

## EXEMPTION NOTICE FORM

University of Hawai'i  
2444 Dole Street  
Honolulu, HI 96822

TO: 1. Agency-Maintained Public Files for Chapter 343 HRS Exemption Determinations  
2. Office of Planning and Sustainable Development, if publication is desired  
3. University of Hawai'i

FROM: Director of University of Hawai'i

SUBJECT: Exemption Notice for Waiale'e Research Station Capital Improvements Project (CIP) (UHM 1013-004-16)

DATE: 7/17/2023

### AGENCY OR APPLICANT ACTION

Check applicable box

- This exempted action is an agency action as defined by Section 343-5(b), Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS), and Section 11-200.1-8, Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR),
- This exempted action is an applicant action as defined by Section 343-5(e), HRS, and Section 11-200.1-9, HAR

### EXEMPTION TYPE:

The Exemption Notice for the action described below is based on the general types enumerated in Section 11-200.1-15(c), Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR), Exemption Type **2, 7, and 8**.

As applicable, the exemption for the action described below is also supported by the Exemption List for the University of Hawaii, reviewed and concurred to by the Environmental Council on 3/14/2001.

- Exemption List Class 2.
- Item Number 1.k.
- Applicable language from the exemption list: Replacement or reconstruction of sewer pipelines, aeration ponds/tanks, and cesspools.
  
- Exemption List Class 7.
- Item Number 1.
- Applicable language from the exemption list: Interior alterations involving such things as partitions, plumbing, and electrical conveyances. Construction, repair, or removal of interior partitions.
  
- Exemption List Class 8.
- Item Number N/A.

Applicable language from the exemption list: Demolition of structures not functional or economical to remodel and maintain, except those located on any historic site as designated in the National Register or Hawaii Register as provided for in the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Public Law 89-665, 16 U.S.C. Section 470, as amended or Chapter 6E, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION

Proposing Agency or Applicant: University of Hawaii Office of Project Delivery

Project Name & Address/Location: Waiale'e Research Station CIP; 58-117 Kamehameha Hwy, Haleiwa, Oahu, HI 96712

Anticipated Start Date: 1/2/2024

Anticipated End Date: 6/30/2024

Island and District: O`ahu Ko`olauloa

Tax Map Key(s) and other geolocation means: (1) 5-8-001:006; (1) 5-8-001:007; (1) 5-8-001:026; (1) 5-8-001:055

All Necessary Permits and Approvals: Special Management Area MINOR, Site Development Permit, Building Permit, NPDES Permit, Abandonment of Injection Well

## NARRATIVE

Describe the action and why it qualifies for the exemption: This action involves filling and grading of an abandoned oxidation pond and sewer treatment system, installation of two (2) underground Individual Wastewater System (IWS) septic tanks and leach fields, demolition of seven (7) abandoned structures, and removal of two (2) interior doors. The oxidation pond and two (2) associated injection wells are being abandoned and removed to comply with Chapter 11-62-23.1(h), HAR. The site will be filled, graded, and grassed to restore the site to its original and natural condition. Installation of the two (2) IWS shall replace the injection wells to provide proper wastewater treatment at the remaining buildings. The two IWS will be 1,500-gallon septic tanks, approximately 11 feet (ft) long by 6 ft wide by 7 ft deep, with additional 4-inch sewer piping connection and additional sewer line to each respective leach field. The leach field areas are anticipated to be approximately 1,000 square (sq) ft each at a maximum depth of 3 ft for each respective leach field area. The structures to be demolished including the Calf Barn, Sheep Barn, Feed Lot, Silage Pit Walls, Swine Nursery, Swine Barn, and Jail House are in a state of disrepair and pose a health and safety hazard to the public. No structures that are proposed to be demolished are located on any historic site as designated in the National or State Registers of Historic Places. Demolition of the structures and grassing of the areas will restore the site to the original condition. Based on the SMA Permit Determination (2023/ELOG-486(MS)), the proposed demolition of the structures will not require an SMA permit as they do not meet the definition of “development” within the SMA. The two (2) interior doors to be removed are damaged and pose a safety hazard to occupants and will be removed to prevent use or further damage. Based on the SMA Permit Determination (2023/ELOG-486(MS)), the proposed door removal will not require an SMA permit as they do not meet the definition of “development” within the SMA.

