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2	STATE OF HAWAI'I		
3	ACTION) PAGE		
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9			
10	TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS		
11	TRANSCRITT OF TROCEDDINGS		
12	The above-entitled matters came on for a Public		
13	Hearing at Conference Room 405, 4th Floor, Leiopapa A		
14	Kamehameha, 235 S. Beretania Street, Honolulu,		
15	Hawai'i, commencing at 9:35 a.m. on Thursday, May 20,		
16	2010 pursuant to Notice.		
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22	REPORTED BY: HOLLY M. HACKETT, CSR #130, RPR Certified Shorthand Reporter		
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1	APPEARA	A N C E S cont'd
2		
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- 1 May 20, 2010
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Good morning, everyone.
- 3 This is the Land Use Commission meeting on May 20th,
- 4 2010. We're in the conference room 405 on the fourth
- 5 floor Leiopapa A Kamehameha.
- At this time we'd like to adopt the minutes
- 7 from May 5th and 6th. Are there any additions or
- 8 corrections to those? Seeing none, could I have an
- 9 acceptance?
- 10 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: Move to adopt.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any second?
- 12 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Second.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: All those in favor signify
- 14 by saying aye.
- 15 VOICE VOTE: Aye.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Executive Director, our
- 17 meeting schedule.
- 18 MR. DAVIDSON: Thank you, Chair Piltz. You
- 19 have, Commissioners, the tentative meeting schedule
- 20 with items listed for the next several meetings. As
- 21 always, please contact Riley or me if you have any
- 22 conflicts or can't make meetings.
- 23 We're paying special attention right now to
- 24 June 4 to make sure we have the requisite number of
- 25 Commissioners for certain items. So Riley will be

- 1 double checking with you. Thank you very much.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: This is an action meeting
- 3 on Docket No. A09-782 Tropic Land, LLC to consider the
- 4 acceptance of the Tropic Land, LLC's Final
- 5 Environmental Impact Statement.
- 6 On March 18th, 2009 Tropic Land filed a
- 7 Petition for Land Use district boundary amendment to
- 8 reclassify 96 acres of land at Lualualei, Waianae,
- 9 O'ahu, Hawai'i, identified as Tax Map Key No. 8-7-09:
- 10 portion 2, from the State Land Use Agricultural
- 11 District to the State Land Use Urban District for
- 12 light industrial park to be known as the Nanakuli
- 13 Community Baseyard, together with an Environmental
- 14 Impact Statement Preparation Notice.
- On April 16, 2009 by a written Order dated
- 16 May 6, 2009 the Land Use Commission agreed to be the
- 17 accepting authority pursuant to Chapter 343 HRS, and
- 18 determined that the proposed action may have a
- 19 significant impact on the environment to warrant the
- 20 preparation of an environmental impact statement.
- 21 On April 20, 2009 the Commission received a
- 22 Notice of Intent to File Petition to Intervene by
- 23 Alice Greenwood, director, Concerned Elders to
- 24 Waianae.
- The Office of Environmental Quality Control

- 1 published notice of the availability of the EISPN in
- 2 its May 23rd, 2009 issue of The Environmental Notice.
- 3 The 30-day public comment period for the EISPN ended
- 4 on June 22nd, 2009.
- 5 Then on July 17th, 2009, the Commission
- 6 received a withdrawal of counsel, appearance and
- 7 substitution of counsel whereby William Yuen replaced
- 8 Kerry Komatsubara as counsel for the Petitioner.
- 9 The Office of Environmental Quality Control
- 10 published notice of the availability of the Draft EIS
- 11 in its November 23rd, 2009 issue of the Environmental
- 12 Notice. The 45-day public comment period for the DEIS
- 13 ended on January 7, 2010.
- On April 20, 2010 Petitioner filed a
- 15 proposed Final EIS.
- On April 29, the Petitioner filed an
- 17 addendum to the Final EIS.
- 18 Then on May 18, 2010 the Commission received
- 19 written correspondence from the Department of
- 20 Agriculture, Director Sandra Lee Kunimoto re: concerns
- 21 on the EIS for the subject Project.
- 22 Continuing, on May 19, 2010 the Commission
- 23 received written correspondence from the City and
- 24 County of Honolulu to correct a statement in the
- 25 Kimura International letter dated April 16, 2010 which

- 1 responded to the City and County of Honolulu's comment
- 2 letter on the Draft EIS.
- 3 Let me briefly describe our procedure for
- 4 today on this docket. First, we'll have the
- 5 Petitioner identify itself for the record. I will
- 6 then give the opportunity for the Petitioner to
- 7 comment on the Commission's policy governing
- 8 reimbursement of hearing expenses.
- 9 I will then call for those individuals
- 10 desiring to provide public testimony to identify
- 11 themselves as such. All such individuals will be
- 12 called in turn to our witness box, which is located
- 13 there on my right, where they will be sworn in prior
- 14 to their testimony.
- 15 After we have completed the public testimony
- 16 portion of the proceedings our staff will provide its
- 17 report. After the staff has provided its report the
- 18 Petitioner will make its presentation. After the
- 19 completion of Petitioner's presentation we will
- 20 receive any comments from the city and county of
- 21 Honolulu Department of Planning and Permitting and/or
- 22 the Office of State of Office Planning.
- 23 After we have received the comments from the
- 24 DPP and the state, we will then conduct our
- 25 deliberations.

- 1 Are there any questions on our procedures
- 2 for today? Seeing none, okay. Good morning,
- 3 Mr. Yuen. Has our staff informed you of this
- 4 Commission's policy regarding the reimbursement fees?
- 5 MR. YUEN: Yes, they have.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Do you have any problem
- 7 with that?
- 8 MR. YUEN: No, Mr. Chairman.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Thank you. Is there
- 10 anyone -- well, I do have a list here of people
- 11 requesting public testimony. So the first person we
- 12 have this morning is Alice Greenwood followed by
- 13 Ka'anohi Kaleikini. First person, Alice.
- 14 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Mr. Chairman?
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes?
- 16 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Sorry for the
- 17 interruption. But I need to disclose my relationship
- 18 in this matter with Tropic Land. I know two of the
- 19 principals personally. And with one of them we do,
- 20 our companies do do business with each other. But
- 21 with regards to Tropic Land I have no financial
- 22 interest in that project at all. I just wanted you to
- 23 know, the Petitioner know, and all the interested
- 24 parties.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. We'll put that on

- 1 the record. Do you feel that there's any problem with
- 2 your being --
- 3 COMMISSIONER TEVES: No. I'm not biased
- 4 either way.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Good. Then we'll
- 6 put that on the record that you disclosed that. Thank
- 7 you very much.
- 8 MR. DAVIDSON: Alice Greenwood has written
- 9 testimony.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Just a matter of
- 11 note that Alice has submitted written testimony. Let
- 12 me swear you in.
- 13 ALICE GREENWOOD
- 14 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 15 and testified as follows:
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Would you state your
- 18 name and address for the record.
- 19 THE WITNESS: My name is Alice Greenwood. I
- 20 live at 87-576 Kulauponi C-102.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- THE WITNESS: Waianae. My name is Alice
- 23 Greenwood who has a residence of 87-1107 Hakimo Road,
- 24 a neighbor of this concerned area for over 30 years.
- 25 I now live in transitional housing. Yes, I come under

- 1 the heading of homeless. The Concerned Elders of
- 2 Wai'anae Mission is protecting the integrity of our
- 3 cultural lands, the continuance of diverse agriculture
- 4 preservation, open space and increased agricultural
- 5 self-sufficiency. The past is not the property of
- 6 historians. It is the public possessions. It belongs
- 7 to anyone who is aware of it and it grows by being
- 8 shared.
- 9 It substains (sic) the whole society which
- 10 always needs the identity that only the past can give.
- 11 This property is associated with legends, spiritual
- 12 and religious lifeways and uniquely related to a
- 13 natural figure.
- 14 For the past two years I journeyed towards
- 15 my once neighborhood which is adjacent to this
- 16 property. I was shocked to find out, like me, they
- 17 were not aware there was to be a golf course and now
- 18 to become a light industrial park, they're our
- 19 property owners.
- Just a few weeks ago I was able to visit
- 21 their tenants which was also not aware of what had
- 22 been happening and will be impacting them. There was
- 23 echoes: Why were we not given notice of what is to
- 24 become of our neighborhood? Who spoke on our behalf?
- This land had beautiful towering trees and

- 1 cast the shades upon us as we traveled towards the
- 2 mountain or the sea. Within our rim told us the trail
- 3 of a mischievous one who fished out all the islands
- 4 and captured the sun. In deeds and tasks I will
- 5 unmask so that you'll understand before there was a
- 6 Clark Kent there was a Hawaiian superman nestled in
- 7 his slumber is this mischievous marvelous magical Maui
- 8 hero of this land, this property. Mahalo. Concerned
- 9 Elders of Wai'anae.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you, Alice. Any
- 11 questions by the Petitioner?
- MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you, Alice.
- 18 Ms. Kaleikini followed by Allen Stack. Good morning.
- 19 Let me swear you in.
- 20 PAULETTE KA'ANOHI KALEIKINI
- 21 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 22 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yeah.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 25 for the record.

- 1 THE WITNESS: Paulette Ka'anohi Kaleikini
- 2 89-107 Nanaikala Street. This is in Nanakuli.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Um, are the owners of this
- 5 property here, Tropic Land? Are they here present?
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Their representatives are
- 7 here, yes.
- 8 THE WITNESS: Who is that? What are your
- 9 names?
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you go with your
- 11 testimony and address the Commissioners.
- 12 THE WITNESS: I want to address it to them
- 13 too when I speak. So I want to know which one of
- 14 these gentlemen represent the owners.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay.
- 16 THE WITNESS: And this other gentleman is?
- 17 MR. YUEN: William Yuen.
- 18 THE WITNESS: Not familiar with your name.
- 19 But anyway my concern here -- I got involved with this
- 20 land couple months ago when we reinterred iwi kupuna,
- 21 burial remains, at Wal-Mart -- at the Wal-Mart on
- 22 Ke'eaumoku Street.
- 23 I was told a couple weeks later that some of
- 24 the pohaku, some of the stones that were used at the
- 25 burial sites at Wal-Mart were taken from this

- 1 property, from the Tropical Land property. So it is
- 2 at that time I went there to do a little investigating
- 3 as well as ask a lot of questions with people who were
- 4 affiliated with that property.
- 5 Then I found out some gory details that, you
- 6 know, the pohaku that were taken for the ahu at
- 7 Wal-Mart were removed from that property. On the
- 8 slope is a preservation area that the state Department
- 9 of Natural Resources and the state Historic
- 10 Preservation Division told the owner that they were
- 11 supposed to stay away from there. Okay.
- 12 I went up there as, gee, maybe two days ago
- 13 with the state Historic Preservation Division's
- 14 archaeologist. And she confirmed to me that they were
- 15 notified a couple years ago that they were not
- 16 supposed to go up a certain -- up that slope. It was
- 17 a preservation area.
- 18 Well, if you look at it today that
- 19 preservation area is three quarters destroyed. I
- 20 have -- I have photos here. I don't know if you guys
- 21 have, but I have photos here of how much of that
- 22 preservation site was destroyed. It was a sacred
- 23 site.
- I know where some of the pohaku went. I
- 25 have confirmation that some of that pohaku was

- 1 taken -- was used -- it was taken from that site and
- 2 used at the Wal-Mart burial site. This is very
- 3 appalling. I will be addressing Wal-Mart and their
- 4 attorneys about removing those pohakus, and I want all
- 5 of that pohaku taken back to this site.
- I learned from the state archaeologist that
- 7 the owner was given notice a couple years ago that
- 8 they were not supposed to go up to that preservation
- 9 site. And yet if you look at these pictures I have
- 10 here, they destroyed it. They destroyed a
- 11 preservation site, okay, which, you know, to me
- 12 impacts a sacred site, a he'iau, amongst other things.
- 13 Okay.
- 14 So at this point I don't think their
- 15 environmental impact statement should be accepted.
- 16 They have totally neglected to address the historical,
- 17 concerns the historical, cultural concerns of our
- 18 people.
- 19 And also I will be addressing the fact that
- 20 pohaku from this site was taken and used at the
- 21 Wal-Mart burial site. So I will be addressing that
- 22 soon and right away as I want every bit of those
- 23 pohaku used at the Wal-Mart site taken back to this
- 24 property. I'm not sure how I'm going to go about it
- 25 but keep in mind that I will.

