

ENGINEERING DIVISION

DEPARTMENT OF WATER, COUNTY OF KAUAI
JASON F. KAGIMOTO, P.E.



JOSEPH E. TAIT
MANAGER AND CHIEF ENGINEER

October 1, 2025

Ms. Mary Alice Evans, Director
Environmental Review Program
Office of Planning and Sustainable Development
State of Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism
235 S. Beretania Street, Room 702
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear Ms. Evans:

Subject: **DETERMINATION OF NO ADDITIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW NEEDED TO SATISFY CHAPTER 343, HAWAII REVISED STATUTES FOR THE CONSTRUCT HĀ'ENA 0.2 MG STORAGE TANK, 144', ALSO REFERRED TO AS THE HĀ'ENA AREA WATER SYSTEM, IN WAINIHA, KAUAI, HAWAII**
TMK (4) 5-8-002:003 (POR.) AND 007

Pursuant to Hawai'i Administrative Rules (HAR) §11-200.1-4, , this letter serves as a notification and request for publication in the next available edition of *The Environmental Notice* that the County of Kauai Department of Water (DOW) has determined that additional environmental review is not required for the "*Construct Hā'ena 0.2 MG Storage Tank, 144'*", also referred to as "*Hā'ena Area Water System, Wainiha, Kauai, Hawai'i*", and hereafter referred to as Project. This letter documents our findings that the analysis and conclusions of the existing 2018 Final Environmental Assessment (FEA)/Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the Project made pursuant to HAR §11-200.1-11, and determines that no additional environmental review is required for construction of the Project.

Project Overview

The Hā'ena-Wainiha water service area serves the communities of Hā'ena and Wainiha and extends toward the mountains (mauka) and the coastline (makai) on either side of Kūhiō Highway in north Kauai. The Hā'ena-Wainiha Water System currently comprises three wells in the Hā'ena and Wainiha area. DOW's current distribution system includes transmission pipelines that connect water supply sources to the Hā'ena and Wainiha areas. The Water Plan 2020 ("Plan") projected future water demands from all areas on Kauai to grow at 20% between 2000 and 2020, with the exception of the Hā'ena-Wainiha area, which is projected to grow approximately 15% between 2000 and 2020. In response to the Plan's projected water demand and an analysis of future water storage needs, DOW's capital improvement program is proposing a new 0.2-million-gallon (MG) storage tank to serve this area.

The proposed new Hā'ena 0.2 MG Storage Tank is intended to increase storage capacity to meet the required domestic and fire flow storage capacity per Hawai'i Water System Standards for the Hā'ena-Wainiha 144' water pressure service area. The DOW anticipates that the additional storage capacity generated from this project will support the development of actions proposed in the Hā'ena State Park Master Plan, residential units, including affordable housing, and businesses. In addition, the Proposed Action will allow minimum recommended fire flows.

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Determination Based on HAR §11-200.1-11 Use of prior exemptions, findings of no significant impact or accepted environmental impact statements to satisfy chapter 343, HRS, for proposed actions.

The analysis and conclusions of the existing FEA/Finding of No Significant Impact FONSI for the Project address the criteria set forth in HAR §200.1-11 as follows:

1. The proposed action was a component of, or is substantially similar to, an action that received an exemption, FONSI, or an accepted EIS (for example, a project that was analyzed in a program EIS).

Project objectives, location, scope, construction and other components are the same as that evaluated in the existing FEA / FONSI.

2. The proposed action is anticipated to have direct, indirect, and cumulative effects similar to those analyzed in a prior exemption, final EA, or accepted EIS.

The FONSI analyzed the 13 significance criteria set forth in HAR §11-200.1-13 and it was determined that the Project is not anticipated to cause significant negative impacts to the environment.

3. In the case of a final EA or an accepted EIS, the proposed action was analyzed within the range of alternatives.

The FEA / FONSI evaluated a "No-Action" Alternative and alternative locations. The No-Action Alternative would fail to address projected water demand for the Hā'ena - Wainiha- service area and would not achieve the goals set forth in both the Kaua'i General Plan and Kaua'i Water Plan 2020. In terms of two alternative locations, it was determined that the most suitable site for the new tank would be in an area where the new tank could be incorporated practicably and effectively into DOW's existing system. Additionally, the potential Project area should be located above 125 ft. mean sea level elevation in order to service the target 144 ft. Hā'ena - Wainiha- Water System area, and be relatively close to the existing system piping and controls near Wainiha Powerhouse Road to minimize construction of new utility lines required for connection to the existing utility system.

Please publish these findings in the next edition of *The Environmental Notice*. Should you have any questions, please contact Scott Suga at sisuga@kauaiwater.org.

