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LAND USE COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

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LAND USE COMMISSION

STATE OF HAWAII

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SP87-362 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, CITY & COUNTY OF HONOLULU - WAIMANALO ) GULCH (Oahu)	12

TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS

The above-entitled matters came on for a public hearing on  
April 21, 2006 at Leiopapa A Kamehameha, Conference Room 204  
235 So. Beretania Street, Honolulu, Hawaii, commencing  
at 9:00 a.m. pursuant to Notice.

REPORTED BY: HOLLY M. HACKETT, RPR, CSR #130  
Certified Shorthand Reporter

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EXHIBIT K81

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## A P P E A R A N C E S

COMMISSIONERS:  
 THOMAS CONTRADES  
 MICHAEL FORMBY  
 KYONG-SU IM  
 LISA M. JUDGE  
 DUANE KANUHA  
 STEVEN LEE MONTGOMERY  
 RANSOM PILTZ  
 RANDALL SAKUMOTO (Chairperson)

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: ANTHONY CHING  
 CHIEF CLERK: SANDRA MATSUSHIMA  
 STAFF PLANNERS: MAXWELL ROGERS  
 BERT SARUWATARI  
 DEPUTY ATTORNEY GENERAL: DIANE ERICKSON  
 AUDIO TECHNICIANS: WADE KERSEY/MIKE HUMERICKHOUSE

A05-758 A Charitable Foundation Corporation, Oahu

For the Petitioner: CURTIS TABATA, ESQ.

For the County: RAY SAKAI, Dept. Planning  
 and Permitting

For the State: BRYAN YEE, ESQ.  
 Deputy Attorney General  
 LORENE MAKI, Office of Planning

SP87-362 Dept. of Environmental Services, City & County of  
 Honolulu, Waimanalo Gulch

For the Petitioner: GARY TAKEUCHI, ESQ.  
 Deputy Corporation Counsel  
 ERIC TAKAMURA Director, DES  
 WILMA NAMUMNART, Asst. Chief  
 Refuse Division, DES

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I N D E X

PUBLIC WITNESSES

GENEVIEVE SALMONSON (OEQC) 13

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1 SP87-362 DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, CITY & COUNTY  
2 OF HONOLULU - WAIMANALO GULCH

3 CHAIRPERSON SAKUMOTO: (10:00) We're back on the  
4 record. Our next agenda item is Docket No. SP87-362 Department  
5 of Environmental Services City and County of Honolulu formerly  
6 known as Department of Public Works, to receive a report by the  
7 Petitioner as to the implementation of its Integrated Solid Waste  
8 Management Plan and the status of its operations at the Waimanalo  
9 Gulch Sanitary Landfill located within the state land use  
10 Agricultural District.

11 Let me briefly go over our procedure for today. First  
12 I'll ask the parties to identify themselves for the record. I'll  
13 then call for individuals desiring to provide public testimony.  
14 All such individuals will be called in turn to our witness box  
15 where they will be sworn in.

16 Following the public testimony the Petitioner will  
17 provide the Commission with its reports. I'll then ask for any  
18 comments or presentation from the City and County of Honolulu  
19 Department of Planning & Permitting.

20 I also note for the parties that from time to time  
21 I'll be calling for short breaks. Are there any questions on our  
22 procedure for today? Hearing none, will the parties please  
23 identify themselves for the record.

24 MR. TAKEUCHI: Good morning, Chair and members. My  
25 name's Gary Takeuchi, Deputy Corporation Counsel on behalf of the

1 CHAIRPERSON SAKUMOTO: Does that conclude your report?

2 MR. BURNS: Mine. I think Wilma has a little bit  
3 more.

4 MS. NAMUMNART: The original state special use permit  
5 was issued in April 1987 and amended to add ancillary services in  
6 October 1989. It was recently amended on June 3rd, 2003 to add  
7 the additional 21 acres that you were just shown.

8 It was amended in April 2004 to change the date for  
9 the city council selection of a new landfill site to  
10 December 1st, 2004. As required in condition No. 1 a committee  
11 consisting of professionals, environmental, government and  
12 community representatives from areas with potential landfill  
13 sites made its recommendation to the city council by  
14 December 1st, 2003.

15 One recommendation from the committee was that a host  
16 benefits package be negotiated with the community where the  
17 landfill is sited. Mayor Hannemann has proposed a \$2 million  
18 community benefits package in the city's fiscal year '07  
19 operating budget which is awaiting council action.

