

**RESOLUTION URGING THE IMMEDIATE DEFUELING AND PERMANENT  
DECOMMISSIONING OF THE ENTIRE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY AT  
KAPŪKAKĪ (RED HILL)**

**WHEREAS** the North Shore Neighborhood Board #27 ("Board") is a citizens' advisory board whose purpose is to "increase and assure effective citizen participation in the decisions of government" per the City and County of Honolulu's Neighborhood Plan of 2008; and

**WHEREAS** wai (freshwater) is one of the most valuable resources of O'ahu's island community; and

**WHEREAS** the U.S. Military has had a long history of causing harm to natural and cultural resources throughout the archipelago of Hawai'i, including littering lands and waters with unexploded ordnance and toxic waste, loss of cultural and historic sites, and endangered native species; and

**WHEREAS** the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility ("Facility") is a massive nearly 80-year old facility, that sits 100 feet above the sole-source Southern O'ahu Basal Aquifer; and

**WHEREAS** since 1943, the Facility has recorded at least 76 fuel "releases" (i.e. spills caused by leak or human error) from these tanks, connecting pipelines, and infrastructure totaling nearly 200,000 gallons, that we know of, resulting in percolation of fuels through the porous underlying lava rock into the water table; and

**WHEREAS** the Facility escaped major scrutiny until 2014, when an estimated 27,000 gallons of fuel was released, and since then groundwater and soil monitoring systems have registered spikes in diesel at and around the Facility; and

**WHEREAS** on November 20, 2021, a release of approximately 14,000 gallons of a fuel and water mixture from the fire suppression system occurred at the Facility just 6 months after a May 6, 2021, leak of approximately 19,000 gallons of fuel due to human error, directly contaminating the Red Hill Shaft, and yet the navy did not warn the public, which drank and used the contaminated water causing substantial physical injury to people and their pets, during a time of year when families gather and spend time together, and an intolerable upending of their lives; and

**WHEREAS** in December 2021, diesel fuel levels in samples from the navy's water distribution system at its 'Aiea Hālawa Shaft were more than double the state-approved levels for drinking water, indicating that the environmental damage extends beyond the Red Hill Shaft; and

**WHEREAS** the Hawai'i Department of Health ("Department") confirmed that the navy's water system, which draws from the sole-source aquifer near the Facility, contained levels of jet fuel and diesel measuring total petroleum hydrocarbons 350 times higher than Department standards for safe drinking water; and

**WHEREAS** a Navy risk analysis completed in 2018 concluded that the probabilities of a future 1,000-to-30,000-gallon release from the Facility happening in any given year is 27%, over the next five years is approximately 80%, over the next ten years is approximately 96%, and a release of that size over the next twenty years 99.8%;

**WHEREAS** on December 6, 2021, the Department issued an Emergency Order ("EO"), (Docket No. 21-UST-EA-02) that immediately suspended operations including, but not limited to, fuel transfers at the

Facility, ordered the navy to take immediate steps to install a treatment system at the Red Hill Shaft, take corrective actions as expeditiously as possible, and within 30 days of the completion of required corrective actions defuel the Facility; and

**WHEREAS** on December 27, 2021, the Department’s Administrative Hearings Officer issued a Proposed Decision and Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law – adopted by the Director of the Department pursuant to the Final Decision, Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law, filed on January 3, 2021 – that: “...the Red Hill Facility is simply too old, too poorly designed, too difficult to maintain, too difficult to inspect, and too large to realistically prevent future releases”; and

**WHEREAS** on May 6, 2022, the Department issued a 2nd EO (Docket No. 22-UST-EA-01) that maintains the suspension of operations as previously directed by the First EO and First EO Final Order, including an implementation schedule for the Defueling Phase of the Closure Plan to be provided to the Department no later than June 30, 2022, and submit the Closure Phase of the Closure Plan to the Department no later than November 1, 2022; and