- 1 So at this point I don't think their EIS
- 2 should be accepted. And their request to rezone this
- 3 district from agricultural to industrial should be not
- 4 accepted either because, you know, they have neglected
- 5 to address cultural concerns, you know, and they have
- 6 neglected state, the state people. And they told them
- 7 to stay away from that area. They neglected it. And
- 8 they should be held responsible for every bit of
- 9 desecration that has happened there. Mahalo.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner,
- 11 questions?
- MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you.
- 18 Allan Stack followed by Elizabeth Stack.
- 19 ALLAN STACK
- 20 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 21 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 24 for the record.
- 25 THE WITNESS: My name is Allan Stack Jr. I

- 1 have a P. O. Box, P. O. Box 37532 Honolulu, Hawai'i
- 2 96837.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Thank you. This Project was
- 5 rushed through the Neighborhood Board. We didn't --
- 6 there's a newly created Neighborhood Board out in
- 7 Nanakuli. And my mom is an adjoining landowner. And
- 8 we didn't hear about this until about a year after it
- 9 had been voted in favor of the Project by the
- 10 Neighborhood Board. Department of Planning and
- 11 Permitting I believe came and spoke in favor of the
- 12 Project. All this happened a year before we even
- 13 heard what was going on.
- I feel the Neighborhood Board and DPP's
- 15 decision were rushed and they weren't based on hearing
- 16 both sides, whether it's in the best interest of the
- 17 entire community.
- 18 Townscape is, I believe, a planning firm
- 19 that did a public hearing series about the Project. I
- 20 didn't feel that was balanced. They took testimony
- 21 and were supposed to get back to the people to see if
- 22 the testimony, if what they had, what they had written
- 23 down accurately reflected the participants at the
- 24 hearing. And they never got back to me or my mother,
- 25 to the best of our knowledge.

- 1 There's been some misinformation about the
- 2 project. They say it doesn't have water. It does
- 3 have water, city water. Twenty or 30 years ago it was
- 4 farmed back before the people bought it to make a golf
- 5 course.
- It may not be the best farmland, but it is
- 7 valuable farmland which is quickly dwindling on O'ahu.
- 8 I believe their easement is substandard. I believe
- 9 now it's being used as a baseyard, which is a
- 10 violation of the law and nothing's being done.
- 11 I don't feel that the current owners are
- 12 even entertaining the option that it could be
- 13 farmland. They're going right at this industrial
- 14 zoning with everything they have. I feel it's a
- 15 valuable rural resource for the people of O'ahu, all
- 16 O'ahu. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Petitioner, do you
- 18 have questions?
- MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No, no questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Next person is Elizabeth
- 24 Stack followed by Marty Thompson.
- 25 ELIZABETH STACK

- 1 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 2 and testified as follows:
- 3 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 5 for the record.
- 6 THE WITNESS: My name is Elizabeth Stack.
- 7 My address is P. O. Box 497, Honolulu 96809.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 9 THE WITNESS: I am the adjacent landowner to
- 10 this particular land. I'm right across the naval
- 11 road, Naval Ammunition Depot Road which is a
- 12 non-access road. So access to this parcel is
- 13 impaired.
- 14 There is an easement from my property across
- 15 the road to this property. And it's more or less a
- 16 dead end valley with the Naval Ammunition Depot at
- 17 one. So I guess I'm objecting to the Project because
- 18 whoever goes in there is going to come right through
- 19 my property.
- I have about 23 acres. This Project that
- 21 we're looking at is 96 I think. And that's seriously
- 22 going to impact everyone who goes there because at
- 23 this point Hakimo Road is the only other access
- 24 besides the Navy road.
- It is a rural area and was farmed for many

- 1 years by the Iraki family who grew lettuce and things
- 2 like that. It may not be top of the line for ag, but
- 3 it is agricultural and not 96 acres of light
- 4 industrial.
- 5 Let's see, what else? Rural, rural, um,
- 6 things like water is there but things like sewers
- 7 aren't and aren't even close. So I don't know what
- 8 their density is planned for but the whole concept I
- 9 think is the wrong thing in the wrong place. Thank
- 10 you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner, questions?
- MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 18 questions? Okay. Thank you. Marty Townsend.
- 19 MARTY TOWNSEND
- 20 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 21 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 24 for the records.
- THE WITNESS: My name is Marty Townsend.

- 1 Business address is P. O. Box 37368 Honolulu, Hawai'i
- 2 96837. I'm with Kahea, the Environmental Alliance.
- 3 And I'm here to testify in opposition to the proposal
- 4 to amend this property classification. But actually
- 5 would like the Commission to approve the EIS. And
- 6 that's because I think it's time for this process to
- 7 really get rolling.
- 8 Working together with the community a
- 9 considerable effort was made to try to improve the
- 10 quality of the environmental impact statement. Many
- 11 questions were raised. Unfortunately the property
- 12 owners were unable to answer many of those questions.
- 13 And while we feel that those questions need
- 14 to be answered before this process, before this
- 15 Project should go forward, at the same time we
- 16 recognize that the proper venue for really raising our
- 17 concerns is the consideration of the actual boundary
- 18 amendment.
- In my written testimony I highlighted three
- 20 reasons why a boundary amendment is not proper at this
- 21 time. For one, the current adopted Wai'anae Community
- 22 Sustainabilities Plan does not provide for industrial
- 23 uses or urbanization of Lualualei Valley. So the
- 24 current adopted plan states that: All future urban
- 25 development shall not be allowed to intrude on

- 1 agricultural areas, instead shall be focused along
- 2 Farrington Highway.
- 3 You'll note from the maps in the EIS that
- 4 this parcel is far inside Lualualei Valley, up a road
- 5 that is not paved to city standards. And therefore
- 6 should not -- is inconsistent with, does not conform
- 7 to the community sustainable plan and therefore and
- 8 amendment should not be adopted.
- 9 In addition, the characteristics of this
- 10 parcel do not conform to the characterization of an
- 11 urban property as outlined in the Hawaii
- 12 Administrative Rules 15-15-18.
- 13 In that subsection the Commission is
- 14 directed to look at areas for urbanization or urban
- 15 classification but that are characterized by city-like
- 16 concentrations of people, structures, streets, urban
- 17 levels of services, et cetera surrounded by or
- 18 adjacent to existing urban developments.
- 19 And that's not the case for this property.
- 20 In fact this would be an example of a property
- 21 contributing to scattered spot urban development which
- 22 is something that subsection actually directs the
- 23 Commission against.
- 24 Lastly, Hawaii Revised Statutes section
- 25 205-17-3B directs the Commission to consider impacts

- 1 on cultural resources. And as we have already heard
- 2 testimony there are considerable significant cultural
- 3 assets on this property and near this property in the
- 4 Lualualei Valley.
- 5 It's not widely known but it has already
- 6 been documented in previous environmental impact
- 7 statements and cultural impact assessments done on
- 8 this property for previous projects. We believe that
- 9 the owners of this property are fully aware of the
- 10 cultural significance of this area, and in the EIS
- 11 they downplay those significant features.
- 12 It's incumbent upon this Commission to
- 13 ensure that these extremely important cultural sites
- 14 are protected. Already we have seen evidence that
- 15 this property owner is unable to do that. They cannot
- 16 be trusted with protecting and guarding such extremely
- 17 important irreplaceable features of Wai'anae land.
- 18 Lastly we'd also like to raise, in addition
- 19 to concerns about the unauthorized illegal harvest of
- 20 pohaku from preservation lands from this property,
- 21 also the current misuse of this property. It is our
- 22 understanding that currently the Tropic Land's is
- 23 under investigation by both the city and county of
- 24 Honolulu and the Department of Land and Natural
- 25 Resources for misuse of this property.

- One thing that's of particular concern for
- 2 us is the use of this agricultural land as an
- 3 industrial baseyard. So they're already using it as
- 4 an industrial baseyard even though it is currently
- 5 zoned as agriculture. In fact, they have been
- 6 previously cited in, I believe, in 2008, 2009 for
- 7 similar violations. This is a repeated bad actor.
- 8 We would ask this Commission not to reward
- 9 these violations by actually approving this boundary
- 10 amendment. If fact, we would prefer if you directed
- 11 the landowner to actually leave the property. Thank
- 12 you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any questions?
- MR. YUEN: no questions.
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 18 questions? Thank you. Is there anybody else this
- 19 would like to testify?
- 20 KYLE KAJIHIRO
- 21 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 22 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 25 for the record.

- 1 THE WITNESS: My name that Kyle Kajihiro.
- 2 I'm representing the American Friends Service
- 3 Committee. And our address 2426 O'ahu Avenue 96822 in
- 4 Honolulu.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 6 THE WITNESS: So I'm just going to add to
- 7 some of the testimony that was already offered and I
- 8 have some photographs if I could -- can I share them?
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Sure. The clerk will get
- 10 it.
- 11 THE WITNESS: This is a photo of the
- 12 property from the road, the Navy road. As you can see
- 13 there's considerable number of tractor/trailers
- 14 already being maintained and parked there. The ground
- 15 has been paved with asphalt. There are structures
- 16 being built in anticipation of the baseyard, the
- 17 permanent baseyard.
- 18 And we feel that that's -- it's actually
- 19 driving the Commission -- it's ruining this land for
- 20 its agricultural purposes. We would be opposed to the
- 21 boundary amendment.
- We feel that the agricultural land in
- 23 Hawai'i is precious as it is. And the soil here in
- 24 Lualualei, this parcel is a black Lualualei vertisol.
- 25 It's some of the best-growing soils in Hawai'i.

- 1 This picture is of part of a rockfall that
- 2 has not yet been disturbed. You can see it's got
- 3 beautiful black rock and the moss rock.
- 4 This is what it looks like after the illegal
- 5 harvesting, mining of pohaku. I use this picture so
- 6 you can see the scale in relation to the people in the
- 7 picture. Quite a bit of rock has been already
- 8 removed. This is looking on the other direction in
- 9 that same cut. It's actually quite a large swath that
- 10 has been removed.
- 11 This picture also gives you an idea of the
- 12 depth of that rock that has been removed from the
- 13 property.
- 14 So we would, we would concur with the other
- 15 testifiers about the bad actor that is the owner of
- 16 this property. They have done actions in violation of
- 17 the law we believe. And also we believe that the
- 18 cultural resources study that was done for the EIS was
- 19 inadequate.
- 20 It did not consider the significance of the
- 21 Maui sites here in Lualualei. And we think that this
- 22 area could be an area named for the birthplace of
- 23 Kaola'e. And we'd like to have that reflected in the
- 24 EIS. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions by the

- 1 Petitioner.
- 2 MR. YUEN: What's the basis of your
- 3 conclusion that the soil on this property is one of
- 4 the best in Hawai'i?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Well, the Lualualei series of
- 6 soils are some of the best -- the vertisols are very
- 7 rich soils for agriculture. We know from farmers in
- 8 the valley that that soil is rich. It just needs
- 9 water to make it fertile.
- 10 MR. YUEN: No further questions.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Do we have any more?
- MR. DAVIDSON: That's all that signed up.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anybody else? Okay.
- 18 LUCY GAY
- 19 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 20 and testified as follows:
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. My name is Lucy
- 22 Gay and my home address is 47-214 Kamehameha Highway.
- 23 So while that is a Kaneohe address, I work long hours
- 24 in Waianae.
- I brought along additional photos to

- 1 provide a background of how the area is truly an
- 2 agricultural setting. We had a friend who could get
- 3 in an airplane and take a picture, but he's not a
- 4 professional so he caught part of his wing.
- 5 But if you put the two together what you
- 6 will see is the property -- okay, the property that
- 7 we're talking about is up in this corner -- and if you
- 8 look it goes this way -- what you'll see is this is
- 9 where Mrs. Stack's property is up in this end with all
- 10 the farmlands. And you can see the crops on the other
- 11 side going out.
- 12 So, and then this big open space is, of
- 13 course, the military property. So the area is truly
- 14 operating as an agricultural community. That's the
- 15 lay of the land from the air looking down.
- 16 I came prepared with some photos of how the
- 17 land is being used today. These were taken yesterday
- 18 afternoon. And so I'm assuming this morning it hasn't
- 19 changed.
- 20 So you'll see that there's quite a
- 21 presumptuousness I think on the part -- well, that's
- 22 the wrong word. Let me just say they are behaving as
- 23 though the land is already authorized to operate as an
- 24 industrial property because you will see in the photos
- 25 a truck terminal baseyard.

