

May 15, 2023

HONOLULU PLANNING COMMISSION

RE: Community Residents Support Increased Oversight of the Landfill Siting Process

Dear Honolulu Planning Commission,

As a resident of West O`ahu, I am deeply concerned about the ongoing issues related to the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL). Over the years, our community has been adversely affected by the Landfill, and we have expressed concerns about odors, noise, dust, and truck traffic, and ocean pollution.

In 2012, the Landfill released unknown quantities of municipal solid waste, sewage sludge, leachate, and medical solid waste into coastal waters. This incident highlights the urgent need for a new landfill to be identified and implemented.


There is an extremely long history delaying a new site selection for the landfill though the Land Use Commission (LUC) ordered the Landfill to be closed by 2008 and a new site to be selected by 2004. However, instead of following the LUC's directives and the named site selection committee's determination that all proposed sites, including landfills on the West Side the City selected the existing Landfill as the "new" landfill.

To date no site has been selected.

Given the long history of delays and harmful effects on our community, I urge the Honolulu Planning Commission to require quarterly reports to the Commission on its efforts to select a new landfill.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,


Lella Collado-Hegerfeldt K.