**WHEREAS** the Navy has demonstrated a lack of reliability with respect to monitoring whether leaks are occurring or determining how much fuel is released into the environment when releases occur, and the Facility, as currently constituted, poses an imminent peril to human and environmental health and safety is a fact established by a preponderance of the evidence; therefore

**BE IT RESOLVED** this Board supports the Department’s EOs and the immediate defueling and permanent decommissioning of the entire Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility, demands the Navy strictly follow the Defueling Plan and Closure Plan deadlines, and urges the Department to hold the Navy accountable for it’s negligent stewardship at Kapūkākī by strongly enforcing the 2nd EO; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Navy fully fund remediation of the contaminated aquifer, as determined by a plan approved by the Department of Health with all deliberate speed and due diligence; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** this Board supports the U.S. Navy monetarily compensating affected schools and the Honolulu Board of Water Supply in their entirety for the debt these institutions have accrued due to the water crisis the U.S. Navy created; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of the Navy, the Commander of the U.S. Pacific Fleet, the Defense Logistics Agency, the Administrator and Regional Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Hawai‘i Congressional delegation, the Governor of Hawai‘i, the Lieutenant Governor of Hawai‘i, the Director of the Hawai‘i Department of Health, all members of the Hawai‘i Legislature, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, all members of the City Council of Honolulu, the Director of the Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism, the Commission on Water Resource Management, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and all Neighborhood Boards.

Commission on Water Resource Management  
Meeting of October 18, 2022

Testimony submitted by

Diane Choy Fujimura

Telephone: 808- [REDACTED]

Member: Sierra Club of Hawaii, Shut Down Red Hill Coalition

Aloha members of the Commission:

Another long month has passed since the September CWRM meeting with no significant developments holding the Navy responsible for its lack of diligence, its over-pumping of its water allotment, its disregard for the people, both its own, and civilian community members, and for not acknowledging the Red Hill water CRISIS they have created, and yet have not sense of urgency to quickly and safely defuel and decommission Red Hill. Their timeline for defueling and decommissioning still stands about July 2024, needless to say, totally unacceptable.

Are you keeping informed about the very real, debilitating effects of the water-poisoning experienced by Navy housing families? This cannot be allowed to continue. Would you want your children, family, friends to have to live this “nightmare” in real time? No, I don’t think so.

Again, do not wait another month to do what you are beholden to do, to protect our water resource, to save our precious sole-source aquifer, to hold the Navy responsible for its actions, and non-actions. You have been far too silent and hidden ... you must step forward, boldly, and take leadership to help get us all out of this existential crisis, that is, literally, a ticking time-bomb. If the bomb detonates, you won’t be safe, either.

Ola i ka wai!

Mahalo for your time.

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Hyatt, RaeAnn P](#)  
**Cc:** [DLNR.CW.DLNRCWRM](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D-1 Red Hill Informational Briefing  
**Date:** Sunday, October 16, 2022 10:18:05 PM

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CWRM Meeting: October 18, 2022

To: Commission On Water Resource Management

Aloha Chair Case and members of the Water Commission,

My name is Sherry Pollack and I am a concerned citizen and water-drinker.

Mahalo nui for efforts you have made to protect our precious drinking water. I am writing to express my deep concerns at the continued mishandling of precious water resources that are under the Navy's purview.

It is clear that the Navy lacks the capability to responsibly manage and maintain their water system, let alone oversee the mitigation of the jet fuel contamination they caused. Month after month this commission reviews the status of this existential crisis to our island, and each month the situation only worsens. It is time to take immediate action to remove the Navy from the role of overseeing their water system and the clean-up, and **appoint a qualified and unbiased third party to oversee the aquifer's full and expeditious remediation.** To this end, I strongly urge the Commission work closely with the Board of Water Supply in future planning and remediation efforts, as they have both the expertise and the trust of the community to do so.

