, M.D.
DIRECTOR OF HEALTH

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
3040 UMI STREET
LIHUE, HAWAII 96766

Dileep G. Bal, M.D., M.S., M.P.H.
DISTRICT HEALTH OFFICER

October 1, 2010



Mr. George Costa
Office of Economic Development, County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, HI 96766

Dear Mr. Costa,

SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment
Project: **Photovoltaic Power System**
Applicant: **Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kauai**

Our review of the draft environmental assessment has a finding of no significant impact. However, we offer the following environmental health concern for your consideration:

1. Noise will be generated during the construction phase of this project. The applicable maximum permissible sound levels as stated in Title 11, Hawaii Administrative Rules, Chapter 11-46, Community Noise Control shall not be exceeded unless a noise permit is obtained from the Department of Health.

The Hawaii State Department of Health, Built Environment Working Group, recommends that State and County Planning Departments, developers, engineers and other professionals apply healthy built environmental principles when they plan or review new developments or redevelopments. Government agencies should lead by example in their own projects. The use of solar energy for heating and electricity is in accordance with the department's Healthy Built Environment Principles.

Should you have any questions, please call me at 241-3323.

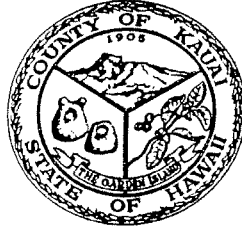
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Gerald N. Takamura".

Gerald N. Takamura, Chief
District Environmental Health Program Kaua'i

GNT: LCOM/mnu
c: Office of Environmental Quality Control

cc: Glenn Sato



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

Mr. Gerald N. Takamura, Chief
District Environmental Health Program Kauai
State Department of Health
3030 Umi Street
Līhu'e, HI 96766

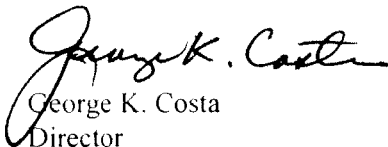
Dear Mr. Takamura:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

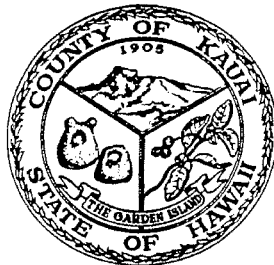
Thank you for your letter of October 1, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. We acknowledge that noise will be generated during the construction phase of the project but most of the noise will be related to the construction of the forms for the PV system anchoring system using saws and hammers and when the concrete trucks deliver concrete to the job site. After the mounting rack footing anchors are poured, most of the work will be general assembly work involving mechanical and battery operated tools. We anticipate the construction related noise to be within the maximum permissible sound levels as stated in Title 11, Hawai'i Administrative Rules, Chapter 11-46, Community Noise Control. We will direct the contractor to comply with HAR Chapter 11-46.

We appreciate your comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

BERNARD P. CARVALHO, JR.
MAYOR



DONALD M. FUJIMOTO
COUNTY ENGINEER
TELEPHONE 241-4992

GARY K. HEU
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

EDMOND P.K. RENAUD
DEPUTY COUNTY ENGINEER
TELEPHONE 241-4992

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
COUNTY OF KAUA'I
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
4444 RICE STREET
MO'IKEHA BUILDING, SUITE 275
LIHU'E, KAUA'I, HAWAII 96766-1340

October 7, 2010

Mr. Glenn Sato
Energy Coordinator
Office of Economic Development
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Līhu'e, Hawai'i 96766

Dear Mr. Sato,

RE: *Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System, TMK (4) 4-6-014: Por. 026, Kapa'a, Kaua'i, Hawai'i*

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the subject document. The Division of Solid Waste Management (DSWM) is the agency responsible for operation of solid waste disposal facilities and also administering waste diversion programs. Waste diversion programs, which include recycling, help to conserve natural resources and valuable landfill airspace.

