



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

NEIL ABERCROMBIE
GOVERNOR

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**LANDFILL FLOODING AFFECTS WATERS BETWEEN
KO OLINA AND KAHE POWER PLANT**

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health is advising the public to avoid waters and shore areas between Ko Olina and Kahe Power Plant due to contamination caused by flooding of the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill. Heavy rains causing storm water to collect in Landfill cells may require continued discharge of contaminated water over the next few days.

“The department has been working with the City and County and Waste Management on ways to reduce impact to the environment, but the water ponding near the top of the landfill must be removed,” said Gary Gill, deputy director for environmental health. “It is a very challenging situation, and we are working to minimize and monitor the impact to ocean waters and nearby beaches.”

Waste Management of Hawaii, which operates the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL) for the City and County of Honolulu, last night discharged an uncontrolled volume of stormwater from WGSL into the Pacific Ocean via the storm drain system at WGSL between Ko Olina and the Kahe Power Plant. There is evidence of refuse, including but not limited to, medical waste, washing ashore at the Ko Olina Lagoons. The City and County is posting warning signs in affected areas and nearby resorts are closing their beaches until further notice. Water sampling will be conducted and analyzed.

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EXHIBIT K23