

Resident Testimony Letter #2:

Via Email: gtakara@honolulu.gov

May 15, 2023

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

To the Honolulu Planning Commission,

I am writing as a resident of West O'ahu to express my deep concerns regarding the ongoing issues related to the Waimanalo Gulch Sanitary Landfill (WGSL).

Our community has been adversely affected by the Landfill for years, with residents, workers, and visitors expressing concerns about odors, noise, dust, blasting, visual blight, truck traffic, and flying litter from the Landfill. Additionally, the Landfill released unknown quantities of municipal solid waste, sewage sludge, leachate, and medical solid waste into coastal waters in 2012.

It is unacceptable that the Landfill is still in operation despite the LUC's order to close it by 2008 and to select a new site by 2004. Instead of following these directives and the site selection committee's recommendation, the City selected the existing Landfill as the "new" landfill.

Since then, several site selection processes have taken place, but no site has been selected. The ENV formed a new site selection committee in 2021, but the committee determined that none of the proposed sites were acceptable.

Given the long history of delays and harmful effects on our community, I urge the Honolulu Planning Commission to require ENV to report quarterly in person to the Commission on its efforts to select a new landfill. This oversight will provide us with reassurance that the risks and benefits associated with the proposed designation of a new site are being properly taken into consideration.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Name

Daniel Kelly
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