## RECEIVING ENVIRONMENT

Describe the site, including any impacts on the receiving environment: The proposed site is located within the University of Hawaii College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources (CTAHR) Waiale'e Livestock Research Facility, which straddles Kamehameha Highway, north of Sunset Beach and south of Turtle Bay Hilton. The facility formerly functioned as an animal research and demonstration facility but has been unused since closure in 2008. Many of the remaining buildings have since fallen into a state of disrepair. The oxidation pond and injection wells formerly served several buildings on the site. The injection wells have been unused and dormant since 2021. Removal of the injection wells, filling of the oxidation pond and removal of the abandoned buildings will restore the site to natural condition, therefore improving the site environment. Proper construction of BMPs will be implemented in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations to prevent runoff and minimize dust, noise, and disturbance during construction. At the end of construction, a final clean up shall removal all temporary equipment and materials. Therefore, minimal impacts to the receiving environment are expected.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

I have considered the potential effects of the proposed project and all related activities against the criteria checked below:

	Not Applicable
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Land Use and Zoning Conformance	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Traffic (Vehicles, Bicycles, Pedestrian)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Infrastructure (Roads, Buildings, Utilities)	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Pollutant Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise Emissions	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Solid, Hazardous, and Liquid Waste Management	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Social	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Economic	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health and Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Beach Access	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources and Practices	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Visual/Aesthetic	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Environmental Justice	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rare, Threatened, and/or Endangered Species	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surface and Ground Water Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wetlands	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Floodplains	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Riparian/Coastal Resources	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/>

Comments/summary of impact analysis: The impact analysis of filling and grading of an abandoned oxidation pond and sewer treatment system, installation of two (2) underground Individual Wastewater System (IWS) septic tanks and leach fields, demolition of seven (7) abandoned structures, and removal of two (2) interior doors will not result in a major disturbance to an environmental resource but will improve the environmental impact on the site.

### MITIGATION

Describe all mitigation measures and best management practices planned to address impacts during the project activities and after project completion: The contractor shall follow the guidelines in the City and County of Honolulu Best Management Practices Manual-Construction in developing, installing, and maintaining the BMPs for the project and all other applicable Federal, State, and local laws. A spill control and prevention plan will be in place and the contractor shall keep the project area and surrounding area free from rubbish, dust, noise, erosion, etc. The work shall be done in conformance with the air and water pollution control standards and regulations of the State of Hawaii Department of Health. Inspections will be performed weekly. At the end of construction, a final clean up shall remove all temporary equipment and materials and restore the site as close as possible to the original condition or better.

### CONSULTATION

The following parties have been consulted about this declaration exemption (Name, affiliation, consultation date): The City and County of Honolulu was consulted to request a determination on the SMA Minor permit and an initial determination (2023/ELOG-486(MS)), was received on April 24, 2023. The State Historic Preservation Division has also been consulted and a reconnaissance level survey has been submitted for review. Department of Health (6/19/2023), Safe Drinking Water Branch (5/9/2023), Clean Water Branch (6/30/2023) have been consulted in regards to their respective scope of work. The University of Hawai'i will inform applicable users of the facility of the construction work involved for the Proposed Action. Upon the completion of project construction activities, all users will be notified and operations will be returned to normal operating conditions.

### EXEMPT DECLARATION

The direct, cumulative, and potential impacts of the action described above have been considered pursuant to Chapter 343, Hawai'i Revised Statutes and Chapter 11-200.1, Hawai'i Administrative Rules. I declare that the action described above will have minimal or no significant impact on the environment and is therefore exempt from the requirement to prepare an environmental assessment.

Ross Richards

Digitally signed by Ross Richards  
DN: c=US, o=University of  
Hawaii, ou=Office of Project Delivery, cn=Ross  
Richards  
Date: 2023.08.02 13:56:35-10707

8/2/2023

Signature of Director or Delegate

Date

This document is to be kept on file in the agency's records and made available for public review

Please check here if this document is being submitted to the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development for voluntary publication in *The Environmental Notice*