20 The city council held hearings and gathered public  
21 testimony about landfill selection through its Public Works  
22 committee. No additional sites were suggested through this  
23 process.

24 On December 1st, 2004 Waimanalo Gulch was selected as  
25 the new landfill site which completed the requirements for

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1 | condition No. 1.

2 |           Recently Bill 37 CD2 which provided for landfill  
3 | closure on May 1st, 2008 was vetoed by Mayor Hannemann on  
4 | February 28, 2006.

5 |           On March 30, 2006 the city council chose not to  
6 | override the mayor's veto to thereby providing the opportunity  
7 | for continuance of Waimanalo Gulch sanitary landfill.

8 |           Our goal, as stated before, is to significantly reduce  
9 | the city's reliance on sanitary landfill disposal. We're in the  
10 | process of diverting 8,000 dry tons of sewage sludge annually.  
11 | We plan to increase automated curbside recycling collection from  
12 | homes islandwide. We have expanded the no-call bulky item  
13 | collection system islandwide.

14 |           We plan to develop two High Five redemption centers on  
15 | city property in Waikiki and Nu'uuanu to support the state's  
16 | program. We plan to add 40 new locations to the existing 75  
17 | school community recycling dropoff centers. We are providing  
18 | more support to help schools increase recycling efforts including  
19 | an improved Discover Recycling Fair in 2006.

20 |           We plan to issue a request for proposal for municipal  
21 | solid waste facility using combustion, gasification or  
22 | vitrification technology later this year. This is a requirement  
23 | of condition 18.

24 |           Presently over 300,000-tons of municipal solid waste  
25 | are disposed of in landfill each year. Our schedule is to issue

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1 the request for proposals in September of 2006 and award it a  
2 year later in September 2007.

3 Under this schedule a facility would be operational in  
4 September 2010 and decrease the municipal solid waste flow into  
5 the landfill to about 100,000 tons.

6 At this time we plan to continue processing the  
7 environmental documents for the full expansion of Waimanalo Gulch  
8 sanitary landfill as required in condition 17. We will request  
9 approximately 55 acres of landfill footprint which would provide  
10 about 15 years of capacity at the current inflow rate. If the  
11 flow increases the time will be shortened. If the flow decreases  
12 the time will be extended. As I just said we expect to have  
13 something on-line at 2010.

14 Our expansion amendment will encompass approximately  
15 100 acres to provide for auxilliary services and infrastructure.  
16 I'd like to turn your attention to the second handout you  
17 received this morning which shows our proposed timetable to be  
18 able to landfill waste in the area beyond cell E4 by May 1st,  
19 2008.

20 As you can see this timetable is definitely ambitious  
21 but we propose to continue to work with the community and consult  
22 with them for the duration of the project.

23 We expect to issue an Environmental Impact Statement  
24 preparation notice by June 2006. We expect that the Final EIS  
25 Enviromental Impact Statement will be completed in January 2007

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1 and it still has to turn away because it's at capacity. And we  
2 learned on the tour yesterday a third boiler is planned to be  
3 built.

4           What can be done to expedite the completion of that  
5 boiler so that the landfill isn't so overloaded and won't be  
6 filling up so fast?

7           MS. NAMUMNART: I think we responded in the 19  
8 conditions that we're looking at alternative technologies either  
9 to stand alone or else to expand and work with HPOWER in order to  
10 do that. But we do have to follow certain processes in order to  
11 implement and construct the facility.

12           COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY: So what is the schedule for  
13 completion of this third boiler? And is it possible for the  
14 schedule to be expected?

15           MR. TAKAMURA: Well, I think with the new  
16 administration took over when we reviewed the operations of  
17 HPOWER itself it's one big facility. So when it shuts down the  
18 whole entire waste stream goes to Waimanalo Gulch. We have seen  
19 emerging technology where there's more modular units.

20           So instead of accepting 600,000 tons, a modular unit  
21 would be like a hundred, a hundred twenty thousand tons per year  
22 type of facility. We're trying to develop these modular  
23 facilities so we don't get the type of shutdowns and waste flow  
24 that goes to the landfill. We can continue to burn the majority  
25 of the trash.

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1           And in her presentation she said we were going to go  
2 out for a request for proposal for a smaller 120,000 tons per  
3 year unit which is the modular concept. And we wanted to explore  
4 that to see if we can get away from just having one big facility  
5 handling our entire waste stream.