Sincerely,

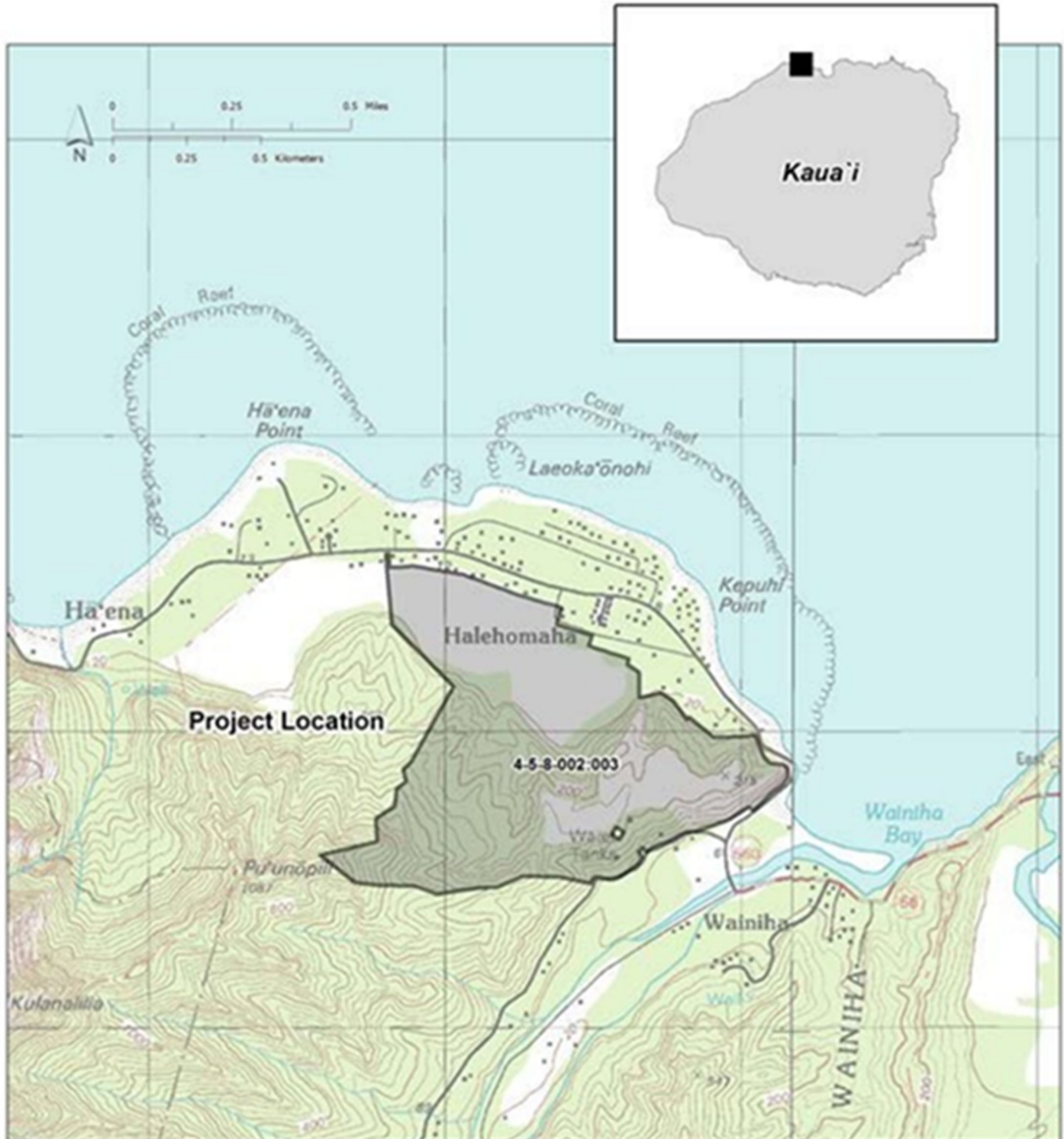
Joseph E. Tait
Manager and Chief Engineer

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Office of Environmental Quality Control

