

3/12/22

Aloha members of the Water Commission,

My name is Emily Medeiros and I am a kama'āina of Pālolo in the ahupua'a of Waikīkī, O'ahu. Please accept my written testimony regarding Item C (Red Hill Items) for Tuesday's Commission meeting on 3/15/22.

I agree with and understand the importance of BWS's command to reduce water usage by 10%, but I feel it isn't enough and is unfair, especially with the thousands of tourist arrivals per day, which would only increase even more in the summer months. Those are thousands of extra people we do not need coming here and straining Honolulu's water supply and aquifer during a water crisis. Yes we should all conserve water, but the burden is consequently placed on kanaka maoli and kama'āina while tourists keep flocking to our island. If tourism could be shut down for a public health crisis like Covid, then tourism should be shut down for a water crisis, since water is life. Please consider for the Water Commission to call for a reduction or halt in tourism on O'ahu due to the water crisis and possible summer shortage. Mahalo for your time and consideration of my testimony.

Mahalo,  
Emily Medeiros

**From:** [Meghan Corson](#)  
**To:** [Hyatt, RaeAnn P;](#) [DLNR.CW.DLNR.CWRM](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Written Testimony for the Meeting of the Commission on Water Resource Management  
**Date:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 8:07:25 PM

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Dear Water Commission,

Presented here is my testimony regarding Item C (Red Hill Items) for Tuesday's Commission meeting on 3/15/22. My name is Meghan Corson and I agree with the importance of BWS's command to reduce water usage by 10%, but I feel it isn't enough and is unfair--especially with the thousands of tourist arrivals per day, which would only go up even more in the summer. Those are thousands of extra people we do not need to be coming here and using up Honolulu's water during a water crisis. Please consider the idea for the Water Commission to call for a reduction or halt in tourism on Oahu due to the water crisis and possible summer shortage. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Very respectfully,  
Meghan Corson

**From:** [Jacob Olarti](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.CW.DLNRCWRM](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony  
**Date:** Saturday, March 12, 2022 8:07:10 PM

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Dear Water Commission,

Here is my testimony regarding Item C (Red Hill Items) for Tuesday's Commission meeting on 3/15/22.

My name is Jacob and I agree with the importance of BWS's command to reduce water usage by 10%, but I feel it isn't enough and is unfair--especially with the thousands of tourist arrivals per day, which would only go up even more in the summer. Please consider the idea for the Water Commission to call for a reduction or halt in tourism on Oahu due to the water crisis and possible summer shortage. Thank you for your consideration of my testimony.

Mahalo, Jacob

**From:** [Marisa Wong](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.CW.DLNRWORM](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] 3/15/22 Commission Meeting Testimony (regarding item C)  
**Date:** Monday, March 14, 2022 12:25:40 PM

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Dear Water Commission,

Here is my testimony regarding item C (red hill items) for Tuesday's commission meeting on 3/15/22.

My name is Marisa Hidalgo-Wong and i agree with the importance of BWS's command to reduce water usage by 10%, but I feel it isn't enough and is unfair—especially with the thousands of tourists arrivals per day, which would only go up even more in the summer. Those numbers represent thousands of extra people we do not need coming here on vacation using up Honolulu's water during a water crisis. Please consider the idea for the Water Commission to call for a reduction or halt in tourism on O'ahu due to the water crisis and possible summer shortage. Mahalo for your consideration of my testimony.

Sent from my iPad

Dear members of the Commission on Water Resource Management,

My name is Sabrina Cohan. I am a sixteen year old student living in Honolulu, and I am writing to you today to express my views on the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

Clean drinking water is a human right, and the operation of the Red Hill fuel tanks puts this right in jeopardy. The recent leakage of the tanks was not sudden, and there have been many warning signs throughout the years as to the tanks' structural instability. If the tanks are allowed to continue holding fuel 100 feet above Oahu's main aquifer, there is no guarantee that they will not leak again. I acknowledge that the Navy views the tanks as a national security asset, but the health of Oahu's residents cannot be compromised upon. The tanks must be decommissioned before the state of our aquifer deteriorates.