- 1 And if you went on property you would see
- 2 many other things going on that truly jeopardize and
- 3 compromise the current agricultural status of that
- 4 area.
- 5 So if your judgment at the end of this long
- 6 process is to keep the property in agricultural
- 7 boundary we have -- I have a concern about restoring
- 8 that particular end of the property back to its use as
- 9 agriculture, that that should not be ignored. And I
- 10 don't know where we go to to get that addressed, but I
- 11 hope you folks consider that if you decide not to
- 12 approve the boundary amendment.
- 13 This other document that I brought is the
- 14 one that others pointed out citing that there were
- 15 surveys done that identified clearly where there was
- 16 findings on the surface that was worthy to be noted
- 17 and recorded. And it cites where others have
- 18 testified there were pohaku that was removed.
- 19 So, and if I'm not mistaken the Draft EIS
- 20 referenced -- it was quite a while ago -- but I think
- 21 they referenced this report. So they had knowledge.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you.
- 23 THE WITNESS: And my last piece is that the
- 24 valley right now is agriculture. I know the old
- 25 term -- I'm not a planner but I know the old term I

- 1 used to hear was spot zoning. And that sounds to me
- 2 like poor planning. Actually it's bad planning. It's
- 3 not planning. So that's -- I hope to learn better
- 4 planning through this process.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner,
- 6 questions?
- 7 MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- 9 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: How 'bout the State?
- 11 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 13 questions? Do we still have anybody else that would
- 14 like to testify on this? Come forward.
- 15 CARLA NOA
- 16 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 17 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Aye, yes.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 20 for the records.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Aloha mai kakou. My name is
- 22 Carla Noa. My address is 89-989 Nanakuli Avenue. I'm
- 23 actually going to speak on behalf of my kupuna. And
- 24 they are from Wai'anae. I actually came here for the
- 25 Koa Ridge testimony, but this is where I'm from. This

- 1 is my 'aina. So I want to start off with my passion
- 2 for aloha 'aina starts from my upbringing.
- 3 My papa would nurture the kalo patches of
- 4 Waianae located in this apana. Since the age of four
- 5 my grandfather educated and taught me how to nurture
- 6 the land through patience and humility.
- 7 He insinuated caring for the land is far
- 8 more than just working for countless of hours. It is
- 9 a connection that is indefinable, a connection that a
- 10 person would have to define for themselves.
- 11 At this moment I have established that
- 12 parallel with my passion for the 'aina. It is through
- 13 teaching others from what I have learned from the past
- 14 through my upbringing and what I'm continuously
- 15 learning now.
- Today we don't have that land in Wai'anae
- 17 but we still practice our cultural, what we learned
- 18 from growing up. And one thing I learned from my
- 19 grandparents is that to never forget where you're from
- 20 and to continue to teach others of that and pass it
- 21 down what we learn.
- 22 And that's my goal, I guess, my life-long
- 23 goal and including, including to share what my papa
- 24 and my grandparents and my ancestors taught me.
- 25 That's when I heard about this Project it

- 1 really broke my heart into pieces 'cause my --
- 2 everything that my grandparents taught me including my
- 3 family, we still do today but it's still not as fully
- 4 practiced as how it used to be when I was growing up.
- 5 That's all I have to say. Mahalo.
- 6 MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- 8 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 10 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Mahalo.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anyone else? Okay. At
- 14 this time we'll have staff give us a report. Bert.
- 15 MR. SARUWATARI: As was stated earlier the
- 16 45-day comment period on the document started on
- 17 November 23rd, 2009 and ended on January 7, 2010.
- 18 There were a total of 15 agencies and organizations
- 19 that provided substantive comments. including the
- 20 Commission staff. There were nine reviewers that had
- 21 no comments.
- 22 Several agencies that typically provide
- 23 comments on Draft EIS's did not such as the Department
- 24 of Health, Department of Agriculture and the Office of
- 25 Planning.

- 1 Staff has reviewed the proposed Final EIS
- 2 and addendum to the Final EIS and compared it with the
- 3 content requirements for an FEIS based on the
- 4 provisions of Chapter 11-200 of the OEQC rules.
- 5 Based on this, staff believes that the
- 6 Petitioner has generally complied with said
- 7 requirements and recommends that the document be
- 8 accepted pursuant to Chapter 343 HRS and Chapter
- 9 11-200 HAR.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions, Commissioners,
- 11 for staff? Petitioner?
- MR. YUEN: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Thank you.
- 18 Mr. Yuen, you're up. Make your presentation.
- 19 MR. YUEN: Thank you very much,
- 20 Mr. Chairman. My name is William Yuen. I'm here
- 21 appearing on behalf of Tropic Land, LLC the Petitioner
- 22 in this case. With me on my right is Eric Yanagihara
- 23 who is the project manager for Tropic Land. On my
- 24 left is Nancy Nishikawa of Kimura International who is
- 25 the planning consultant who prepared the EIS.

- 1 Basically the Hawaii Administrative Rules
- 2 section 11-223B, the rules of the Office of
- 3 Environmental Quality Control provide that a Final
- 4 Environmental Impact Statement shall be deemed
- 5 acceptable if the proper procedures have been followed
- 6 and the content requirements described in the chapter
- 7 have been satisfied, and all comments submitted during
- 8 the review process have been responded to and are
- 9 appended to the FEIS.
- 10 The substantive requirements are contained
- 11 in HAR section 11-200-17F through P, Chapter 4 of the
- 12 FEIS contains a separate and distinct section that
- 13 describes the alternatives of no action, the
- 14 currently permitted alternative of the construction of
- 15 a golf course, as well as the alternative of the
- 16 proposed project and alternative locations for a
- 17 proposed industrial park in satisfaction of HAR
- 18 section 11-200.
- 19 Continuing through the rest of the
- 20 substantive requirements, Chapter 5 of the EIS
- 21 describes the environmental setting of the Petition
- 22 Area and the environment in the vicinity of the
- 23 proposed action in satisfaction of subsection 17-G.
- 24 Chapter 6 of the EIS contains a statement of
- 25 the relationship of the proposed action to state and

- 1 county land use plans, policies and controls for the
- 2 area which complies with subsection 17-F.
- 3 Chapter 5 of the EIS also contains a
- 4 statement of the probable impact of the proposed
- 5 action on natural and human environment and the
- 6 significance of these impacts in satisfaction of
- 7 subsection 17.I.
- 8 Section 7.7 of the FEIS is a separate and
- 9 distinct section that describes the relationship
- 10 between local short-term uses of the human environment
- 11 and maintenance and enhancements of long-term
- 12 productivity in satisfaction of subsection 17.J.
- Section 7.5 of the EIS is a separate section
- 14 that describes irreversible and irretrievable
- 15 commitments of resources that satisfies subsection
- 16 17.K.
- 17 Sections 7.1, 7.2 address unavoidable
- 18 adverse environmental impacts in satisfaction of
- 19 subsection 17.L.
- 20 Section 7.3 of the FEIS adequately describes
- 21 mitigation measures in satisfaction of subsection
- 22 17.M.
- 23 Section 7.6 of the EIS summarizes unresolved
- 24 issues in satisfaction of subsection N.
- 25 And, finally, the appendices identify the

- 1 government agencies and public and private
- 2 organizations that consulted in the EIS process, and
- 3 contains the reproductions of the substantive comments
- 4 and responses in satisfaction of subsections 17.0 and
- 5 17.P.
- 6 So that we believe we have satisfied all the
- 7 substantive and procedural requirements for acceptance
- 8 of the FEIS. The speakers today have raised many
- 9 concerns that we will be addressing at the hearing on
- 10 this matter once the Commission determines the
- 11 petition to be a complete filing. Thank you.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Comments?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No comment.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No comments. The Office of
- 16 Planning will take no position on the acceptance on
- 17 the proposed EIS. And we will reserve or address our
- 18 concerns at the petition level.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Commissioners, any
- 20 questions or comments? Commissioner Contrades.
- 21 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: I just have one
- 22 question. Is this correct?
- 23 (Holding up photograph)
- MR. YUEN: I have not seen that photograph.
- 25 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Do they have a

- 1 paved area already built on the property?
- 2 MR. YUEN: The property is not paved at all.
- 3 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Fenced like this
- 4 with trucks already stored?
- 5 MR. YUEN: May be some vehicles on the
- 6 property but the Petitioner is not storing any
- 7 vehicles or conducting any industrial activities of
- 8 any kind.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other comments?
- 10 MR. DAVIDSON: Did the city have any
- 11 comments?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: We just wanted to
- 13 reiterate what was said in our letter to the
- 14 Commission dated yesterday. I guess the response to
- 15 DPP's comment regarding the rural community boundary
- 16 was incorrect.
- 17 We just wanted to say for the record that
- 18 the rural community boundary is actually lower or
- 19 closer to Farrington Highway and not as high up and
- 20 close to the Project Area.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other comments?
- MR. YEE: No.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Do we have any other
- 24 comments, Commissioners? If not, what's your
- 25 pleasure?

- 1 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chairman, I'd like
- 2 to have a question of the Petitioner, if I may.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Go ahead.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Yuen, you
- 5 understand, or it's your position that all of the
- 6 issues that are normally raised in an EIS filing have
- 7 been addressed by the Petitioner.
- 8 MR. YUEN: Yes, sir.
- 9 COMMISSIONER WONG: Now, do we understand
- 10 that while you've addressed it and talked about it, it
- 11 doesn't mean that all of those issues have been fully
- 12 satisfied?
- 13 MR. YUEN: You mean they haven't been fully
- 14 satisfied necessarily for the -- well, I guess we
- 15 believe we have addressed the issues. One can take
- 16 issue with whether they have been addressed to the
- 17 satisfaction of all parties concerned I suppose.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: In other words, for the
- 19 purposes of, say, petition for district boundary
- 20 amendment, the road leading from Farrington Highway to
- 21 the Project site may not be deemed adequate, for
- 22 example. It is possible, right?
- MR. YUEN: That's correct.
- 24 COMMISSIONER WONG: So that if the
- 25 Commission today were to approve the EIS, the

- 1 Commission is not bound by these issues such as
- 2 inadequate road, archaeological issues and other
- 3 issues, is that correct?
- 4 MR. YUEN: The acceptance of the EIS
- 5 certainly does not bind the Commission in terms of the
- 6 approval of the Project, no.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: So the public will still
- 8 have the opportunity to come before the Commission and
- 9 raise these issues at the right time.
- 10 MR. YUEN: That's correct.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: Thank you.
- 12 Mr. Chairman, on the basis of what I hear I move that
- 13 the EIS be accepted.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We have a motion on the
- 15 floor to accept the EIS. Do we have a second?
- 16 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Second.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Second by Commissioner
- 18 Contrades. Just one comment. Hearing some of the --
- 19 what we had heard from the public today I do hope that
- 20 during our hearing on the EIS and its merits that
- 21 these people that have come before us today, please
- 22 return and let us know that you don't feel that
- 23 they've addressed it. Hopefully you can find in the
- 24 EIS where they have neglected or addressed your
- 25 community. And if they haven't, please come back.