A statement in Section 6.5 of the EA indicates that project debris such as cardboard, wood pallets and metals will be recycled. Pursuant to County Ordinance, cardboard and metals are prohibited from the landfill. Further, the EA appropriately identifies the landfill as the receiving site for construction related waste assuming the term "waste" refers to the unrecyclable fraction of project debris and such materials are not prohibited pursuant to County Ordinance. We strongly the PV installation contractor contact the DSWM for guidance & technical assistance to maximize the efficiency and impact of its recycling effort.

Should you have further questions, please contact Allison Fraley at 241-4837.

Sincerely,

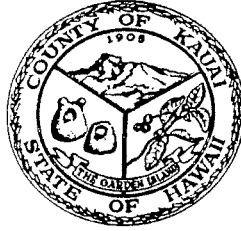
CONCUR:

TROY TANIGAWA
Environmental Services
Management Engineer

DONALD M. FUJIMOTO
County Engineer

Tkt

cc: Solid Waste Program Coordinator



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

Mr. Troy Tanigawa
Environmental Services Management Engineer
Dept. of Public Works
Division of Solid Waste Management
4444 Rice Street, Suite 275
Lihu'e, HI 96766

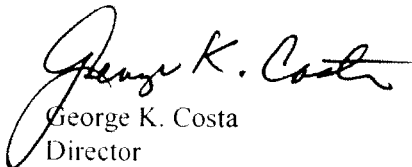
Dear Mr. Tanigawa:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of October 7, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. We intend to make sure that the PV installation contractor work with the Division of Solid Waste Management to maximize recycling efforts for the project and will suggest that the contractor contact DSWM for guidance and technical assistance.

We appreciate your comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



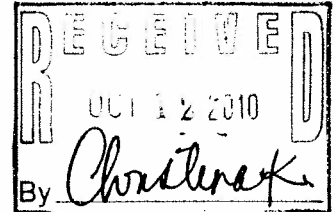
Laura H. Thielen
Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources
Commission on Water Resource Management



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
LAND DIVISION

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

October 7, 2010



Mr. Glenn Sato
Energy Coordinator
Office of Economic Development
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street Suite 200
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Dear Mr. Sato:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment for the Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the subject matter. The Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR), Land Division distributed or made available a copy of your report pertaining to the subject matter to DLNR Divisions for their review and comment.

Other than the comments from Land Division-Kauai District, Engineering Division, the Department of Land and Natural Resources has no other comments to offer on the subject matter. Historic Preservation will be submitting comments through a separate letter. Should you have any questions, please feel free to call our office at 587-0414. Thank you.

Sincerely,

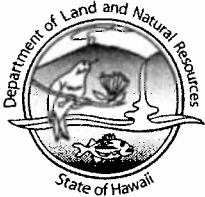
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Russell Y. Tsuji".

Russell Y. Tsuji
Administrator

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



LAURA R. THELEN
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
LAND DIVISION

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

September 9, 2010

DEPT. OF LAND &
NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE OF HAWAII

2010 OCT -4 P 2:05

RECEIVED
LAND DIVISION

MEMORANDUM

TO: **DLNR Agencies:**
 Div. of Aquatic Resources
 Div. of Boating & Ocean Recreation
 Engineering Division
 Div. of Forestry & Wildlife
 Div. of State Parks
 Commission on Water Resource Management
 Office of Conservation & Coastal Lands
 Land Division -Kauai District

FROM: Charlene Unoki, Assistant Administrator
SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment for Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
LOCATION: Island of Kauai
APPLICANT: Office of Economic Development, County of Kauai

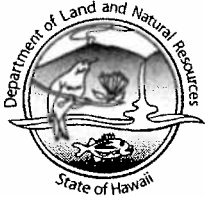
Transmitted for your review and comment on the above referenced document. We would appreciate your comments on this document. Please submit any comments by October 6, 2010.

If no response is received by this date, we will assume your agency has no comments. If you have any questions about this request, please contact my office at 587-0433. Thank you.

Attachments

- We have no objections.
- We have no comments.
- Comments are attached.

