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October 31, 1973

I-19

Persons interested in obtaining additional information should contact this Office at 550 Halekaiwila Street, Tani Office Building, Room 301, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 or call 548-6915.

EPA'S "SIGNIFICANT DETERIORATION PLAN" DENOUNCED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, SPECIAL TASK FORCE

The State Department of Health in conjunction with a special Task Force (developed for the prime purpose of evaluating the "Significant Deterioration Plan") has submitted comments to the EPA regarding the agency's four (4) proposals for regulating air quality (published in issues I-15 and I-16 of the EIS Newsletter).

The following is an excerpt from the report sent to EPA:

A. EPA's Proposals - Hawaii's Comments

1. Air Quality Increment Plan

This alternative would provide for a nation-wide maximum allowable increment in ambient air quality deterioration above the baseline air quality.

A comparison of the proposed allowable increments of air quality deterioration with the State of Hawaii ambient air quality standards shows that the allowable increments added to 1972 baseline levels would allow deterioration to approach the State ambient air quality standards. In fact, the allowable increment for sulfur oxides for a 24-hour period would exceed State standards by 20 ug/m³. This would seem to be contrary to the intent of the regulation. It is, therefore, evident that the problem arises out of the arbitrariness of selecting and applying one set of deterioration increments to all of the states, disregarding differences in desirable air quality both between and within the states.

2. Emissions Limitation Plan

This plan would prevent deterioration by establishing a ceiling emission rate either by adding 20 percent to the baseline emissions or calculating a ceiling

based on the emission density of an area, whichever is larger. Such an approach would result in higher monitoring costs and severely constrained land use planning. This method is administratively simple but may result in irrational or arbitrary decisions. It would present the same problem to other states with unique geographic areas and similar problems.

3. Local Definition Plan

The Local Definition Plan would have merit in that it would allow local government, with public input, to determine whether emissions from proposed new or modified existing sources would significantly deteriorate local ambient air quality.

As far as Hawaii is concerned, this proposal coincides with Hawaii's existing non-degradation policy. Public Health Regulations, Chapter 42, Ambient Air Quality Standards, Section 2.3, states: "The numerical air quality standards established by these regulations shall be construed as establishing the maximum permissible concentrations of the identified pollutants in the ambient air throughout the State of Hawaii. No lowering of the air quality of the ambient air shall be permitted in areas which the concentration of the identified pollutants are lower than the numerical standards established by these regulations unless it has been affirmatively demonstrated to the Director of the Department of Health that a lowering of the quality of the ambient air in an area is justified as a result of necessary economic or social development and that such lowering of air quality will not seriously interfere with or become injurious to any assigned use made thereof. Any industrial, public, or private project or development which could constitute a new source of air pollution or an increased source of air pollution will be required to have a permit to construct and operate and, as part of the initial project design, to provide the highest and best practical degree of air pollution control." Since the Hawaii regulations were ruled inadequate by EPA with respect to prevention of significant air quality deterioration, the EPA Local Definition Plan seemingly would not meet the intent of the proposed regulations in Hawaii or any other state.

4. Area Classification Plan

Inherent in the procedures are obvious EPA biases favoring development over preservation of clean air. The proposed plan also contains time and public

hearing constraints which would discourage the application of the more stringent Zone I criteria. Yet, the stringent Zone I criteria would appear to be more applicable to many areas in Hawaii. Application of Zone II criteria would permit the ambient air quality of Hawaii to deteriorate virtually to the levels established by the State ambient air quality standards. Furthermore, since there are only two zones proposed, it would seem that it would tend to produce the opposite effect--allowing all growth to proceed in Zone II areas until the increment was completely utilized. There would be considerable political pressure to place the entire state into a Zone II classification.

B. Recommended Alternative Proposal

For Hawaii, a combination of the third and fourth proposals would be more applicable providing the biases and constraints were removed which would severely limit the use of the more stringent Zone I criteria. The combination would place a ceiling on maximum allowable deterioration, yet would require specified proposed new and modified existing sources to be approved on a case-by-case basis.

We believe strongly that each area, which may include more than one state, should be permitted to establish standards and implementation procedures to control significant deterioration, but that these standards and procedures be subject to the approval of EPA. In this manner, need for flexibility to handle local conditions can be achieved with the assurance that overall National standards are not compromised.

The State of Hawaii desires to have several zones that take into account state and county land use planning and its system of state districting. The air quality contours that will be developed will reflect land use and relate to natural air sheds. Tentatively, the procedures to establish zones and insure the protection of high quality area might be as follows.

1. The use of a diffusion model to characterize the air quality of the various areas and develop a 1972 baseline air quality contour map.
2. Develop a projected air quality contour map based upon state and county general plans.