- Commissioners, could I have your vote?
- 2 MR. DAVIDSON: The motion is to accept
- 3 Tropic Land, LLC's Final Environmental Impact
- 4 Statement.
- 5 Commissioner Wong?
- 6 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes.
- 7 MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Contrades?
- 8 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Yes.
- 9 MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Devens?
- 10 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: Yes.
- 11 MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Chock?
- 12 COMMISSIONER CHOCK: Yes.
- MR. DAVIDSON: Commissioner Teves?
- 14 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Yes.
- 15 MR. DAVIDSON: Chair Piltz?
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes.
- MR. DAVIDSON: Mr. Chairman, the vote passes
- 18 six/zero. The other Commissioners are absent and
- 19 excused. Thank you.
- 20 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Mr. Chairman?
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes.
- 22 COMMISSIONER TEVES: I have a question. I'd
- 23 like the Commission to set up a site visit. I'd like
- 24 to see the so-called commercial use of that property
- 25 right now in its present form if it's true or not.

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MR. DAVIDSON: So noted.
              CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Executive director, could
 2
 3 you arrange that for us with the Petitioner so we
   could do a site visit. And let the public know when
   we are going to be doing that so that they may join us
   and see the site. Thank you.
 7
             We'll take a 5-minute break. Any other
 8
    comments?
 9
                  (Recess was held. 10:30)
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- 1 A07-775
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We're back on the record.
- 3 This is a continued hearing on Docket No. A07-775 to
- 4 amend the Agricultural Land Use Boundary into the
- 5 Urban District Boundary for approximately
- 6 767.649 acres of Waipio and Waiawa, Island of Oahu,
- 7 state of Hawai'i.
- 8 From April 21, 2010 until May 18, 2010 the
- 9 Commission received 40 postcards similar to those
- 10 received on February 19, 2010 and written
- 11 correspondence from Buzz Hong, Michael M. Kliks and
- 12 including a petition with 30 signatures.
- On May 18th, 2010 the Commission received
- 14 Petitioner's's third amended list of exhibits,
- 15 Petitioner's first amended list of rebuttal witnesses
- 16 and Petitioner's Exhibits 54 and 55, and written
- 17 correspondence from another 62 individuals including
- 18 a petition with 220 signatures opposing the Petition,
- 19 and an e-mail with 53 names and comments opposing the
- 20 petition.
- 21 On May 19th, 2010 the Commission received
- 22 written correspondence via e-mail from 48 individuals.
- 23 As of 8:30 a.m. on May 19th the Commission has
- 24 received written correspondence via e-mail from 24
- 25 individuals. And I have since received another three

- 1 more written testimonies.
- 2 Let me briefly run through our hearing
- 3 procedure for the day. First, we'll hear from the
- 4 parties who'll identify themselves for the record. I
- 5 will then call for those individuals desiring to
- 6 provide public testimony for this docket to identify
- 7 themselves. All such individuals will be called into
- 8 our witness box where they will be sworn in prior to
- 9 their testimony.
- 10 After completion of the public testimony I
- 11 will give the opportunity for the Neighborhood Board
- 12 No. 25 to present its witness.
- I will then call for the Petitioner to
- 14 present its rebuttal witnesses. For the information
- 15 of the parties, closing arguments will be held after
- 16 submission of proposed Decisions and Orders.
- 17 The Chair would also note for the parties
- 18 and the public that from time to time I will be
- 19 calling for short breaks. Are there any questions on
- 20 our procedures for today?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.

- 1 MR. YOST: No questions.
- 2 MR. POIRIER: No questions.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Good morning,
- 4 Mr. Matsubara.
- 5 MR. MATSUBARA: Good morning, Mr. Chair.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Good morning, Mr. Yee,
- 7 Mr. Poirier and Mr. Yost. And you have a new person
- 8 there.
- 9 MR. YOST: This is Robert Harris of the
- 10 Sierra Club sitting next to me.
- 11 MR. HARRIS: Aloha.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Good. Aloha.
- 13 Before I call the witnesses, let me remind you that
- 14 all of the public testimony from previous hearings was
- 15 transcribed and is part of our record.
- 16 For those that are testifying again, the
- 17 Commission would appreciate if you could confine your
- 18 testimony to some new information.
- In addition, a three-minute time limit on
- 20 testimony will be enforced. The reason for this is to
- 21 allow all the parties to present their respective
- 22 cases to the Commission. And I thank you very much
- 23 for that.
- Okay, at this time we have a list. Is
- 25 Senator Hee here? Senator?

- 1 SENATOR CLAYTON HEE,
- 2 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 3 and testified as follows:
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 6 for the record.
- 7 THE WITNESS: I'm Clayton Hee. I'm a member
- 8 of the State Senate. The address where I do business
- 9 is at the State Capitol.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. And we have
- 11 your written testimony, sir.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Yes. Distinguished members of
- 13 the Land Use Commission, I thank you for the
- 14 opportunity to testify in opposition to the petition
- 15 before you this morning.
- MS. ERICKSON: Excuse me, Senator.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 MS. ERICKSON: Could you speak a little bit
- 19 more slowly for the court reporter. Thank you.
- 20 THE WITNESS: Oh. I was concerned about the
- 21 three minutes (Laughter) you just never know, you
- 22 know. It might be like a neighborhood board: Three
- 23 minutes, boom, you're outta there. Okay. I'll try to
- 24 speak slowly.
- 25 I'm Clayton Hee. And I appear before you as

- 1 a member of the Hawaii State Senate and Chair of the
- 2 Senate committee on water, land, agriculture and
- 3 Hawaiian affairs. As most of you are well aware,
- 4 legislators have been concerned about diminishing
- 5 acreage of profitable prime ag land that has been
- 6 taken out of production by zoning changes approved by
- 7 this Commission.
- 8 The Senate committee I chair and, indeed,
- 9 the entire Senate, has approved legislation protecting
- 10 agriculture and land designated prime agriculture.
- 11 For example, during the past five years the
- 12 Legislature enacted legislation designating Important
- 13 Ag Lands in Hawai'i.
- 14 In each of the last two years the Senate has
- 15 passed legislative proposals requiring lease
- 16 extensions to farmers on prime ag lands as well as
- 17 requiring a supermajority of the members of the LUC
- 18 when redesignating prime ag lands to Urban.
- 19 While the legislation awaits the
- 20 consideration by the House of Representatives, the
- 21 action taken by the Senate in and of itself is a
- 22 strong mandate with regard to the preservation of
- 23 prime ag lands.
- 24 I'm certain that each of you is aware of the
- 25 policy expressed in Article 11 section 3 of the

- 1 constitution which mandates the protection and
- 2 preservation of ag lands. So in the interest of time
- 3 I will not repeat what you have been advised and to
- 4 which you testified before the Senate committee during
- 5 your confirmation hearings.
- 6 Each of you who appeared before the Senate
- 7 committee acknowledged the importance of the Hawai'i
- 8 State Constitution's mandate on protection of prime ag
- 9 lands.
- 10 I find it troubling that there is an
- 11 apparent quote, "school of thought" end quote, by some
- 12 that is quote, "far enough" end quote, to require the
- 13 petitioner to find and allocate quote, "replacement
- 14 acreage," end quote, as a condition for the land use
- 15 change from ag to urban. Respectively it is not.
- 16 Requiring additional acreage as a condition
- 17 of rezoning diminishes productive ag land which is
- 18 forever lost to concrete and rooftops, as testified by
- 19 the Department of Agriculture on January 14, 2010,
- 20 3300 acres of A and B lands have been lost only in the
- 21 last 20 years on O'ahu.
- In the last two years your Commission has
- 23 conducted public hearings to rezone an additional 1500
- 24 acres in Kapolei and 500 acres at Koa Ridge, all of
- 25 which comprise prime ag lands.

- 1 If you approve the diminishment of these
- 2 lands you will have nearly doubled in two years what
- 3 has been done in 20 years, all at a time when nearly
- 4 90 percent of the food is imported to Hawai'i and the
- 5 state policy has been to be less reliant on cars and
- 6 more reliant on sustainability, including locally
- 7 grown food and biofuels.
- 8 I recognize that some of you may be of the
- 9 mindset that each petition is considered on a quote,
- 10 "case-by-case basis" end quote, and its own merit.
- 11 However, no one on this Commission can
- 12 ignore the intimate relationship of the numerous
- 13 petitions heard in their totality when measuring the
- 14 far-reaching and over-arching impact to agriculture
- 15 and sustainabilities for future generations going
- 16 forward.
- By any index it is impossible to ignore the
- 18 cumulative impact of approving this Project, given the
- 19 data available.
- 20 For example, according to the 2008 state
- 21 Data Book, there were 286,450 homes and 436,970 cars,
- 22 nearly 80 percent of which are located on this island.
- 23 It need not be said that these numbers have only
- 24 proliferated since 2008.
- 25 Published reports have indicated that 33,000

- 1 units have already been approved and given the
- 2 appropriate zoning. Approximately 17,000 units are
- 3 being considered by this Commission, all on the
- 4 Leeward side of O'ahu: 12,000 at Ho'opili and 5,000
- 5 at Castle & Cooke in Waiawa. Using the 2008 data book
- 6 numbers, the quantity of homes would increase from
- 7 337,450 and the amount of cars to 510,235.
- Respectfully, the duty to evaluate and take
- 9 into account the mitigation of the consequences of
- 10 your decision cannot be done in isolation of each
- 11 project without the aggregate repercussion of that
- 12 decision.
- 13 Former Governor George Ariyoshi in a
- 14 published document commented on the LUC earlier this
- 15 year saying, quote, "The decisions of the Land Use
- 16 Commission to urbanize go a long way towards
- 17 explaining why the number of construction workers in
- 18 Hawai'i has doubled in the past decade and why the
- 19 general public is increasingly disturbed by the
- 20 congestion that results from overly rapid
- 21 development," end quote.
- 22 As a former member of Local 368, the
- 23 construction laborers union, I know intimately how
- 24 well these jobs pay compared to the salaries of other
- 25 avocations.

- 1 As a long-time member of the Legislature I'm
- 2 cognizant of the contributions of the construction
- 3 industry locally. That being said, the pervasive
- 4 relationship of the lure of jobs as justification of
- 5 more urban sprawl while knowing that the workers are
- 6 unlikely to afford the occupation of the units built
- 7 contributes to an inexhaustible conundrum not unlike a
- 8 dog chasing its tail.
- 9 Let me put it another way. I have a
- 10 wonderful son who graduated from one of the best high
- 11 schools locally, Punahou. In June of last year I
- 12 stood as a proud father at his graduation from one of
- 13 the best universities in America, Princeton.
- In June of next year he will receive his MA
- 15 in Public Policy from UCLA. And the following June he
- 16 will receive an MMA also from UCLA.
- 17 Armed with those achievements from
- 18 opportunities most are not afforded and privileged to
- 19 enjoy, he will not be able to qualify to own a home in
- 20 these proposed projects.
- 21 That said, exactly who are these so-called
- 22 affordable homes for and at what cost to a greater
- 23 Hawai'i society?
- 24 Finally, and in closing, I believe there is
- 25 an incorrect perception that as owners of the land

- 1 Castle & Cooke or D.R. Horton or anyone else has a
- 2 quote "right" end quote to develop the land. They do
- 3 not. They have an obligation to be good stewards of
- 4 the land, as were the people of the first nation of
- 5 these islands.
- 6 Like other proposed projects landowners have
- 7 used the LUC as a means to increase the value of the
- 8 land and in some cases to market the land to others.
- 9 Turtle Bay immediately comes to mind.
- No one owes landowners concessions or
- 11 privileges to enhance their portfolio. In fact it is
- 12 just the opposite. The landowner as a steward has an
- 13 obligation to the community to ensure that the people
- 14 benefit as good neighbors.
- I submitted to you that if this were truly
- 16 the case and efforts to mollify petitioners by so
- 17 called requirement to find quote, "a suitable
- 18 alternative on an acre-for-acre basis," end quote,
- 19 were eliminated and further that the social
- 20 consequences were openly and sincerely considered,
- 21 that this Commission would dutifully deny the
- 22 petitioners' request to forever extinguish productive
- 23 and profitable prime ag lands. Thank you very much.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner, questions for
- 25 the Senator?