This needs to be done without delay as families under the Navy's water system **are still reporting problems with their water**, not to mention the Navy's lack of transparency and criminal disregard for the numerous scathing violations to the drinking water system that were noted by the EPA, in addition to the nearly one thousand Clean Water Act violations noted by the Department of Health. All this while continuing to exceed their daily allotment of water. And on that important point, the **Commission must ensure the Navy ceases exceeding their daily allotment of water, and to ensure they are not given permission to tap into another well.** *This can be accomplished at the same time the Navy finds alternative means to still responsibly address the water needs of the affected communities.*

The Navy has lied over and over to us, and has caused, and continues to cause serious harms—not only to their own people, but to the civilian community as well. The Navy's negligent actions have been criminal. All this must be stopped.

Your Commission has the power to help make things pono. Stopping the Navy's theft of our water and ensuring expeditious draining of the jet fuel tanks that sit 100 feet over our sole-source aquifer by a qualified entity are action steps towards that effort.

Should the Commission continue to allow the Navy to mismanage our precious, irreplaceable drinking water, you will be culpable in these crimes.

Ola I Ka Wai. Water is Life.

Respectfully,  
Sherry Pollack

**From:** [ann Wright](#)  
**To:** [Hyatt, RaeAnn P](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Testimony from Colonel (Ret) Ann Wright for October 18 CWRM meeting  
**Date:** Monday, October 17, 2022 5:53:45 PM  
**Attachments:** [OWP nomination of 5 civilians to Red Hill Force.png](#)  
[Testimony for October 18 meeting of Commission for Water Resources Management.docx](#)

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Aloha RaeAnn,

I have attached my testimony for the CWRM meeting.

Testimony for October 18, 2022 Commission on Water Resource Management Hearing

I am providing testimony on the Red Hill update portion of the Commission on Water Resource Management hearing.

I am a 20-year resident of Honolulu. I served 29 years in the U.S. Army/Army Reserves and retired as a Colonel. I was a U.S. diplomat for 16 years in Nicaragua, Grenada, Somalia, Uzbekistan, Kyrgyzstan, Sierra Leone, Micronesia, Afghanistan and Mongolia.

**Be Vigilant that Repairs to Water Main Break Not Be Used as Reason for an Unreasonable Delay in DeFueling of Red Hill jet fuel**

With the fourth water main break today, October 17, that is flooding homes in Pearl City Peninsula, Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam (JBPHH) has left 93,000 without water or pressure to use water for 7-10 days, it is important that the Commission on Water Resource Management consider this as one of the many continuing dangerous situations that the US military has caused for not only military residents of Oahu, but also of civilian residents who live in residential areas that receive water from Navy pipelines.

The water main breaks have caused the delay in defueling of the 1 million gallons from the Red Hill pipe system that was to begin yesterday on Monday, October 17. Navy spokespersons have stated that defueling will begin when "it is safe."

I appeal to CWRM to be vigilant to ensure that the military not slow-roll the citizens of Oahu in the mandatory removal of the dangerous 104 million gallons of jet fuel only 100 feet above our water supply!

**Need of Civilian Representative on the Red Hill Task Force**

For much needed transparency and community trust, I appeal to CWRM to advocate for citizens to be on the Red Hill Task Force. Members of the Hawaii congressional delegation have indicated their support but so far, the military/DOH/EPA dominated Task Force has not communicated any indication that a civilian representative might be appointed to the Task

Force.

Oahu Water Protectors recommend the following citizens be considered to be a civilian representative on the Red Hill Task Force:

OWP nominated on September 25, 2022, 5 civilians for inclusion onto the Red Hill Joint Task Force:, but has not heard one word from the Task Force:

Kaiali'i Kahele, U.S. Congressman

Dr. Melanie Lau, M.D.

Wayne Tanaka, J.D.

Col. Ann Wright, U.S.A., Ret.

Kamana Beamer, Ph.D.



**TO:** Representative Kai Kahele  
Representative Ed Case  
Senator Brian Schatz  
Senator Mazie Hirono

**FROM:** O'ahu Water Protectors

**SUBJECT:** Requesting Civilian Inclusion on the Red Hill Joint Task Force

The O'ahu Water Protectors (OWP) urges the inclusion of community representatives and third-party subject matter experts on the Red Hill Joint Task Force (RHJTF). The decision-making process utilized by the Navy and other branches has resulted not only in environmental degradation across Hawai'i but has now sent families to Emergency Rooms with potential long-term health effects and continues to threaten "the death of an island."