The defueling and decommissioning of these tanks is a necessity, but any defueling operations must be carried out in a way that does not cause further harm to the environment. It is not enough to simply defuel the tanks; the integrity of our environment and the aquifer must not be put at risk. In addition, it is vital that pressure is put on the Navy to employ care and caution in future fuel operations and storage facilities. The fuel that is removed from Red Hill cannot be allowed to cause environmental degradation outside of Hawaii, either.

As a young person living on Oahu, I am extremely passionate about environmental issues and protecting the natural beauty of this island for future generations. I also believe firmly in finding equitable solutions to environmental problems, and lifting up the minority communities affected most by environmental crises. The contamination of our aquifer is an issue of environmental justice, and poses serious threats to those communities that would not have the means to access fresh water should our groundwater be irreversibly harmed.

I appreciate your consideration of this testimony, and would like to thank those who have fought for our right to clean water for decades. On behalf of the youth of Oahu, I hope that this committee will do right by our community.

Sincerely,  
Sabrina Cohan



March 15, 2022

Via Electronic Mail

Commission on Water Resource Management  
Kalanimoku Building  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 227  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
[dlr.cwrmm@hawaii.gov](mailto:dlr.cwrmm@hawaii.gov)

Re: Agenda Item C-1 Non-Action Item –

- a. Presentations and Updates Related to Red Hill from the Following: a. Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Hawai'i (NAVFAC Hawai'i) – Update on Short Term and Long Term Ground Water Monitoring as Part of Emergency Response for Pearl Harbor Aquifer b. Board of Water Supply
- b. Presentation on Data and Monitoring of the Affected Aquifer Sources and Water Conservation and Pumping Strategies Being Pursued as Emergency Response to Red Hill Situation

Dear Chair Case, and Commissioners,

Mahalo for this opportunity to offer support for the Water Commission's continued involvement in addressing the water crisis triggered by the release of jet fuel from the U.S. Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility into the primary drinking water aquifer for the island of O'ahu. Earthjustice is a non-profit environmental law firm with decades of experience litigating cases to protect the public trust in Hawai'i's natural resources. Our practice areas include restoring stream water to communities with cultural, subsistence, and environmental interests in ma uka to ma kai stream flow, and enforcing state and federal laws designed to protect public health and the environment. Earthjustice represents the Sierra Club in the Navy's simultaneous appeals of the Health Department's Emergency Order to both state and federal courts.

Earthjustice supports the Water Commission exercising its full authority to manage water resources during a water shortage. The Commission's authority includes modifying water use permits, enforcing water shortage plans, collecting and analyzing

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critical data, and coordinating between the many federal, state, and local agencies making decisions affecting the quantity and quality of O'ahu's water supply.

It is important to note that the Water Commission provides a critical opportunity for coordination between state and city agencies responsible for delivering clean drinking water, while also protecting our island's healthy streams and ground water reserves. In addition to the authority to modify water use permits, the Water Commission provides the only regular forum for the public to understand how the State Health Department and City Board of Water Supply will work together to protect both public and environmental health.

Thank you very much for your diligent and consistent oversight of the Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility.

Sincerely,

/s/ Marti Townsend

Marti Townsend

EARTHJUSTICE

**From:** [pete doktor](#)  
**To:** [Hyatt, RaeAnn P](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] public testimony ref: Red Hill  
**Date:** Tuesday, March 15, 2022 12:04:08 PM

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Aloha e Board Members of Commission on Water Resource Management,

As a Moanalua `ohana, I just wanted to express our continued concerns over old and new leakage from the Naval Red Hill underground bulk fuel facility and delivery system despite pronouncements of intent to decommission. Our family will not feel safe until the tanks are officially emptied - safely and sooner than later (not a year!). Moreover, we are concerned about factors or extent of what we do not know, and look forward to mitigation drawn from Department of Defense funding.

As a military veteran, I do not trust the Department of Defense in general from internal experiences, and hope permits to the Navy are revoked. We hope non-essentials, e.g., golf courses (military and civilian), etc are not negatively impacting our water reserves. Water is a our true security and foundation of economy.

We hope this crisis will reinvigorate the public to prioritize of pure water and its conservation, and investments will be made to avoid recurrence.

Māhalo nui loa CWRM for your service to preserve this public trust for our keiki's keiki.

Kū i ka wai, ola i ka wai,

Pete Doktor

Moanalua