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* E I S N E W S L E T T E R *
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August 14, 1973

I-13

Persons interested in obtaining additional information should contact this Office at 550 Halekaiwila Street, Tani Office Building, Room 302, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 or call 548-6915.

BACKGROUND INFORMATIONAL NOTES

Part IV, covering EPA's manual, "Review of Federal Actions Impacting the Environment." Summary of Chapter 3.

Chapter 3. Preparation, Approval, and Distribution of Comments
On Environmental Impact Statements

1. Content and Organization of Agency Comments

EPA's comments should: "reflect the total environmental responsibilities of the Agency"; provide stimulation for considering primary and secondary environmental effects for decision-making; stress basic environmental issues; assist the originating agency in preparing the final statement; and "be of a constructive nature, suggesting, where possible, not only what should be improved, but also discussing alternatives warranting consideration."

"The review of the draft impact statement should address both the adequacy of the information presented in the statement and the environmental impact of the project." For these two levels of analysis, two notations were developed; one category rating the adequacy of the impact statement, and the second category signifying the environmental impact of the proposed action. The categories are, as follows: (Taken from Figure 3-1, of the EPA Manual.)

ADEQUACY OF THE IMPACT STATEMENT

Category 1--Adequate

The draft impact statement adequately sets forth the environmental impact of the proposed project or action as well as alternatives reasonably available to the project or action.

Category 2--Insufficient Information

EPA believes that the draft impact statement does not contain sufficient information to assess fully the environmental impact

of the proposed project or action. However, from the information submitted, the Agency is able to make a preliminary determination of the impact on the environment. EPA has requested that the originator provide the information that was not included in the draft statement.

Category 3--Inadequate

EPA believes that the draft impact statement does not adequately assess the environmental impact of the proposed project or action, or that the statement inadequately analyzes reasonably available alternatives. The Agency has requested more information and analysis concerning the potential environmental hazards and has asked that substantial revision be made to the impact statement.

(If a draft impact statement is assigned a Category 3, no rating will be made of the project or action, since a basis does not generally exist on which to make such a determination.)

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF THE ACTION

L0--Lack of Objections

EPA has no objections to the proposed action as described in the draft impact statement; or suggests only minor changes in the proposed action.

ER--Environmental Reservations

EPA has reservations concerning the environmental effects of certain aspects of the proposed action. EPA believes that further study of suggested alternatives or modifications is required and has asked the originating Federal agency to reassess these aspects.

EU--Environmentally Unsatisfactory

EPA believes that the proposed action is unsatisfactory because of its potentially harmful effect on the environment. Furthermore, the Agency believes that the potential safeguards which might be utilized may not adequately protect the environment from hazards arising from this action. The Agency recommends that alternatives to the action be analyzed further (including the possibility of no action at all).

"On final impact statements categorical notations will not be utilized. Instead, principal reviewers will rely on narrative explanations to describe the environmental impact of the proposed project or action." EPA's comments, at the final EIS stage, would address itself to "the acceptability of the project from the standpoint of public health, welfare and environmental quality."

2. Approval and Distribution of Comments on Draft Impact Statements

On noncontroversial EISs, the principal reviewer would be responsible for the approval and distribution of the Agency's comments on EISs submitted.

On controversial impact statements (defined as draft EISs with a high degree of national significance or controversy; "pioneer" policies; or having been categorized as EU or Category 3, the comments are cleared by the Office of Federal Activities prior to release.

The originating agency is notified of EPA's comments and the rating given, thereafter the comments will be available to the public. With the transmittal of EPA's comments, a request for copies of the final EIS is also included.

The public is given notification of the comments and rating given by EPA through a "capsulized" summary available in the Federal Register and the CEQ's "102 Monitor." The comments would also be available for public reviewing and copying at regional or local offices of EPA.

3. Records

"The principal reviewer will maintain a copy of each draft and final impact statement he has reviewed and his comments in a file for two years after the original date of the final statement (or draft statement, if a final is not issued). OFA will maintain a computer listing of principal reviewers for all impact statements.

4. Review of Final Environmental Impact Statement

In the review of the final EIS, the principal Agency determines if the information contained in the final EIS is sufficient to base an evaluation of the project's impact on the environment. If the final statement needs additional information, that information is requested usually within 10 days after the submittal of the final statement. If the information is sufficient, and EPA does not foresee adverse environmental impact (LO), the reviewer will prepare a short memorandum to the Director recording his decision and the underlying rationale. (The Director of OFA.)