- 1 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- 3 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 5 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? I'm sorry.
- 7 Mr. Yost?
- 8 MR. YOST: No questions. That's all right.
- 9 Don't forget Mr. Poirier.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Poirier?
- MR. POIRIER: No questions.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioner Contrades.
- 13 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Senator, thank you
- 14 for coming this morning.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 16 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: I have one question
- 17 and I also have one comment to make. In your
- 18 statement you said that there is an apparent school of
- 19 thought that it is fair enough to require the
- 20 petitioner to find and allocate replacement acreage as
- 21 a condition for the land use change from ag to urban.
- I just wanted to tell you I don't have that
- 23 same school of thought. I don't know where it came
- 24 from but I don't think that's something that I would
- 25 require.

- 1 THE WITNESS: I can tell you where it came
- 2 from if you wonder.
- 3 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: I wonder.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Department of Agriculture in
- 5 their written testimony in January 14, 2010 indicated
- 6 in writing as a condition of a land use designation
- 7 that they would, they would request of you, of your
- 8 Commission to require an acre-for-acre replacement. I
- 9 disagree with the Department of Ag.
- 10 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: So do I.
- 11 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 12 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: My question is
- 13 this: for example, you brought up Kapolei. The area
- 14 that we're looking at was set aside years ago to be
- 15 used for that Second City and everything. And, you
- 16 know, lots of people come and tell us that they like
- 17 the idea.
- 18 How do you expect us as Commissioners to
- 19 look upon people who come here and say, "You know, we
- 20 want this. The city says it's something that we
- 21 planned for."
- I know it's good ag land. But that's,
- 23 that's a really difficult situation for us to
- 24 consider.
- 25 THE WITNESS: It isn't to me, with all due

- 1 respect. Like you, we have people that come before
- 2 the Senate on any number of issues that testify on
- 3 both sides of the issue. If you ask me were I a
- 4 member of your Commission and how I would distinguish
- 5 the people that come before you, I would, I would --
- 6 it would not be difficult. The reason is because
- 7 prime, productive, profitable ag land is critical to
- 8 our mo'opuna going forward, whether they live on O'ahu
- 9 or on another island.
- 10 Secondly, I would look at the median price
- 11 of the units and try to distinguish whether your
- 12 mo'opuna or your children as single individuals might
- 13 have a choice -- or even as married -- might have a
- 14 choice to live in those units.
- Thirdly, with all due respect, I been down
- 16 there. And even if I could afford to live there I
- 17 would choose not to live there because, with all due
- 18 respect to the construction community and the
- 19 development community, that is not the kind of
- 20 lifestyle that I would want to live on, particularly
- 21 because you would have to paint your house or put a
- 22 flag up so you could distinguish your house from your
- 23 neighbors' because the vinyl fencing and everything
- 24 else looks like Bakersfield, California to me. It
- 25 would not be difficult for me.

- 1 What exacerbates the issue for me is were
- 2 the development to be taken on a C or D-zoned lands I
- 3 would not be here. I would not be here. I'm not here
- 4 to be against development. I'm here to protect prime
- 5 ag land, a commodity that's diminishing.
- 6 We're at the, in my opinion, a point of no
- 7 return of which you folks hold the decision of that
- 8 point. If we think of one generation forward and
- 9 close our eyes, what do we see?
- Traffic won't be any better, housing costs
- 11 won't be any lower and our kids will be moving to
- 12 places beyond Las Vegas because of the decisions we
- 13 make as policy-makers this year. That's why it's not
- 14 difficult for me.
- Prime ag land exacerbates the argument for
- 16 me.
- 17 COMMISSIONER CONTRADES: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other questions,
- 19 Commissioners? Senator, let me ask you a question. I
- 20 think I proposed and commented on it before during my
- 21 confirmation hearing.
- In 1982 the state Data Book said that only
- 23 5,000 acres was needed to provide enough food for the
- 24 people of the state of Hawai'i. Do you have any other
- 25 information how much land would be needed in prime ag

- 1 lands to feed the people of the state of Hawai'i?
- THE WITNESS: Mr. Chairman, with all due
- 3 respect 1982 was a generation ago.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Certainly.
- 5 THE WITNESS: I don't know what the
- 6 population and demographics have changed since then.
- 7 I am certain, as you and I are local born keiki o ka
- 8 'aina, that we never thought -- at least I never
- 9 thought I'd see the day where I would be outnumbered
- 10 by others born elsewhere. The demographics have
- 11 changed.
- 12 The suggestion that if we accept as fact
- 13 that 5,000 acres is all that is needed and go forward
- 14 with that mentality, it would suggest then that we
- 15 only should provide for what we -- assuming it's
- 16 accurate, was provided for the 1982 population.
- I would, I would humbly request of the
- 18 Commission to consider the opposite. That we should
- 19 produce and promote as much acreage as we can in
- 20 agriculture, that our children should be eating
- 21 locally grown foods.
- We, you and I, Mr. Chairman, grew up when
- 23 milk was not imported. We are now living in an island
- 24 state where more than 90 percent is imported. We are
- 25 now living in a time where Hawai'i is looking to

- 1 reduce its dependency on fossil fuels.
- 2 That can only in my opinion be accomplished
- 3 with better utilization of the land as a substitute
- 4 fuel for our mo'opuna going forward, not simply as
- 5 food for our people to eat.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you, Senator. And I
- 7 agree with you. I do know when you go back into
- 8 history that Hawai'i was a place where we grew crops
- 9 so that we could export. And about the only thing we
- 10 export now is sugarcane. And we're losing our
- 11 pineapple and everything else.
- 12 So I agree with you, we need to look at it
- 13 so that our families can have enough food and we can
- 14 do our own and we can again, once again, export.
- 15 Thank you for your comments.
- 16 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other -- Petitioners,
- 18 any questions?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Mr. Chairman.
- 22 Thank you, Mr. Davidson.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Appreciate you coming out
- 24 on your busy day. Next person Dave Arakawa followed
- 25 by Shaina Hunt.

1

DAVE ARAKAWA

- 2 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 3 and testified as follows:
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. Good morning Chair
- 5 Piltz, members of the State Land Use Commission. My
- 6 name is Dave Arakawa. I'm the executive director of
- 7 the Land Use Research Foundation of Hawai'i.
- 8 I'll try to speak slow for several reasons,
- 9 one of which this is a very interesting year for me.
- 10 First, a lot of firsts for me. This year I have been
- 11 practicing law for almost 30 years. This is the first
- 12 time that -- this year is the first time that I've
- 13 actually had agreement with the Sierra Club and Earth
- 14 Justice in a number of matters.
- 15 And also, although Senator Hee I consider
- 16 him a friend, this is the first time I agree with him
- 17 with respect to ag easements where Land Use Research
- 18 Foundation agrees with Senator Hee's opposition to the
- 19 ag easement proposal proposed by the Department of
- 20 Agriculture and Office of Planning.
- 21 Castle & Cooke is a member of LURF, but I'm
- 22 testifying today as a public witness regarding the
- 23 background and adoption of the Important Ag Lands
- 24 legislation in 2005 and 2008 which was consensus
- 25 based, comprehensive and consistent and which was

- 1 implemented through an open public process and
- 2 legislative hearings.
- 3 And it was a statewide law as opposed to the
- 4 proposal by Department of Agriculture and Office of
- 5 Planning to mandate a one-for-one ag easement as a
- 6 condition for the redesignation of agricultural land
- 7 to the urban district, which is an unwritten policy
- 8 that lacks consensus among the ag stakeholders, is not
- 9 consistent with efforts to promote agricultural
- 10 viability, and did not include public input.
- 11 Furthermore, it only applies to O'ahu and
- 12 was never approved by the Legislature.
- 13 I have eight points. I'll try to go through
- 14 them quickly. You folks have my testimony. The first
- 15 is regarding the constitutional mandate, a seed issue.
- The process and the method the Hawai'i
- 17 Constitution requires or envisions to protect ag lands
- 18 is through the legislative process, not an ad hoc
- 19 unwritten policy and not through a state commission.
- You'll see at the bottom of Page 1 and the
- 21 top of Page 2 in our testimony the constitution
- 22 provides that the Legislature shall provide standards
- 23 and criteria to accomplish the constitutional mandate
- 24 to preserve and protect ag lands.
- The second issue is criteria. The use of

- 1 standards and criteria. The second bullet point on
- 2 the top on Page 2 confirms -- is from the constitution
- 3 and it talks about the standards and criteria
- 4 established by the Legislature and approved by two-
- 5 thirds vote of the bodies responsible for
- 6 reclassification or rezoning action, which is you
- 7 folks. It talks about standards and criteria. That's
- 8 what the IAL law is based on and what it includes.
- 9 The proposed ag easement does not include
- 10 specific standards and criteria to be judged like the
- 11 IAL law.
- 12 The third issue is consensus and is probably
- 13 the most important thing about the IAL laws, is that
- 14 they were based on the consensus of agriculture
- 15 stakeholders, Farm Bureau, Department of Agriculture,
- 16 CTAR at the University of Hawai'i, a number of ag
- 17 stakeholders, including farmers, supported the IAL
- 18 law, over five years of multiple opportunities for
- 19 public input through that legislative process. And
- 20 that was not done with respect to the proposed ag
- 21 easement.
- 22 Four. That this is a new paradigm. And I
- 23 think you folks already have that information in my,
- 24 in our testimony that's attached. It's a letter from
- 25 the Farm Bureau and LURF to the legislators during

- 1 conference committee before the IAL law was passed in
- 2 2008.
- 3 You folks also -- we also did a prep on the
- 4 IAL with the Farm Bureau before the State Land Use
- 5 Commission in January 2009. Hopefully you folks can
- 6 refer to that for this new paradigm. IAL is not about
- 7 supporting farmers -- excuse me. IAL is all about
- 8 supporting farmers, agriculture and viable
- 9 agricultural operations.
- 10 IAL is not about land use. It's not about
- 11 which lands or soils are better for farming versus
- 12 development.
- 13 And this new paradigm is explained both in
- 14 the letter to the legislators and in the IAL law that
- 15 was passed in 2008.
- 16 Fifth is the consistency issue of the IAL
- 17 law. It's consistently applied to all islands and all
- 18 owners. The proposed ag easement is only implemented,
- 19 proposed to be implemented on O'ahu.
- When you ask: What about Maui? We don't
- 21 know. What about Kauai? We don't know. What about
- 22 Big Island? We don't know.
- The IAL law is consistently applied to all
- 24 islands. And you know what? To all ag lands owners.
- 25 It's applied to all ag lands owners.

- 1 Whereas this ag easement, proposed ag
- 2 easement, the only person it applies to -- the only
- 3 people it applies to are people who come before you
- 4 folks at the Land Use Commission. That's the proposal
- 5 anyway.
- 6 The sixth issue -- almost pau -- the IAL law
- 7 is comprehensive. Okay. Includes benefits and
- 8 incentives to assure both dedication of IAL lands for
- 9 preservation of IAL lands and also viable agricultural
- 10 operations because it includes tax benefits and things
- 11 of that nature.
- 12 Seventh. The mandatory ag easement, the
- 13 proposed mandatory ag easement is inconsistent with
- 14 the IAL policies, procedures and the law.
- 15 And eighth and last, you know, this ag
- 16 easement issue could be -- could be, there's a
- 17 possibility that it could be approved by the
- 18 Legislature. I don't know whether it'd get out of
- 19 Senator Hee's committee or not, but it's a
- 20 possibility.
- 21 And this idea if it is so important to the
- 22 Department of Agriculture, if it is so important to
- 23 the Office of Planning, it should be vetted and it
- 24 should go through the hearing process, the public
- 25 hearing process and go through the Legislature instead

- 1 of being imposed on an ad hoc basis through an
- 2 unwritten policy at this Commission.
- 3 So we would respectfully ask you folks not
- 4 to implement that ag easement idea. Thank you very
- 5 much.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner, questions?
- 7 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- 9 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yee?
- 11 MR. YEE: Thank you. First, would you agree
- 12 with me that there's nothing in the constitution or
- 13 law that says that the only method of protecting or
- 14 preserving an agricultural land base is through the
- 15 IAL?
- 16 THE WITNESS: One more time?
- MR. YEE: Would you agree there's nothing in
- 18 either the constitution or the law that says that the
- 19 only method for protecting agricultural land is
- 20 through the IAL?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Yes, I would agree. I would
- 22 agree with that.
- 23 MR. YEE: So IAL is certainly one method to
- 24 protect an agricultural land base but it's not the
- 25 only one, correct?