6           So I think the third boiler alternative is currently  
7 on hold. We're going to go and pursue a privately financed  
8 design/build type of facility so we can expedite the process and  
9 get it on-line quicker.

10           COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY: How quickly would this be  
11 coming on-line? Apparently you've stopped one process, one  
12 procedure to expand the existing facility by adding a third  
13 boiler.

14           MR. TAKAMURA: Both alternatives if we were to start  
15 today would take approximately the same time, three to four years  
16 third boiler or new modular technology.

17           COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY: If we were to start today.  
18 But how long will you be carrying out this review and when will  
19 you be deciding which route to go? Existing technology versus  
20 the new?

21           MR. TAKAMURA: I think we're going with the smaller  
22 modular unit technology. We are in the process of preparing a  
23 contract with Hawaiian Electric to assist us in the developing an  
24 RFP and issuing the RFP, request for proposals. So it's in the  
25 process right now.

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1                   COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY: Is there any estimate of the  
2 length of this process?

3                   MR. TAKAMURA: Yes. She said we plan to award the  
4 contract next year.

5                   COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY: I see. Now, turning to  
6 another matter. Since you have the goal of reducing reliance on  
7 landfill how many cities currently have curbside recycling and  
8 pickup?

9                   MR. TAKAMURA: Gee, I think every city has a recycling  
10 program just like Honolulu. Our problem is getting the community  
11 to realize that when you talk about waste to energy we're not  
12 talking about incineration. Other municipalities have  
13 incinerators. They just burn the waste.

14                   Honolulu we burn the waste but we produce electricity.  
15 It's one step further. So that's why we feel it's a portion of  
16 recycling. So actually when we communicate to the city council  
17 or to the press on our recycling program, MSW curbside collection  
18 is a form of recycling because we don't just incinerate. We use  
19 the excess heat to process electricity. We're also collecting  
20 green waste at curbside. We are recycling by producing compost.  
21 Hawaiian Earth Products takes the green waste and composts the  
22 material and reuses the mulch and what is the other term? Mulch  
23 and compost.

24                   The mayor has also initiated the islandwide  
25 once-a-month pickup of bulky items. In that bulky item as you

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1 still in the testing stage and the testing stage is like a  
2 technical term before it's accepted by the city for whole  
3 operation.

4 So that is occurring. Part of the sludge is being  
5 diverted into the system now, yes.

6 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: Okay. Also back in 2004 they  
7 talked, the resolution by the council talked about different  
8 methods for reducing the amount of solid waste going into the  
9 landfills. They talked about plasma arc, plasma torch  
10 technologies and binding with concrete to produce building  
11 materials, et cetera, et cetera.

12 Has there been any progress on any of those fronts?

13 MS. NAMUMNART: We've done a lot of research in this  
14 area. We will continue to evaluate this. But what you need to  
15 know is that Honolulu is like the 11th largest city in the  
16 nation. We, because we're so big, we have a very large waste  
17 stream.

18 The emerging technologies such as plasma arc are on a  
19 scale that is much smaller. So this is part of the reason we are  
20 looking at modular because then we can go to smaller units and  
21 then see if that will work within the system.

22 COMMISSIONER JUDGE: What is plasma arc?

23 MR. TAKAMURA: Lava. (Laughter) It's like molten  
24 liquid. You just melt the material. So all the organics will  
25 burn off and you have like a real small slag left.

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## C E R T I F I C A T E

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5 I, HOLLY HACKETT, R.P.R., C.S.R. in and for the State  
6 of Hawai'i, do hereby certify;

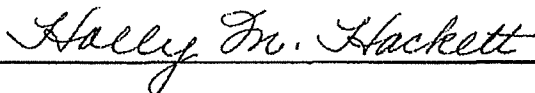
7 That I was acting as shorthand reporter in the  
8 foregoing LUC matter on the 21st day of April, 2006

9 That the proceedings were taken down in  
10 computerized machine shorthand by me and were thereafter  
11 reduced to print by me;

12 That the foregoing represents, to the best  
13 of my ability, a correct transcript of the proceedings  
14 had in the foregoing matter.

15 I further certify that I am not counsel for any of the  
16 parties hereto, nor in any way interested in the outcome of the  
17 cause named in the caption.

18 DATED: This 26th day of April 2006

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21 HOLLY M. HACKETT, R.P.R., C.S.R. #130  
22 Certified Shorthand Reporter  
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