



# STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,  
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII  
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## November 2024 Meeting Minutes

### Exemption Committee

#### State of Hawai'i Environmental Advisory Council

Meeting Held on Tuesday, December 3, 2024, 1:30 - 2:30 PM

Via ZOOM videoconference

*Governor*  
Josh Green, M.D.

*Lt. Governor*  
Sylvia Luke

*OPSD Interim Director*  
Mary Alice Evans

*Chairperson*  
Rachel Sprague

*Vice Chair*  
Dawn Hegger-Nordblom

*Members*  
Michele Lefebvre  
Jay Stone

Members Present (3): Michele Lefebvre (Chair); Dawn Hegger-Nordblom

Staff Present: Tom Eisen, Mary Alice Evans, Kayli Yoshioka

Members of the Public Present: Onaona Theone

1. Call to order, roll call and quorum, introductions.

With three members present, Michele Lefebvre convened the meeting at 12:08 PM. All present were introduced.

2. Exemption list status

Agency	Status	Next Action
LISTS		
Department of Hawaiian Homelands	Received 01/12/2024. Waiting to hear back from DHHL.	No action this meeting.
State of Hawaii, Department of Education	ERP Received 04/10/2024, ExComm Received List 05/24/2024, Revised List 10/03/2024	Discuss list revisions.

#### Department of Hawaiian Home Lands

No further discussion, waiting to hear back from DHHL on suggested revisions to the list to focus the list on agency actions rather than homeowner or lessee actions.

#### State of Hawaii, Department of Education

The committee requested a redline version of the list, since the revised version provided by DOE on 10/3/2024 was significantly different. Committee discussed the following items upon initial review of the list: some exemptions are included in Part 1 and Part 2; request addition of night sky provision; some exemptions are listed as Part 2 but could be Part 1; may be helpful to qualify size of project for inclusion on Part 2; discuss inclusion of Part 3 (emergency actions). ERP will reach out to their AG for an opinion on including a Part 3 in exemption lists, since more agencies have been asking about including it.

Group discussed, generally, that although agencies are not required to get Exemption Committee concurrence for their exemption list, it is recommended that they split their list into Part 1 and Part 2. The advantage of publishing a notice for Part 2 exemptions is notifying the public about projects.

Michele asked DOE to attend the next meeting (December 3), so we can go through the list in more detail.

3. Follow-up on Revisions to Exemptions Guidance Document.  
Exemption Committee and ERP staff discussed the guidance document. Onaona identified that “advisory” needs to be added on page 1 under the background discussion. Tom noted that regular calls with agencies has given him some other ideas for how to revise the guidance, so he will work on that. ERP will provide a revised version of the guidance to the Exemption Committee when it’s ready, so we’ll keep this on the agenda.

4. Review and approve September 2024 meeting minutes  
Dawn moved to approve the September 2024 meeting minutes, Michele seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

5. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:52 PM.