3. If it is shown in the projected air quality contour map that an area planned for development would adversely affect a neighboring area, or itself suffer unacceptable deterioration, any development in such areas would be scaled down or relocated. After a number of iterations, an acceptable air quality contour map can be developed and used as the basis for establishing air quality zones. In no area would air pollutant levels be permitted to exceed the State's standards. In most areas, air pollutant levels would be maintained well below the State standards. It should be noted that Hawaii's ambient air quality standards are more stringent than the Federal standards.
4. Air quality criteria would be "cranked into the planning process" as one of the guiding factors for future development. In urban areas, maximum development limits may be near the allowable ceiling which means new growth would be allowed only if existing sources can further reduce emissions. For other areas, a certain amount of deterioration would be reserved for future development.
5. The final plan, including the proposed air quality standards and means for implementation and enforcing such standards, would be subject to the approval by the appropriate Federal agencies.

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).

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

This Office has received an environmental assessment for a brew-house addition by the Joseph Schlitz Brewing Company. The Hawaii Brewing Company is presently contemplating the addition of a brewhouse and can line to its present operations in Aiea. The proposed brewhouse addition will be three-story (approximately 60 feet high). A new hot water storage tank and a wet spent grain storage tank will also be constructed and will be located adjacent to the new brewhouse building.

EIS REGISTER

Final Environmental Impact Statements

Project Name - Expanding or Initiating Agency

Location

Description

Suspense Date

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.

Currently being processed by this Office

2. Hikiula Gulch Drainage Channel - Department of Public Works, County of Kauai

Hanapepe,
Kauai

The proposed project is to be located in the area between Hikiula Gulch and the Hanapepe River. The improvement system consists of a drainage channel (approximately 1300 feet long and 15 feet wide) leading from the lower elevation of Hikiula Gulch to a sump area adjacent to the Hanapepe River; and an outlet structure designed to remove silt and mud from the flow before it enters the Hanapepe River.

Currently being processed by this Office

3. Kauai Community College Site Department of Accounting and General Services

Lihue,
Kauai

The proposed Kauai Community College (KCC) site is located off the Kauai Belt Road (Kaunualii Highway) in Puhii, Lihue, Kauai, identified as Lot 445-A of Land Court Application of 1087 or Tax Map Key No. 3-4-05:03 portion. The proposed KCC site consists of approximately 199 acres. The site is "agriculture" designated on the State Land Use Map, and the Kauai General Plan; and zoned agriculture in the Kauai Comprehensive Zoning Ordinance. Facilities to be included consists of administration area, campus center, dormitory, learning resource center, instructional material center and other educational facilities.

Currently being processed by this Office

Draft Environmental Impact Statements

1. Reforestation Project Hilo, 11/2
Within Portions of the Hawaii
Waiakea, Upper Waiakea and
Olaa Forest Reserves -
Division of Forestry, Depart-
ment of Land and Natural
Resources

A reforestation project is proposed for 5,300 acres within portions of the Waiakea, Upper Waiakea and Olaa Forest Reserve. (Site is located about 10 miles South of Hilo.)

Site preparation consists of clearing most of the large vegetation. Tree species capable of producing quality hardwood lumber such as queens land maple, Australian Toon, saligna eucalyptus, and rose gum eucalyptus will be planted after the clearing operation. In the vicinity of mature koa trees, the site preparation work will induce heavy koa regeneration to renew the koa forest reserve.

2. Condenser Cooling Water Kekaha, 11/8
Discharge, Kekaha Sugar Kauai
Company - Department of
Health

The purpose of this impact study is to provide the necessary data so that the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Department of Health will be able to evaluate the environmental impact of the Kekaha Sugar Mill thermal discharge. This impact study and evaluation are necessary process to be undertaken prior to the issuance of a permanent waste discharge permit or granting of a zone of mixing.

3. Marine Terminal Annex - Honolulu, 11/9
U. S. Department of Oahu
Commerce

The proposed Marine Terminal Annex will occupy an area of approximately four acres on Sand Island Access Road. This Annex to the Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) Refinery will receive petroleum products from the FTZ refinery of Hawaiian Independent Refinery, Inc. (HIRI) by pipeline through the energy corridor, by trucks, by barge and by tankers. The petroleum products would be stored for transshipment in the terminal storage tanks. The products stored will be aviation fuel marine fuel, automotive fuel, and LPG gas. Annex facilities will include the following: FTZ Annex, Foreign-Trade Subzone refinery at Barbers Point, white oil pipeline from the refinery to the Annex.