- 1 THE WITNESS: It's a method that's supported
- 2 by the constitution and passed by the Legislature
- 3 specifically identified, by the constitution. I'm not
- 4 sure. Is ag easements -- are ag easements mentioned
- 5 in the constitution or in the law?
- 6 MR. YEE: Would you agree that there's a
- 7 compelling state interest to preserving or in
- 8 conserving the state's agricultural land resource
- 9 base?
- 10 THE WITNESS: We would -- we would agree to
- 11 that. I'm not sure if the state of Hawai'i implements
- 12 that on a consistent basis when they turn our ag lands
- 13 into -- they turn their ag lands urban communities or
- 14 when they don't develop the ag lands they already
- 15 have.
- MR. YEE: Would you also agree that there's
- 17 a compelling state interest in assuring the long-term
- 18 availability of agricultural lands for agricultural
- 19 use?
- THE WITNESS: Through the IAL law. That's
- 21 the law that implements that.
- MR. YEE: But there are other means of
- 23 achieving this compelling state interest, correct?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Like what?
- 25 MR. YEE: Oh, I'm asking you. Do you

- 1 believe that there are --
- THE WITNESS: I don't know of any other.
- 3 MR. YEE: You don't know of any other means
- 4 of preserving --
- 5 THE WITNESS: I don't know any other, um --
- 6 I think in 2003 all of the ag stakeholders including
- 7 the Department of Agriculture got together, made a
- 8 list of goals, incentives and ways to preserve and
- 9 protect ag and support viable agriculture. And I
- 10 didn't see ag easements on that list. Did you?
- 11 MR. YEE: And so then -- but there are other
- 12 means than the IAL law, correct? That's what your
- 13 first answer was, that the IAL is not the only means
- 14 of preserving an agricultural land base.
- 15 THE WITNESS: That's the only way that the
- 16 state is implementing it right now. That's the only
- 17 way that I know of right now. There could be, could
- 18 be other means. I don't know.
- MR. YEE: Would another means be simply
- 20 denial of this petition?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Denial of the petition would
- 22 be what?
- MR. YEE: If there was an interest in
- 24 preserving an agricultural land base, one means of
- 25 doing that would be to deny this petition, correct?

- 1 THE WITNESS: You know, preserving an
- 2 agricultural land base is not what is called for under
- 3 the constitution. It's production, sustainability,
- 4 it's viable agriculture.
- 5 So it's just like -- um, I guess what it is
- 6 it's just like you build a garage and you say, "Okay.
- 7 A car is gonna appear in that garage." You don't help
- 8 it at all. You don't give it tax benefits.
- 9 You're just saying, "Okay. Reserve this
- 10 garage here or reserve the property next door to me.
- 11 And then some day my son or my daughter will magically
- 12 build a house on that."
- 13 You know, it doesn't work like that. You
- 14 talk to farmers, it doesn't work like that. You need,
- 15 water, right? You need financial support. You need
- 16 processing facilities.
- 17 So just preserving ag -- that's the whole
- 18 paradigm. That's the whole new paradigm. That's the
- 19 whole reason for the IAL law.
- 20 What you're talking about is old school,
- 21 perhaps. And you know what? Really what you're
- 22 talking about should be vetted through the
- 23 Legislature. Everything what you say should take it
- 24 to the Legislature and have it out over there.
- MR. YEE: Because you think ag easements are

- 1 really too much to expect from a landowner.
- THE WITNESS: I think ag easements don't do
- 3 it. The entire ag stakeholder community from 2003 to
- 4 2008, even to this day, have never identified ag
- 5 easements. So all of those people are wrong and
- 6 you're right? I don't know.
- 7 MR. YEE: So your position would be grant
- 8 this petition without ag easements.
- 9 THE WITNESS: That's not my position.
- 10 MR. YEE: Okay.
- 11 THE WITNESS: My position --
- MR. YEE: You don't have a position whether
- 13 or not to grant.
- 14 THE WITNESS: No.
- MR. YEE: Okay.
- 16 THE WITNESS: My position is that something
- 17 as important as the issue that OP and Department of
- 18 Agriculture raise should be sent through the
- 19 Legislature and should not be imposed on an ad hoc
- 20 basis through an unwritten policy with no criteria, no
- 21 standards.
- MR. YEE: So just to be clear, you don't
- 23 have a position on whether or not to grant or deny the
- 24 petition. You just don't think a condition should
- 25 include agricultural easements?

- 1 THE WITNESS: I think I answered that
- 2 question. Our position is that agricultural
- 3 easements -- I'm not testifying in favor or against
- 4 the petition.
- 5 MR. YEE: You're just opposed to
- 6 agricultural easements.
- 7 THE WITNESS: We're saying -- no, I didn't
- 8 say we're necessarily opposed to ag easements period.
- 9 I said something as that concept should go through the
- 10 Legislature rather than an ad hoc -- and, you know,
- 11 the whole basis of this are off-the-record
- 12 conversations between the Department of Agriculture
- 13 and OP.
- I don't want to say they're secret. But
- 15 they're not open to the public. So is that what you
- 16 folks stand for? Implement a policy excuse me...
- 17 sorry. Sometimes the Waipahu comes out. (Laughter).
- 18 MR. YEE: It's okay. So all you're really
- 19 saying at this point is you don't want this Commission
- 20 to impose agricultural easements, but you agree that
- 21 that's an idea that's appropriately discussed and
- 22 vetted in another forum.
- THE WITNESS: Correct.
- MR. YEE: Okay. I have nothing further.
- MR. YOST: I have a few questions, Chair.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Go ahead.
- 2 MR. YOST: Thank you. First, I'd just like
- 3 to clarify, Mr. Arakawa, who are you testifying for
- 4 today? You've mentioned a number of times "our" and
- 5 "we". Are you testifying on behalf of your
- 6 organization LURF?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes, Land Use Research
- 8 Foundation.
- 9 MR. YOST: Okay. And Castle & Cooke you
- 10 mentioned is a member of your organization, correct?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 12 MR. YOST: Castle & Cooke supports the
- 13 positions that you're taking today, correct?
- 14 THE WITNESS: I would think so because the
- 15 LURF members support my testimony.
- MR. YOST: Right. So you're here
- 17 essentially as a Castle & Cooke witness, correct?
- 18 THE WITNESS: I signed up as a public
- 19 witness. They don't tell me what to say. I'm not
- 20 sup -- on the record supporting their petition.
- 21 MR. YOST: You're here supporting their
- 22 position, though, correct? That's what you just said
- 23 a moment ago.
- 24 THE WITNESS: No. We're not here supporting
- 25 their petition. We're not supporting their petition.

- 1 I answered that before. All we're doing is saying,
- 2 gee whiz, gee -- I'm so sorry if it doesn't -- all
- 3 we're saying is gee whiz. This seems like such an
- 4 important issue we were involved in IAL law passage
- 5 with all the other ag stakeholders.
- 6 And gee whiz. This idea, if it floats, if
- 7 it flies is so important to the Department of
- 8 Agriculture and OP, why don't they just take it to the
- 9 Legislature? Gee whiz. I mean that's what we're
- 10 saying.
- MR. YOST: What is the fundamental purpose
- 12 of the IAL legislation?
- 13 THE WITNESS: It's in the law. And it is to
- 14 support agriculture. It's in the IAL law. It's in
- 15 the constitution.
- 16 MR. YOST: Isn't it more specifically to
- 17 preserve and promote the preservation of prime ag
- 18 lands in Hawai'i?
- 19 THE WITNESS: Exactly.
- MR. YOST: That's the purpose, correct?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- MR. YOST: Are you aware that the land at
- 23 issue in this petition would meet the criteria for
- 24 prime ag land under the IAL statute?
- THE WITNESS: I don't know that.

- 1 MR. YOST: Okay. Well, I'll represent to
- 2 you -- let's assume that it will meet the criteria.
- 3 If the Commission -- well, first of all, you're not
- 4 aware of any requests by Castle & Cooke to designate
- 5 the land that's involved in this petition as IAL land,
- 6 are you? They haven't done that, right? They're
- 7 asking to reclassify, not to --
- 8 THE WITNESS: You know what? I'm, I'm only
- 9 here. I don't know any of that. I'm here just to say
- 10 gee whiz. This is such an important issue it should
- 11 be before the Legislature. It's a simple issue. And
- 12 it shouldn't be discussed in secret and imposed on an
- 13 ad hoc basis. That's all we're saying.
- 14 MR. YOST: My question to you is: Given that
- 15 the Petitioner, Castle & Cooke, is asking for this
- 16 land to be reclassified as urban use land not
- 17 preserved as IAL land, the purpose of the IAL statute
- 18 is not being -- is not being accomplished in this
- 19 proceeding, is it?
- 20 THE WITNESS: I don't -- I don't understand
- 21 your -- I don't know enough about the petition to be
- 22 able to answer that.
- 23 MR. YOST: If the ag land in this petition
- 24 is paved over forever, will it be preserved as
- 25 important ag land?

- 1 THE WITNESS: Obviously not.
- 2 MR. YOST: Thank you. No further questions.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 4 questions? Thank you. We have Shaina Hunt. After
- 5 that were going to have -- Mr. Poirier has some
- 6 elected officials that we'd like to hear from before
- 7 it's too late and they have to go back.
- 8 SHAINA HUNT
- 9 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 10 and testified as follows:
- 11 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 13 for the record.
- 14 THE WITNESS: My name is Shaina Hunt. And
- 15 my address is 99-228 Keonekapu Place.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Aloha. My name is Shaina
- 18 Kaleiwa Hunt. I have here with me petitions against
- 19 the proposed Koa Ridge Project.
- The Petition against the proposed Koa Ridge
- 21 was an initiative organized by a group of Native
- 22 Hawaiian students from UH Manoa and Leeward Community
- 23 College.
- I'm one of the founders of the petition
- 25 along with Zia Aki and Brandy Haiden who are in

- 1 Tucson, Arizona at the Native American Indigenous
- 2 Studies Association Conference speaking on
- 3 sustainability in Hawai'i.
- 4 A couple of Native Hawaiian students were
- 5 able to collect 220 signatures over a couple of days
- 6 against the proposed Koa Ridge Project. I'm against
- 7 the proposed Koa Ridge Project because it calls for
- 8 the rezoning of the agricultural lands to urban lands.
- 9 These agricultural lands contain some of the
- 10 best soil in Hawai'i and should be used for farming,
- 11 not for building houses.
- 12 Once the building begins it is almost
- 13 impossible to get that nutrient-rich soil back. And
- 14 it will never be grade A or B soil ever again, prime
- 15 ag land.
- Not too long ago Hawai'i's sustainability
- 17 was 100 percent. Now it is down to only 10 percent.
- 18 We only produce 10 percent of the food that we eat
- 19 here in Hawai'i.
- 20 A majority of our food comes in on ships and
- 21 if those ships should stop coming we would be in a lot
- 22 of trouble because we only have enough food to sustain
- 23 us for two weeks at most.
- 24 Overdevelopment is preventing us from having
- 25 the ability to sustain ourselves. Sustainability

- 1 means having the resources to fulfill all of our
- 2 necessities now and for the future generations to
- 3 come.
- 4 By rezoning agricultural lands to urban land
- 5 we are limiting our food security. Now, food security
- 6 is essential because everyone eats food and people
- 7 cannot eat healthy. The less food security we have
- 8 the less chance we have for survival when a disaster
- 9 presents itself.
- 10 My values as a Native Hawaiian are malama
- 11 'aina, aloha 'aina, and malama pono. These very
- 12 values mean to care for and love the land.
- 13 Hawaiians having the most functional system
- 14 of living farming from mauka to makai were the model
- 15 of sustainability. All necessities were provided:
- 16 Food, shelter, clothing, medicine.
- Our kupuna knew that it was very essential
- 18 to love and care for the land because it was there for
- 19 us to cultivate and would provide everything we need
- 20 to live and prosper.
- 21 If we look today at what we have left we
- 22 would see we have many diseased wounds that may never
- 23 be able to heal because they, the land has been
- 24 greatly devastates and overdeveloped.
- 25 Somewhere along the line we forget how to