Signed: Agui
Date: 10/4/10



RECEIVED
LAND DIVISION

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
LAND DIVISION

2010 SEP 22 A 9:48

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

DEPT. OF LAND &
NATURAL RESOURCES
STATE OF HAWAII

September 9, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: **DLNR Agencies:**
 x Div. of Aquatic Resources
 Div. of Boating & Ocean Recreation
 x Engineering Division
 Div. of Forestry & Wildlife
 Div. of State Parks
 Commission on Water Resource Management
 x Office of Conservation & Coastal Lands
 x Land Division -Kauai District

Charlene

FROM: Charlene Unoki, Assistant Administrator
SUBJECT: Draft Environmental Assessment for Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
LOCATION: Island of Kauai
APPLICANT: Office of Economic Development, County of Kauai

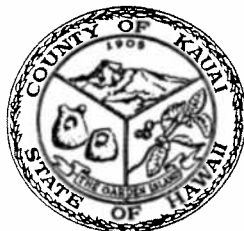
Transmitted for your review and comment on the above referenced document. We would appreciate your comments on this document. Please submit any comments by October 6, 2010.

If no response is received by this date, we will assume your agency has no comments. If you have any questions about this request, please contact my office at 587-0433. Thank you.

Attachments

- We have no objections.
- We have no comments.
- Comments are attached.

Signed: *[Signature]*
Date: 9/15/10



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

Mr. Russell Y. Tsuji
Administrator
State Dept. of Land and Natural Resources
Land Division
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, HI 96809

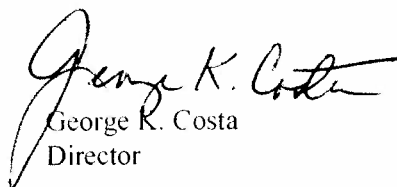
Dear Mr. Tsuji:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

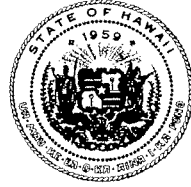
Thank you for your letter of October 7, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. We acknowledge the comment from your Engineering Division that the project site, according to the Flood Insurance Map (FIRM) is located in Zone X and that the Flood Insurance Program does not have any regulations for developments in Zone X. We also acknowledge that the Land Division, Kaua'i District had no objections to the proposed PV project.

We appreciate your comments on the proposed project and thank you for your time and effort in reviewing the draft EA document.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

LINDA LINGLE
GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
869 PUNCHBOWL STREET
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-5097

MICHAEL D. FORMBY
INTERIM DIRECTOR

Deputy Directors
FRANCIS PAUL KEENO
JIRO A. SUMADA

IN REPLY REFER TO:

STP 8.0250

October 7, 2010

Mr. Glenn Sato
Energy Coordinator
Office of Economic Development
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Dear Mr. Sato:

Subject: Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System
Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA)

Thank you for requesting the State Department of Transportation's (DOT) review of the subject project.

DOT understands that the Kauai County Office of Economic Development proposes to add a ground-mounted solar electric (photovoltaic) power system next to the Kaiakea Fire Station building to provide renewable energy to the facility. Access to the project site is off Kuhio Highway.

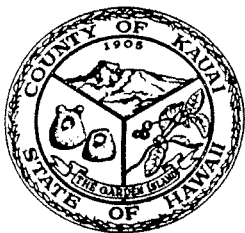
DOT does not anticipate any significant adverse impacts to the State transportation facilities from the project. However, the applicant should be informed that a permit is required from DOT Highways Division, Kauai District Office, to transport oversized and overweight equipment/loads within the State highway facilities, and that any stormwater flow from the surface areas of the solar panels be accounted for in the drainage calculations at the site.

DOT appreciates the opportunity to provide comments. If there are any other questions, please contact Mr. David Shimokawa of the DOT Statewide Transportation Planning Office at telephone number (808) 831-7976.

Very truly yours,

Francis Paul Keeno

for MICHAEL D. FORMBY
Interim Director of Transportation



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 15, 2010

Mr. Michael D. Formby
Interim Director of Transportation
State Dept. of Transportation
869 Punchbowl Street
Honolulu, HI 96813-5097

Dear Mr. Formby:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of October 7, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. We acknowledge your finding of no significant impacts to the State transportation facilities from the project. We also acknowledge that a permit is required to transport oversized and overweight equipment/loads within the State highway facilities and that any stormwater flow from the surface areas of the solar panels be accounted for in the drainage calculations at the site. We will revise the EA to say that the PV contractor shall obtain a permit for any oversized and overweight equipment/loads from the State Department of Transportation. We will also inform our Building Division that any stormwater flow from the surface areas of the solar panels be accounted for in the drainage calculations at the site.