February 2016 Revision

**AGENCY
PUBLICATION FORM**

Project Name:	Construct Ha'ena 0.2 MG Storage Tank, 144'
Project Short Name:	Ha'ena 0.2 MG Storage Tank
HRS §343-5 Trigger(s):	Use of County funds
Island(s):	Kaua'i
Judicial District(s):	Hanalei, Kaua'i
TMK(s):	(4) 5-8-002-003 (por) and 5-8-002-007
Permit(s)/Approval(s):	Conservation District Use Permit, County building permits, Community Noise Permit (if req'd), Individual NPDES Permit
Proposing/Determining Agency:	Department of Water, County of Kauai
Contact Name, Email, Telephone, Address	Bryan Wienand, P.E.; Department of Water, County of Kauai 4398 Pua Loke Street, Lihue, Hawaii 96766 Tel: (808) 245-5449 bwienand@kauaiwater.org
Accepting Authority:	(for EIS submittals only)
Contact Name, Email, Telephone, Address	
Consultant:	Shiramizu, Loo & Nakamura LLLP
Contact Name, Email, Telephone, Address	Galen Nakamura 4357 Rice Street, Suite 102 Lihue, Hawaii 96766 Phone: (808) 632-2267 galen.nakamura@hawaiiantel.net

Status (select one)☐ DEA-AFNSI☒ FEA-FONSI☐ FEA-EISPN☐ Act 172-12 EISPN
("Direct to EIS")☐ DEIS☐ FEIS☐ FEIS Acceptance
Determination**Submittal Requirements**

Submit 1) the proposing agency notice of determination/transmittal letter on agency letterhead, 2) this completed OEQC publication form as a Word file, 3) a hard copy of the DEA, and 4) a searchable PDF of the DEA; a 30-day comment period follows from the date of publication in the Notice.

Submit 1) the proposing agency notice of determination/transmittal letter on agency letterhead, 2) this completed OEQC publication form as a Word file, 3) a hard copy of the FEA, and 4) a searchable PDF of the FEA; no comment period follows from publication in the Notice.

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Submit 1) the proposing agency notice of determination letter on agency letterhead and 2) this completed OEQC publication form as a Word file; no EA is required and a 30-day comment period follows from the date of publication in the Notice.

Submit 1) a transmittal letter to the OEQC and to the accepting authority, 2) this completed OEQC publication form as a Word file, 3) a hard copy of the DEIS, 4) a searchable PDF of the DEIS, and 5) a searchable PDF of the distribution list; a 45-day comment period follows from the date of publication in the Notice.

Submit 1) a transmittal letter to the OEQC and to the accepting authority, 2) this completed OEQC publication form as a Word file, 3) a hard copy of the FEIS, 4) a searchable PDF of the FEIS, and 5) a searchable PDF of the distribution list; no comment period follows from publication in the Notice.

The accepting authority simultaneously transmits to both the OEQC and the proposing agency a letter of its determination of acceptance or nonacceptance (pursuant to Section 11-200-23, HAR) of the FEIS; no comment period ensues upon publication in the Notice.

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Agency Publication Form
February 2016 Revision

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|---|---|
| ☐ FEIS Statutory Acceptance | Timely statutory acceptance of the FEIS under Section 343-5(c), HRS, is not applicable to agency actions. |
| ☐ Supplemental EIS Determination | The accepting authority simultaneously transmits its notice to both the proposing agency and the OEQC that it has reviewed (pursuant to Section 11-200-27, HAR) the previously accepted FEIS and determines that a supplemental EIS is or is not required; no EA is required and no comment period ensues upon publication in the Notice. |
| ☐ Withdrawal | Identify the specific document(s) to withdraw and explain in the project summary section. |
| ☐ Other | Contact the OEQC if your action is not one of the above items. |

Project Summary

Provide a description of the proposed action and purpose and need in 200 words or less.

The County of Kauai Department of Water ("KDOW") proposes to construct a 0.2 MG potable water storage tank in Hanalei, Kauai, on a portion of (4) 5-8-002-003. Electrical improvements ancillary to the project will occur on adjoining tax map key parcel (4) 5-8-002-007. KDOW's Water Plan 2020 ("Plan") projected future water demands from the Wainiha-Ha'ena area on Kauai are projected to grow approximately 15% between 2000 and 2020. In response to the Plan's projected water demand and an analysis of future water storage needs, KDOW's capital improvement program proposed a new 200,000 gallon storage tank to serve this area.

20251001 Haena Water Tank Notice of No Further Environmental Review Required - jk

Final Audit Report

2025-10-02

Created:	2025-10-02
By:	Lillian Mack (lmack@kauaiwater.org)
Status:	Signed
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"20251001 Haena Water Tank Notice of No Further Environmental Review Required - jk" History

-  Document created by Lillian Mack (lmack@kauaiwater.org)
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-  Document emailed to Joseph Tait (jtait@kauaiwater.org) for signature
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-  Document e-signed by Joseph Tait (jtait@kauaiwater.org)
Signature Date: 2025-10-02 - 0:21:18 AM GMT - Time Source: server
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