- 1 love and care for what is essential to our
- 2 sustainability and our living. We forgot about 'aina
- 3 and how we must care for it as it cares for us. 'Aina
- 4 has always provided for us all of our necessities. We
- 5 must give back and fight for 'aina to survive.
- 6 Because if 'aina does not prosper then neither will
- 7 we. Therefore, overdevelopment is only further
- 8 devastating the land and our ability to provide for
- 9 the people of Hawai'i.
- 10 The proposed Koa Ridge Project is
- 11 contributing to the further desolation and depravation
- 12 of our land and its ability to care for us. Thank
- 13 you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Questions by
- 15 Petitioner?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions, Mr. Chair?
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yee?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost?
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- MR. POIRIER: (Shaking head)
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 25 questions? Thank you. Mr. Poirier, do you have some

- 1 elected officials that you want to call?
- 2 MR. POIRIER: Yes. Thank you. We would
- 3 like to present three of our elected officials that
- 4 live in the area. The first one is Senator Michelle
- 5 Kidani.
- 6 SENATOR MICHELLE KIDANI
- 7 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 8 and testified as follows:
- 9 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 11 for the record.
- 12 THE WITNESS: Aloha. I'm Senator Michelle
- 13 Kidani. 415 South Beretania Street, State Capitol.
- 14 I'm here as a witness for Neighborhood Board No. 25 at
- 15 their request. I have lived in the community of
- 16 Mililani for 36 years. I represent the Mililani,
- 17 Mililani Mauka and Waipio Gentry districts.
- 18 And I must tell you upfront that this
- 19 community is divided on this issue. So I'm not here
- 20 as an opponent of the Project. I'm here because the
- 21 Neighborhood Board has asked me to be here.
- 22 And 36 years ago when I first moved to
- 23 Mililani, a community of 16,000 homes, the only way to
- 24 get to Mililani was through Kamehameha Highway.
- In the 40 years that Mililani has been built

- 1 up we have since added the H-2. Those who live in the
- 2 mauka area will tell you that in the morning traffic
- 3 can be a nightmare because there is only one way in
- 4 and out.
- 5 So my concern for my district is
- 6 transportation issues. Had not the H-2 been built we
- 7 would still be using a two-lane Kamehameha Highway.
- 8 You can imagine what the traffic would be like with
- 9 the additional 40, 50,000 people now living in
- 10 Mililani.
- 11 The combined Project of Koa Ridge and Gentry
- 12 Waiawa would basically put another Mililani in Central
- 13 O'ahu. So I'm just asking you to keep in mind the
- 14 transportation issues.
- 15 The other issues of concern to Neighborhood
- 16 Board 25 are the educational facilities issue. And as
- 17 a new member of the State Senate I can tell you that
- 18 it is really up to the DOE and the BOE, when they come
- 19 before us, to request facilities to be built and when
- 20 they request teachers for those facilities.
- 21 And a case in point would be that Castle &
- 22 Cooke early on in their development had set aside a
- 23 middle school site in lower Mililani which the DOE
- 24 chose not to use. After about 10 or 12 years the land
- 25 went back to Castle & Cooke and a town home project

- 1 was put on the site.
- 2 So while there are some things that are not
- 3 within their control, there's still a concern by the
- 4 community that we will not have the educational
- 5 facilities needed for the residents who move into the
- 6 community and, of course, transportation issues.
- 7 I thank you for the opportunity to testify.
- 8 I recognize that you guys have a difficult decision to
- 9 balance need for affordable housing as well as the
- 10 need to keep agricultural land, prime ag land, in use
- 11 for our sustainability, our future sustainability.
- 12 Thank you very much.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner, questions?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yee?
- 18 MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, questions?
- 21 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: I wasn't clear. I
- 22 know you're not opposing the Project. But are you in
- 23 favor of the Project? Are you taking any position one
- 24 way or the other?
- 25 THE WITNESS: I believe that we need

- 1 affordable housing, but I would also like to put this
- 2 to the developer that should this Project be approved,
- 3 that they look at ways to, to use more greening
- 4 efforts and be -- you know, they have been a good
- 5 developer in the Mililani area.
- I will grant them that. But we are in a
- 7 different age. And we need to look to be more
- 8 environmental conscious about what we build. And I
- 9 would put this to the developer to be that role model
- 10 for us.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. All right.
- 12 Thank you.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 14 MR. POIRIER: Our next witness is
- 15 representative Marilyn Lee.
- 16 REPRESENTATIVE MARILYN LEE,
- 17 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 18 and testified as follows:
- 19 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address
- 21 for the record and proceed.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Good morning. My name is
- 23 Marilyn Lee. I live at 95-170 Naiwai Place, Mililani
- 24 Hawai'i 96789. I have been a Mililani resident for 30
- 25 years and I live in one of the original model homes

- 1 created by Castle & Cooke in 1975.
- 2 I've served in the State Legislature for 14
- 3 years and I'm a former chair of Neighborhood Board 25.
- 4 Mililani's a special community. And the
- 5 developer's to be congratulated for the success of the
- 6 planned community which has replaced many of the
- 7 pineapple fields which once covered Central O'ahu.
- 8 As we consider the proposed Koa Ridge
- 9 development, my concerns are primarily those of
- 10 traffic and educational facilities. Traffic is the
- 11 number one concern of my constituents. Rush hour
- 12 traffic in and out of Mililani Mauka is a constant
- 13 challenge for commuters and is a safety concern
- 14 because of only one exit in and out.
- The middle school location in mauka
- 16 compounds the traffic situation, and the unsafe
- 17 conditions for walking to school from mauka for some
- 18 to drive or be driven to school. As someone who was
- 19 involved when Mililani Mauka was improved, I wish I
- 20 could go back to those times to insist that a second
- 21 exit be a requirement for the development. And that's
- 22 one of the reasons I'm here.
- In the case of Koa Ridge Project I feel an
- 24 exit on Kam Highway is an essential condition that
- 25 should be met now.

- 1 As far as educational facilities, it would
- 2 be a good idea for the Commission to authorize a fund
- 3 to mitigate impacts that will occur for students
- 4 living in Koa Ridge but attending school a community
- 5 away.
- 6 The overcrowding in Mililani schools is just
- 7 beginning to come under control. That's after 40
- 8 years. Think of the children who have had to endure
- 9 the heat and noise of the oldtime portables because
- 10 the state just did not have the resources to build
- 11 large enough facilities.
- 12 With the shortage of revenues for bus
- 13 transportation as well as increasing costs this need
- 14 must be met from somewhere. No doubt the traffic will
- 15 increase when this Project is completed. I continue
- 16 to dream that some day transit will extend to Central
- 17 O'ahu.
- 18 We can, at the very least, plan for bus
- 19 transportation and safe bike paths from Mililani to
- 20 the regional park and back.
- 21 The plans for a hospital and long-term care
- 22 facility are good ones, and if achieved will
- 23 complement Mililani. Koa Ridge will create some much
- 24 needed jobs for the construction industry. That's
- 25 certain. However, I believe the state Office of

- 1 Planning should be putting forth more concrete plans
- 2 to deal with the situation that thousands of new homes
- 3 will create.
- 4 The development, after all, will become the
- 5 home for many of those who build it. And it should be
- 6 built for the future. Thank you for the opportunity
- 7 to present testimony. Thank you.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- 9 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yee?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 16 questions? Thank you.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Your next witness.
- 19 MR. POIRIER: Yes. Our final witness is
- 20 Representative Ryan Yamane.
- 21 REPRESENTATIVE RYAN YAMANE
- 22 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 23 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I do. So help me, God.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State your name and address

- 1 for the record.
- THE WITNESS: My name is Ryan Yamane,
- 3 representative for District 37. My address is 94-1466
- 4 Ukupu Street. I live probably less than a minute
- 5 drive from the proposed site. I live within the
- 6 district of the proposed Koa Ridge Project.
- 7 I'm here on behalf of the Neighborhood Board
- 8 and my constituents to express similar concerns that
- 9 the Senator as well as Representative Lee has
- 10 expressed regarding the proposed area which is traffic
- 11 and its impact on H-1/H-2 merge, as well as those
- 12 educational issues regarding having facilities up and
- 13 ready as families move in.
- I understand that you guys have a very
- 15 difficult choice in front of you balancing the issue
- 16 of employment and affordable housing versus the use of
- 17 prime ag land.
- 18 You know, I do want you to know that over
- 19 the past several years I have been in the Legislature
- 20 since 2004. We met repeatedly both with the
- 21 Department of Education, Department of Transportation
- 22 as well as the developer, Castle & Cooke, to look at
- 23 how to mitigate potential issues with the Koa Ridge
- 24 Project.
- I do want you to know that I also met with

- 1 the property owners of the Gentry Waiawa project which
- 2 is no longer Gentry Waiawa, returned back to
- 3 Kamehameha Schools, and also have talked to them as
- 4 well as seen the lands in question which is already
- 5 proposed for potential housing.
- 6 Again, would like to really reiterate the
- 7 issue of the impacts of H-1/H-2 merge. I do want to
- 8 note that the State Department of Transportation, when
- 9 given the opportunity to do a full traffic study,
- 10 declined to use \$1 million, which was appropriated to
- 11 them to do a full traffic study that would look at not
- 12 only H-1/H-2 merge but also Kamehameha Highway.
- Before you, as you consider this Project and
- 14 move forward, please note that this Project is between
- 15 the current Mililani site as well as the Gentry.
- 16 There are valid concerns regarding the potential
- 17 impacts of additional vehicles on our roads.
- 18 However, you know, before you we're looking
- 19 at planning for 10, 20, a hundred years out. So,
- 20 again, would like to just express and reiterate the
- 21 concerns discussed by colleagues. Thank you.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.

- 1 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 3 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 4 BY YOST:
- 5 Q Thank you. You just mentioned that a
- 6 million dollars was appropriated.
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q For the purpose of allowing DOT to do a full
- 9 traffic study?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 O And that would have included an
- 12 understanding of how proposed developments would
- 13 affect the H-1/H-2 merge?
- 14 A Proposed developments as well as current
- 15 infrastructure and any other traffic alternatives that
- 16 would have been viable, including widening Kamehameha
- 17 Highway or any additional future planning.
- 18 Q Okay. Did they give a reason as to why they
- 19 turned down the million dollars appropriation?
- 20 A The Director Brennon felt that -- they felt
- 21 that the process in which the developer would go
- 22 through would be looking into that and that should not
- 23 be using state resources to look at planning for that.
- 24 Again, we disagreed. The Legislature did
- 25 disagree. We had full support of legislators that

- 1 went out towards North Shore as well as the Waianae
- 2 Coast, all supportive of the need to look at this.
- 3 However, the money was never expended by this
- 4 administration.
- 5 Q Are you aware that in the documents
- 6 presented by the Petitioner in this proceeding did not
- 7 do a full traffic study but instead only studied a
- 8 segment of H-2?
- 9 A My understanding is in past discussions that
- 10 they were required to do a study as proposed by the
- 11 requirements of this process. I am not sure if that
- 12 included the H-1/H-2 merge.
- However, again, we talk about the H-1/H-2
- 14 merge, which is a major junction. It falls under
- 15 state highway. Again, my view is that that would have
- 16 been the requirement of the State Department of
- 17 Transportation. There was no excuse for them not
- 18 planning ahead.
- 19 Q Okay. So do you think it would have been
- 20 helpful in this proceeding to have a study that
- 21 included an analysis of the effects of this
- 22 development on the H-1/H-2 merge?
- 23 A Actually I think that an analysis of H-1/H-2
- 24 merge would have helped this committee in future
- 25 discussion of any project towards Kapolei and towards

- 1 the North Shore.
- 2 However, again, questions regarding the
- 3 value and the need for that has to be sent to the
- 4 Department of Transportation.
- 5 MR. YOST: Thank you very much.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, any
- 7 questions? Vlad, go ahead.
- 8 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: You know, the
- 9 Petitioner has presented evidence and traffic studies
- 10 and experts on that issue of traffic and the impacts.
- 11 The evidence suggests that it's not going to have that
- 12 much of an impact on the travel time going up to a
- 13 certain point in Pearl City.
- 14 I know the assumptions weren't real clear to
- 15 me at least as to what was put into the formulas and
- 16 so on. But that's the evidence we have so far with
- 17 some examination of the witness that occurred. But if
- 18 the state isn't willing to bring the other side
- 19 forward with the studies, how do you propose we view
- 20 the evidence?
- 21 I may have my own questions in my mind about
- 22 the validity of the evidence so far. And I think we
- 23 can take judicial notice of the present conditions out
- 24 there which we all know are not very good.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Right.

