Request Authorization to Select Consultants and Authorize the Chairperson to Negotiate, Enter and Execute Agreements with Consultants, Contractors and/or Government Agencies to Implement and Administer HRS Chapter 179D, Entitled the Dam and Reservoir Safety Act of 2007

The Engineering Division (Division) desires to enter and execute agreements with consultants, contractors and/or government agencies as necessary to properly implement and administer the Dam and Reservoir Safety Act of 2007, HRS Chapter 179D. Funding for this work will be provided primarily from the Dam and Reservoir Safety Special Fund (LNR 810 Operating Special Fund) and may be supplemented by a Federal Department of Homeland Security, National Dam Safety Program Grant. This authorization will support the following projects:

1. Dam Safety Educational Outreach Program  Estimate $200,000
   Project will develop and implement an education and outreach program, including the development of a communication plan for the dam safety program. The educational program will include outreach efforts to the public, dam owners, downstream residents and local emergency management and elected officials. The communication plan will evaluate and provide recommendations as to how sensitive information is released and publicized from the department, while mitigating possible terrorist targeting and the negative effects on the dam owners' or downstream residents' properties. The communication plan will also map out procedures to be implemented by the department for the release of studies, investigations, and reports, provided by third party or private owners. The implementation of the outreach efforts shall utilize various types of media including but not limited to magazine, video, mail outs, radio, and website.

2. Dam Failure Mapping and Hazard Assessment  Estimate $50,000
   The Division desires to contract with the Pacific Disaster Center (PDC), under management by the Research Corporation of the University of Hawaii (RCUH), to conduct dam failure model simulations of selected dams statewide, along with a detailed hazard assessment of the modeled area and evacuation mapping documentation. The Division has previously worked with the PDC to provide dam failure modeling of almost all regulated dams statewide. Additional structures have been identified for possible inclusion into the regulatory program and will be evaluated to determine their appropriate hazard classification.

3. Dam Safety Water Level / Video Monitoring System  Estimate $300,000
   Project will consist of the installation of various reservoir water level and video monitoring instrumentation and related supporting equipment and the development of software applications to monitor and record data from selected reservoirs and interface with dam owners and partner agencies such as the National Weather Service and local civil defense agencies. These water level monitoring systems are intended to provide monitoring support on the hydraulic loading of
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high hazard reservoirs and also for compliance monitoring of reservoirs that are placed under water level restrictions as a result of deficiencies or as a requirement of the certificate of approval to impound.

4. Dam Safety Engineering Technical Services

   Estimate $ 450,000

   The Division utilizes consultant services for inspection and assessment of existing dams and to assist in the technical review of proposed dam safety construction, alteration and removal permit applications, certificate of approval to impound applications and related dam safety technical assistance. Multiple consultants may be selected and contracted to fulfill various portions of this work.

All procurements will be made in accordance with the State Procurement Code, Chapter 103D, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. That the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) authorize the selection of consultants, contractors or government agencies to implement and administer HRS Chapter 179D and authorize the Chairperson to negotiate, enter and execute agreements, subject to Governor’s approval, and review and approval as to form by the Department of the Attorney General.

2. That the Board authorize the Chairperson, subject to available funding and review and approval as to form by the Department of the Attorney General, to enter into supplemental contracts to address unforeseen conditions and sign the necessary documents to implement the additional work.

Respectfully submitted,

CARTY S. CHANG
Chief Engineer

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:

WILLIAM J. AILA, JR., Chairperson
Board of Land and Natural Resources