If the project is determined by the principal reviewer to be unsatisfactory from the standpoint of health, welfare, and environmental quality, the principal reviewer shall prepare formal comments for transmittal to the originating agency. The comments would be prepared for EPA Administrator's signature, and coordinated through OFA. CEQ is notified and a summary of the comments will appear in the Federal Register, and an "action" memorandum to the Administrator is prepared outlining the various aspects of the project and "briefly discussing the liaison with the originating agency."

(This ends the EIS Newsletter review of EPA's Manual; the fourth Chapter of the Manual, Review of Federal Actions Under Section 309 of Clean Air Act, will not be covered.)

V. TRANSPORTATION

A. Goals

1. Provide Hawaii with transportation systems which are in harmony with Hawaii's physical, social, aesthetic, environmental, and economic values.

B. Policies

1. Plan and develop balanced, multi-modal transportation systems for people and goods optimizing efficiency, safety, cost, and comfort in compatibility with socio-economic and environmental factors.
2. Require continuing, comprehensive, and cooperative planning of transportation systems with State and county policies.
3. Create transportation systems which carry out the goals set forth for conservation, economic activities, and land use.
4. Recognize the needs and desires of a community through the provision of those modes of travel which will best serve the different requirements evident in the particular community.
5. Set standards for the design and performance of public and private vehicles to: (a) conserve energy; (b) reduce pollution emissions, including noise; (c) provide safe and sympathetic accommodations for their users.
6. Develop more efficient, safe, economical, and comfortable inter-island transportation systems in support of environmental goals.
7. Encourage the establishment of appropriate mass transit systems in and between all counties.

The Temporary Commission on Environmental Planning has arranged the following schedule of public meetings to outline its recommendations and solicit reaction.

SEPTEMBER 1973

3	4	5	6	7
		State Capitol Auditorium	Waipahu Library	
10	11	12	13	14
Wahiawa Inter. Cafetorium	Kahului Library	Lahaina Civic Center	Molokai Kaunakakai School (tentative)	
17	18	19	20	21
Kaneohe Library (tentative)	Kalihi-Palana (tentative)	Waianae Inter. Cafetorium	Lihue Convention Hall	Waimea Library
24	25	26	27	28
UH-Manoa Orvis Auditorium	Hilo (tentative)	West Hawaii (tentative)	Kailua (Oahu) Library	

All of the above scheduled meetings will convene at 7:30 p.m. A final schedule, along with a list of Commission members who will conduct each meeting will be provided in the forthcoming issue of the EIS Newsletter.

At the end of September, the Commission will reconvene and begin a review of its report and recommendations based on the comments received during the public submission period.

ANTICIPATED EIS

Honolulu District Court (relocation), Kahaluu Flood Control Project, Kaneohe Civic Center (site selection), Maintenance of Harbors (dredging), Pacific Sea Jetfoils (inter-island transportation service).

OEQC has received copies of an environmental assessment prepared to accompany a request for a drainage easement across State land at Kamaole, Kihei, Maui. The proposed 30" drainage culvert will service a 189 unit private condominium project to be known as Hale Kamaole. Persons wishing to comment on the statement may request copies by writing or calling OEQC. Deadline for comments is August 31, 1973.

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EIS REGISTER

Final Environmental Impact Statements

Project Name - Expanding Agency or
Initiating Agency

1. Drag Strip for Panaewa, Hawaii-
Department of Parks and
Recreation, County of Hawaii

Location

Panaewa,
Hawaii

Description

The proposed project consists of the development of a three-quarter mile paved drag racing track, a return road, a 4,000 seat spectator area, the necessary parking, restroom facilities and forest buffer zones. An area of approximately 135 acres of State-owned land in the district of South Hilo has been proposed for the subject facility.

Suspense
Date

Currently being pro-
cessed by
this Office.