4. Hawaiian Independent Refinery, Inc., (HIRI) Plant Expansion - U. S. Department of Commerce
Honolulu, Oahu
11/9

The proposed project involves a modification to the grant for Foreign-Trade Sub-Zone No. 9A issued to the State of Hawaii. The modification will permit the expansion of the refinery operated by subzone user, HIRI. The refinery will increase its daily capacity from 29,500 barrels per day to 125,000 barrels per day. Storage capacity will be increased by 3.3 million barrels. 26.7 acres of additional land will be added to the subzone for a part of this storage.
5. Eurasian Pine Aphid Infestation - Department of Land and Natural Resources
Waihou Spring Forest Reserve, Maui
11/12

The establishment of the Eurasian pine aphid on Maui has posed a serious threat to the silvicultural studies at the Waihou Forest Reserve. The Department of Land and Natural Resources, in an attempt to control the Eurasian pine aphid population in the study area, has proposed to spray 40 acres of pine trees in the Waihou Forest Reserve. The insecticide to be used is Diazinon AG-500 and it will be applied by helicopter.
6. Sand Island Parkway and Utilities Master Plan - Department of Land and Natural Resources
Kapalama, Oahu
11/23

The proposed project consists of the construction of a main thoroughfare on Sand Island; commencing at the existing bridge abutment, extending easterly for approximately 1.5 miles, then merging with the existing road at the Sand Island Fishery Station. In addition to the proposed parkway, the project will also include a Utilities Master Plan, outlining the necessary improvements to provide essential support facilities for Sand Island. Included in the plan are drainage structures, water, sewer, electrical and telephone services.
7. Hawaii Biogenics Agricultural Complex - Department of Agriculture
North Kohala, Hawaii
11/25

The proposed complex will be built on Kohala Sugar Company's land (Upolu Field #8) consisting of approximately 86 acres. The complex will consist of a confined Holstein steer operation from birth to table, a custom Holstein heifer operation, a custom confined feedlot for

for ranchers cattle, a swine farrowing and rearing operation and an aquacultural unit for catfish and Malaysian pawns. The balance of the State Lands leased from Kohala Corp. will comprise an agricultural buffer to the complex on which forage and grain crops will be grown.

The proposed campus center complex will occupy approximately 2 acres of land area. Facilities to be constructed include: a campus center building, paved parking area, entrance plaza, and dining lanai. The proposed campus building will be a three-story reinforced concrete building containing a gross area of approximately 82,115 square feet. Its spaces will include a kitchen, dining rooms, lounges, recreation room, meeting and seminar rooms, offices, workrooms, darkrooms, bookstore, arts and crafts rooms and sun decks.

11/30

8. Campus Center, University of Hawaii at Hilo - Department of Accounting and General Services Hilo, Hawaii

Non-Impact Statements

1. Kamehameha Highway, from Lilipuna Road to Haiku Road - Department of Transportation Heeiea, Oahu 11/5
Kamehameha Highway, from Lilipuna Road to Haiku Road is approximately 1,700 feet in length. The proposed project consists of the widening of the two-lane highway to a six-lane highway. Other new improvements consists of concrete curbs, gutters, sidewalks, new street lightening system, new storm drain system and landscaping.

2. Sub-Drain Field Improvements at Lihue Airport - Department of Transportation Lihue, Kauai 11/9
This project proposes to improve the sub-drain field of the sanitary sewer system by adding three additional sub-drain trenches approximately 50 feet in length from the existing cesspools. The additional sub-drain trenches will alleviate backup and overflow of the cesspools and cavitette units.

3. Waimea Athletic Field and Playground - Department of Public Works, County of Kauai Waimea, Kauai 11/9
 The proposed project consists of the development of an athletic field and a playground. The park will be situated on a 12.947 acre parcel located to the south of Waimea Elementary and Intermediate School. The project will include the following: a football field, baseball field, little league field, illuminated softball field, paved and illuminated basketball court, children's playground area, paved parking areas, restroom facilities, and a passive recreation area.

4. Waimea Neighborhood Center Department of Public Works, County of Kauai Waimea, Kauai 11/9
 This project includes the construction of a neighborhood center within the site of the Waimea Intermediate and High School. The area to be used for the center will include 1.130 acres and is portion of Land Court Application 1076, TMK No. 1-6-09-23. The proposed one-story structure will contain approximately 7,000 square feet of floor area with parking facilities for 29 cars.

5. Koko Head Elementary School Department of Accounting and General Services Honolulu, Oahu 11/9
 The project consists of the installation of a new covered walkway roof of an existing classroom building to replace the roofing that had to be removed because of structural deficiencies.

6. Improvements and Realignment of Lagoon Drive at Honolulu International Airport - Department of Transportation Honolulu, Oahu 11/9
 The project will be implemented in two parts:
 (a) The first section proposes to construct the following improvements to Lagoon Drive between Koapaka Street to Aolele Street: widening the roadway (four lanes to six lanes), construct curbs and gutters, underground utilities, install sidewalks and plant trees along Lagoon Drive between Koapaka Street and Ualena Street.
 (b) The project also proposes to realign approximately 5,000 feet of Lagoon Drive. This section includes construction of a new two-lane roadway.

EIS NEWSLETTER
(I-19)

OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY CONTROL

REQUEST FOR DRAFT EIS

Sent to: _____

Contact: _____ phone No: _____

Request a copy of the following:

1. _____
2. _____
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Date: _____

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