



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM,
OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII
235 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET, SUITE 702, HONOLULU, HI 96813

Phone: 808-586-4185
Email: dbedt.opsd.erp@hawaii.gov

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Josh B. Green, M.D.

Lt. Governor
Sylvia Luke

OPSD Director
Mary Alice Evans

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Dawn Hegger-Nordblom

Vice Chair
Jay Stone

Members
Michele Lefebvre
Rachel Sprague

Minutes
State of Hawai'i Environmental Advisory Council
7th floor conference area, 235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu, HI 96813
Thursday, November 13, 2025, 9:00 AM

Materials for this agenda and minutes of this meeting will be available at specific links indicated below or at: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/erp/ec-meetings/>

Members Present

Dawn Hegger-Nordblom (Chairperson), Jay Stone (Vice-Chair), Michele Lefebvre, Rachel Sprague

Members Absent

None

Staff

Mary Alice Evans (OPSD Director), Tom Eisen (Environmental Review Program [ERP] Staff)

Public

Douglas Le

1. Call to order, Roll Call, Introductions, Quorum

With a quorum of four members, Chairperson Hegger-Nordblom called the meeting to order at 9:01 AM.

2. Review and adoption of minutes from Thursday, October 23, 2025

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2025-10-23-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes-draft.pdf

MOTION: Member Lefebvre moved to approve the October 2025 meeting minutes. Vice-Chair Stone seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (4-0-0).

3. Director's Report

Director Evans had no updates for the Council.

4. EAC Rules Update and Discussion

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/Proposed-HAR-15-20-Rules-DRAFT-REVISIONS-3-Nov-2025.pdf

Mr. Eisen reported that the ERP staff has worked on changes to the Hawai'i Administrative Rules that are mostly housekeeping in nature. He notes that yellow highlights indicate additions or changes to the rules. Items that are bracketed or struck through indicate proposed deleted text.

Member Lefebvre discussed Part I and Part II exemption types and ADA compliance as stated in the rule changes. Member Lefebvre raised the concern that federal compliance guidelines might differ from the compliance check conducted by the state, and what implications that could entail in the future.

During the discussion of ADA compliance, Vice-Chair Stone asked whether the Americans with Disabilities Act itself requires electronic documents to be compliant, or whether it is something else that falls under the Act's authority. He raised this point to inquire about the wording of the changes to the ADA compliance rule. Mr. Eisen reported that he will check on this point and get back to the Council.

Mr. Le provided public testimony on this agenda item. He highlighted how applicants who face non-acceptance by the agency are going to be able to appeal and how that will be reflected in the rules. Overall, he wanted to speak up in support of the work that is being done to update the rules.

5. Discussion of the Environmental Advisory Council Annual Report 2025

Chairperson Hegger-Nordblom reported that the draft Annual Report had been circulated to all members and invited any comments or feedback. Vice-Chair Stone reported that he had no additional comments. Members Sprague and Lefebvre reported that they had provided some changes to the draft.

6. Announcements

Next Meeting: TBD

Member Lefebvre reported that the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) has submitted an Exemption List to the Council and would like to add that item to the agenda for the next meeting.

Discussion of ADA compliance (part of the HAR changes) was requested to be added as an agenda item for the next meeting.

The next Council meeting is scheduled for December 2, 2025, at 1:00 PM.

7. Adjournment

Chairperson Hegger-Nordblom adjourned the meeting at 9:44 AM.