2. Art Facilities, University of
Hawaii, Manoa Campus - University
of Hawaii

Honolulu,
Oahu

The proposed Art Facilities will be a four (4) level reinforced concrete structure containing 88,018 sq. ft. of assignable area (119,085 sq. ft. gross area). It will house the entire Art Department of the College of Arts and Sciences. The facilities will contain faculty and administrative offices, studios, workshops, classrooms, two lecture halls, class laboratories, student and faculty lounge, and an art gallery.

Currently being pro-
cessed by
this Office.

Draft Environmental Impact Statements

1. Inoaole Housing Project -
Hawaii Housing Authority

Waimanalo,
Oahu

The project site is located immediately adjacent to Waimanalo School and across the Bellows Field Air Force Base. The Inoaole Subdivision will be utilizing the concept of duplex housing, and will include 93 such units, totalling 186 units. The purpose of the project is to provide low-cost housing to the Waimanalo area.

8/20

2. Hui Koolau Anuimanu
Project - Hawaii Housing
Authority

Kahaluu,
Oahu

8/27

The developer, Hawaii Rural Housing Development Corporation (HRHDC), a non-profit corporation, has applied to the Hawaii Housing Authority for an interim construction loan to finance the proposed project. The project includes the development of 40 dwelling units just off Kialua Street in Kahaluu. Upon completion of the project, the homes will be sold to the members of HRHDC.

3. Fort Weaver Road Realignment
and Widening - State Department
of Transportation and U. S.
Department of Transportation

Honolulu,
Oahu

9/20

A relocation and widening of existing Fort Weaver Road is proposed for a length of approximately 5.8 miles between Interstate Route H-1 at Kunia Road and existing Fort Weaver Road at the boundary of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Observatory. Three basic highway corridor alternatives have been studied and are discussed in the subject statement.

4. Kohala Estates - Hawaiian Home
Lands

North
Kohala,
Hawaii

9/14

This project concerns installation of electrical and telephone lines from Kawaihae substation along the Kawaihae-Mahukona Road, a distance of approximately two miles, to provide service for "Kohala Estates", a privately developed agricultural subdivision, Tax Map Key 5-9-1:1,2,3.

5. Deepwater Ports -
To Accompany Legislation
to Authorize the Secretary of
the Interior to Regulate the
Construction and Operation of
Deepwater Port Facilities -
U. S. Department of the Interior

Nation-
wide

9/7

The subject statement examines the potential environmental impacts of construction, operation, and maintenance of deepwater ports, and likely ancillary functions directly involved with any port, which may be licensed under the proposed legislation regardless of type or location. (Individual ports and functions are not addressed in this statement.) Prior to the licensing and constructing of future deepwater ports, an environmental impact statement will be developed.

Non-Impact Statement

1. Palolo Elementary School Covered Play Area - Department of Accounting and General Services Honolulu, Oahu 9/23
The project consists of the construction of a new covered play court approximately 96' x 62', with storage and toilet rooms and connecting covered walkway to the existing facility.
2. Muananu Elementary School - Primary Play Area - Department of Accounting and General Services Honolulu, Oahu 9/23
Project is same as above at Muananu Elementary School.
3. Installation of Traffic Signals on Hana Highway at Dairy Road - Department of Transportation Wailuku, Maui 9/23
The proposed project is located at the intersection of Hana Highway and Dairy Road, improvements consist of the installation of two-phase traffic signal systems and the construction of two left turn lanes from Hana Highway into Dairy Road. The project requires no acquisition of right-of-way.
4. Terminal Improvements, Ke-ahole Airport - Department of Transportation Ke-ahole, Hawaii 9/23
The project proposes to construct ticket counters and office spaces within the existing air taxi terminal and build a new fire house between the Aloha and Hawaiian Airlines' facilities.
5. Beach Improvement, Pau Hana Resorts - Department of Land and Natural Resources Kaunakakai, Molokai 9/23
The proposed work consists of restoring beach sand and grading for a distance of 200' along the seashore, and about 25 feet wide on the beach fronting Pau Hana Resort. Beach sand for this work will be coral beach sand obtained from Molokai Ranch land at Kalaukoi, Molokai.

EIS NEWSLETTER
(I-13)

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

REQUEST FOR DRAFT EIS

Sent to: _____

Contact: _____ Phone No: _____

Request a copy of the following:

- 1. _____
- 2. _____
- 3. _____

Date: _____

Return to: OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL
Office of the Governor
550 Halekauwila Street, Room 301
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813