As a result of the Navy's chronic misrepresentations and decision-making failures, we have no faith in military leadership to solely resolve an issue they have neglected to address for years if not decades.

Therefore, OWP demands that our congressional delegation push to include community advocates and third-party subject matter experts (outside of the military) including representatives of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply and affected military and civilian families on the RHJTF. OWP recommends the following community advocates:

- ❖ Kaiali'i Kahele, U.S. Congressman (HI-02)
- ❖ Dr. Melanie Lau, M.D.
- ❖ Wayne Tanaka, J.D.
- ❖ Col. Ann Wright, U.S.A., Ret.
- ❖ Kamana Beamer, Ph.D.

Although we recognize the challenge this poses to our Congressional Delegation, affected families and our broader community are facing an unprecedented crisis of existential proportions that demands the highest levels of transparency and accountability, which has been denied to us for far too long. Therefore, we will not settle for anything less than community inclusion on the RHJTF.

Two recent articles that describe my concerns about the military's handling of Red Hill are:

Families Felt Ill Prior to the November 2021 Red Hill Leak..and Here's Why

October 15, 2022

<https://popularresistance.org/families-felt-ill-prior-to-the-2021-red-hill-leak-and-heres-why/>

US Military Massive Public Relations Machine Unable to Dig Out of the Red Hill Contamination Hole

October 3, 2022

<https://popularresistance.org/us-military-massive-public-relations-machine-unable-to-dig-out-of-red-hill-contamination-hole/>

And a short 2:30minute video about Red Hill. “They Knew Red Hill Was a Disaster..And They Let it Happen Anyway”!!!!

<https://www.instagram.com/p/CaDU4DgUdy/>

We count on the Commission of Water Resources Management to protect the residents of Oahu from the dangerous mismanagement of the US Navy of our precious water resources, from poisonous jet fuel flowing into the Red Hill drinking well and our island aquifer, to the hundreds of millions of gallons flushed and lost to any recovery, to the major water mains that have broken this week.

Ann Wright

COL (Ret), US Army

  
Honolulu, HI 96826

Ann Wright

Dissent: Voices of Conscience

[www.voicesofconscience.com](http://www.voicesofconscience.com)

My name is Luella Lake.

I live at [REDACTED]  
Aliamanu Military Reservations.

I have:

Chronic heart failure.

Heart disease.

Sleep Apnea, Hypopnea & Bradycardia.

I have tremors. My voice shakes sounds like I'm crying. I'm left handed, that shakes especially when I'm holding something. But now I notice my whole body shakes.

All different types of rash, the latest was shingles. I told ER recently if he can give me a blood test to make sure it is shingles due to living at Aliamanu Military Reservations.

Anxiety

I don't drive anymore. My drivers license don't expire till the year 2027.

Depression

Walking and loosing my balance.

High cholesterol, but none now since drinking bottle water.

Thyroid acting up after 20 yrs.

Continuous high white blood count since 2017 living at AMR!

Water sometimes flow out of my eyes, mostly when I'm standing up.

Kidneys is inflaming for a day or a week every month. I have diarrhea since last year. I watched blood cloths traveling down to my ankles, this was 1 time last year.

Water flowing down my veins on my legs, making my veins bigger.

Tingling inside my body. My scalp pores sunked in looked like knife carvings, today it's scars. Right after the November 2021 spill.

Rheumatoid Arthritis Doctor at Tripler Hospital told my heart Doctor he doesn't think I have Rheumatoid in 2020. My Rheumatoid doctor now did an Anti-Cyclic blood test, it was 3000, he said he thought he was meeting someone very crippled, I'm not. He said if it's lupus, Rheumatoid medicine is the same as lupus medicine.

I have rotten egg smell from my kitchen water, but I'm thinking could it be sewage smell.\*

Thank you,  
Luella Lake