We appreciate your comments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

Copy: PW, Building Division



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HAWAIIAN HOME LANDS

P.O. BOX 1879
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96805

October 7, 2010

Mr. Glenn Sato
Energy Coordinator
Office of Economic Development
County of Kauai
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihue, Hawaii 96766

Dear Mr. Sato:

Subject: Kaiakea Fire Station Photovoltaic Power System, TMK
No. (4)4-6-014:Por. 026, Kapaa, Kauai, Hawaii

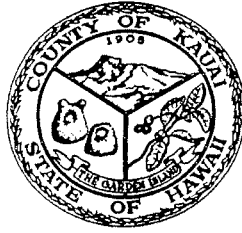
Mahalo for your letter of September 1, 2010, transmitting the
subject Draft Environmental Assessment.

The department has major landholdings in Kapaa Town and Anahola-
Kamalomaloo which would be served by this new facility. We
commend the County of Kauai for undertaking this major project
with renewable energy features. It sets an example for other
public facilities.

We have no other comments to offer. If you have any questions,
please call Darrell Yagodich, Planning Program Manager, at 620-
9481.

Aloha and mahalo,

Kaulana H.R. Park, Chairman
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands



Bernard P. Carvalho, Jr.
Mayor

George K. Costa
Director

Office of Economic Development

County of Kaua'i
4444 Rice Street, Suite 200
Lihu'e, HI 96766-1300
TEL (808)241-4946
FAX (808)241-6399

October 18, 2010

Mr. Kaulana H.R. Park
Chairman
Department of Hawaiian Home Lands
P.O. Box 1879
Honolulu, HI 96805

Dear Mr. Park:

Subject: Draft Environmental Assessment
Photovoltaic Power System
Kaiakea Fire Station, County of Kaua'i

Thank you for your letter of October 7, 2010 regarding the Draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed fire station photovoltaic power system at Kapa'a, Kaua'i. We are very proud of this latest fire station as it is the most energy efficient on the island and the addition of a renewable energy system will set the example for other public facilities. The County plans to apply for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for this fire station facility.

We appreciate your comments and compliments on the proposed project.

Sincerely,


George K. Costa
Director

REFERENCES

County of Kaua'i, Planning Dept. November 2000. Kaua'i General Plan

County of Kaua'i, Dept. of Water. March 2001. Water Plan 2020. Prepared by R.W. Beck and CH2M Hill.

County of Kaua'i, Dept. of Water. February 1990. Kaua'i Water Use and Development Plan. Prepared by R.M. Towill Corp.

Cultural Surveys Hawai'i, Inc. Archaeological Literature Review and Field Inspection, and Cultural Impact Evaluation of a 3.1 acre Area, Kapa'a Ahupuaa, Kawaihau District, Kauai Island. TMK: [4] 4-6-014:26. December 2005.

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Final Environmental Assessment: Proposed Fire Station, Kapa'a, Kaua'i, Hawai'i. Prepared by Belt Collins Hawai'i Ltd., April 2006.

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Photovoltaic Power System Evaluation Report, Kaiakea Fire Station, Kapa'a, Kaua'i, Hawai'i. Prepared by IDS Popov, Inc., August 16, 2010.

State of Hawai'i, Dept. of Transportation, Advance Planning Division, 24-Hour Traffic Count, Station No. 26-X. August 27-28, 2003.

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U.S. Census, 2000

U.S. Dept. of Transportation, Federal Highways Administration; State Dept. of Transportation, Highway Division; and County of Kaua'i, Dept. of Public Works. Consultant SSFM International. Final Environmental Assessment, Kapa'a-Ke lia Bike & Pedestrian Path, Basis of Design Project, August 2003.

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