- 1 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: But how do we look at
- 2 the evidence when we don't have that counter-point,
- 3 you know, if the state's not willing to do the study
- 4 to tell us whether or not Petitioner's information is
- 5 accurate or not?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Thank you, Commissioner, for
- 7 the question. Again, I'm not a lawyer or a developer.
- 8 I'm a social worker so please temper my response to
- 9 that. Okay. So I want us to feel good about it
- 10 versus... (Laughter)
- 11 The issue I think -- I have two parts to my
- 12 response. First, I don't think it's fair to penalize
- 13 the developer or any developer for the faults or the
- 14 misguidance of a state department or their lack of
- 15 follow through on their planning, if it's Department
- 16 of Transportation, DOE, Department of Land and Natural
- 17 Resources.
- 18 If they have been given the opportunity and
- 19 fail to look at that or plan ahead, that should not be
- 20 held the responsibility of an individual developer or
- 21 company.
- 22 With that being said, it is naive to think
- 23 that any type of devel -- any additional home will not
- 24 have an impact of more vehicles on the side of the
- 25 road.

- 1 It's very difficult for me to talk to you
- 2 about that because I'm unsure if there are alternative
- 3 mitigations to that merge from H-2 to H-1.
- 4 Right now there's two lanes. I know
- 5 previously in informal discussions the issue could
- 6 that be widened to three lanes. All those
- 7 alternatives, again, were not fully vetted out.
- 8 Again, that's the responsibility, for me, as the
- 9 Department of Transportation.
- 10 I hear you regarding evidence. You know, if
- 11 there is insufficient evidence that's not clarified
- 12 and you want clarity, I think as a Commissioner you
- 13 can ask that both from the Petitioner as well as those
- 14 that may have contradictory positions on what their
- 15 assessments are.
- 16 Again, I'm not an expert. I do think
- 17 there's going to be some impact. The question is is
- 18 there a systematic plan to address that? And I'm not
- 19 confident that the Department of Transportation has
- 20 looked at that.
- 21 However, your Commission can't force that.
- 22 Obviously we at the Legislature can't force that as
- 23 well. So I think that's a policy issue that we have
- 24 to look forward.
- 25 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: I appreciate the

- 1 response. I don't think anyone on the Commission is
- 2 looking to penalize the Petitioner in any way for
- 3 information that they simply may not have or the state
- 4 can't provide to us.
- 5 On the other hand, do you have any serious
- 6 concerns about the completeness or the accuracy of the
- 7 traffic impact analysis that the Petitioner has
- 8 presented?
- 9 THE WITNESS: I have not gone through it
- 10 fully. Again, my discussions with them has been the
- 11 development of the Project for the last six years. I
- 12 know there's a request by the Neighborhood Board to
- 13 add a Kamehameha access point, a second access point.
- 14 There's validity with that.
- 15 For example, years back in Pacific Palisades
- 16 there was a shooting. I'm not sure if you remember.
- 17 People, they closed off that one access point so
- 18 people had difficulty going in and out. However, the
- 19 issue is safety.
- 20 And off Kamehameha Highway if there's valid
- 21 concerns, I think that needs to be addressed and
- 22 should be presented to you on response by Department
- 23 of Transportation.
- 24 With that being said I'm not a traffic
- 25 expert, um, and I would say I would have to leave that

- 1 to the engineers.
- 2 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: Unfortunately neither
- 3 are any of us on the Commission. And I thank you for
- 4 your testimony.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much for your
- 6 time.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other questions,
- 8 Commissioners? Thank you. We're going back to the
- 9 next person to testify to Karla Noa followed by Elaine
- 10 Kam.
- 11 KARLA NOA
- 12 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 13 and testified as follows:
- 14 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address for the
- 16 record.
- 17 THE WITNESS: My name a Karla Noa. I live
- 18 at 89-989 Nanakuli Avenue. And I'm here to talk about
- 19 the Koa Ridge Project. Someone mentioned earlier
- 20 about petitions?
- 21 And I'm here to turn in those petitions as
- 22 well. I was one of the people, one of the students
- 23 who assisted in helping for petitions. So I'll be
- 24 turning that in today.
- I oppose this Koa Ridge Project because it

- 1 calls for rezoning of agricultural land to urban land.
- 2 Many decades ago this land was used for growing of dry
- 3 kalo, uala, lahi, or a type of sugarcane, just to name
- 4 a few.
- 5 Food security is vital and essential.
- 6 Development on this land would -- on this land at this
- 7 time would -- food security would not happen at all.
- 8 As mentioned before, in 1982 5,000 acres of food was
- 9 provided at this 'aina for the state of Hawai'i. I
- 10 really don't want this to happen at all.
- I kind of, like, want it to go back to
- 12 agriculture sustainability. Just as I mentioned
- 13 before, my family practices farming and culturally.
- 14 That's all. Mahalo.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Poirier is not here.
- 23 Commissioners, any questions? Thank you. We have
- 24 next person is Elaine Kam followed by Kevin Killeen.
- 25 ELAINE KAM

- 1 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 2 and testified as follows:
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Please state your name and
- 5 address for the record.
- 6 THE WITNESS: My name is Elaine Kam. My
- 7 post office box is 10102 Honolulu, 96816. Chairman
- 8 Piltz, and members of the State Land Use Commission,
- 9 I'm a mother, grandmother and 76 year-old resident of
- 10 Hawai'i. And I have a passion for eating healthy,
- 11 whole foods and serving that to my family. And I'm
- 12 also a great believer in our sustainability for our
- 13 islands.
- 14 I strongly urge you to keep Koa Ridge zoned
- 15 for agriculture so our farmers can grow and market
- 16 their crops. I believe that a percentage of land
- 17 should be designated for agricultural use throughout
- 18 our island.
- 19 Several years ago I learned the concept of
- 20 the Hawaiian word ahupua'a. To live in a good
- 21 ahupua'a site in Hawai'i was to live where you had
- 22 access to clean drinking water, a fishing area and a
- 23 farming area to grow your own food.
- It's important that farmers have land
- 25 designated for agriculture so they could grow food for

- 1 themselves and the local people. Local farmers are
- 2 very important to our health and well-being.
- We need to encourage their noble farming
- 4 profession and often risky efforts. If all good
- 5 things come to an end, we will some day be without
- 6 imported food. Please consider our people and their
- 7 need for fresh, local produce.
- 8 Once the land is rezoned from ag to urban
- 9 where will those farmers go? There is so little land
- 10 they could use. Where will we now get our fresh
- 11 produce? Will we ever be able to undue this great
- 12 zoning mistake, which I think is a mistake? Not
- 13 likely.
- More than 33,000 houses are destined to be
- 15 built on the 'Ewa Plain and 12,000 more in Waiawa.
- 16 Isn't that enough? To achieve our necessary goal we
- 17 need to stop depending upon the farmers in California,
- 18 New Zealand and Mexico to grow our food for us. We
- 19 need to provide land for farmers, our farmers to grow
- 20 food locally.
- 21 In summary, I strongly urge you to remember
- 22 the priority and goal of our state to be
- 23 self-sustaining. It is important for both our farmers
- 24 and consumers, our future and our present to keep land
- 25 such as Koa Ridge zoned for ag. Please vote yes to

- 1 keep Koa Ridge zoned for ag and no for developing more
- 2 urban houses. Thank you.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions, Petitioner?
- 4 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- 6 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 7 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Anything from
- 9 Commissioners? Thank you. Next person we have Kevin
- 10 Killeen. Next person following Kevin will be Dwight
- 11 Synan.
- 12 KEVIN KILLEEN
- 13 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 14 and testified as follows:
- 15 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Your name and address.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Kevin Killeen. My mailing
- 18 address is 1750 Kalakaua, 96826. Other testifiers
- 19 spoke about the agriculture sustainability. There's
- 20 also a sustainability component here.
- 21 For biofuel you need feedstock from
- 22 agriculture. And Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative will
- 23 fail without enough agricultural lands. So if you do
- 24 rezone this I think you do need to set aside
- 25 agricultural lands someplace else.

- 1 The United States spends, like, a billion
- 2 dollars a day on petroleum. Lots of it goes to the
- 3 countries that don't like us very much, to use a
- 4 cliché. The company that wants to develop wants to do
- 5 wind farms so they -- if you do less biofuels you have
- 6 to do more wind farms. Maybe they should subsidize,
- 7 even set aside more agricultural land so that there's
- 8 enough feedstock for the biofuels.
- 9 The Gas Company wants to do 50 percent of
- 10 their production they want to make biogas. I think a
- 11 lot of it depends on subsidies. And without land it
- 12 won't be for the feedstock, it won't be possible.
- 13 Clear fuels, you know, they can do it with government
- 14 subsidies but without land they can't continue to do
- 15 it.
- On the employment side, the ag workforce
- 17 increased five percent last year. If you reduce the
- 18 amount of ag land that's going to decrease
- 19 construction jobs.
- 20 Guys might work six months, go on employment
- 21 for six months, more recently been on unemployment for
- 22 two years. This increases the cost to employers for
- 23 their unemployment insurance.
- 24 This is an island state. You're gonna run
- 25 out of land for construction eventually. If you use

- 1 it for ag land -- for ag use, you'll have the jobs
- 2 indefinitely. It's like the saying goes, "Give a guy
- 3 a fish, feed him for a day. Give him a fishing pole
- 4 feed him for the rest of his just life." Just
- 5 focusing on development it's just a fish. Thanks.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions, Petitioner?
- 7 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City? State?
- 9 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: All right. Commissioners?
- 12 Thank you. Dwight Synan followed by William Metzger.
- DWIGHT SYNAN,
- 14 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 15 and testified as follows:
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Please state your name and
- 18 address.
- 19 THE WITNESS: My name is Dwight Synan. My
- 20 address is 2089-A 10th Avenue Honolulu, Hawai'i 96816.
- 21 Thank you very much for allowing me to testify. I am
- 22 not, for the record, disclosure, not a lawyer, not a
- 23 developer, not a union member, not a member of any
- 24 group that is here. So contrary to what I tell my
- 25 three children I'm not an expert in anything.

- 1 So just want to let you know my feelings
- 2 about when I heard about the Koa Ridge development.
- 3 My understanding, and you are the experts, it's going
- 4 to be 5 percent of the remaining agricultural lands
- 5 that's left in Hawai'i.
- With that, once again, it's prime
- 7 agricultural lands. We're looking at perhaps A and B
- 8 once again, the experts can tell you that. You're
- 9 probably more knowledgable than I am.
- We're looking at 5,000 new homes. And the
- 11 Mililani representatives were able to testify there
- 12 with the impact to traffic. With, once again, my
- 13 faulted math, 5,000 new homes could be 15,000
- 14 additional cars.
- And I'm sure we have all ridden H-1/H-2.
- 16 It's a parking lot. H-1/H-2 when you got out that way
- 17 the addition of 15,000 additional cars I think will
- 18 only aggravate that situation.
- 19 Also, I believe earlier someone had a
- 20 question about what the population was in 1982. And
- 21 the Hawai'i population I was able to look up with my
- 22 handy-dandy little gadget phone that we have now,
- 23 just for the record it was 964,691 population of the
- 24 state of Hawai'i according to the Census Bureau.
- 25 In 2009 the figure 1,295,178. Once again,

- 1 I'm not a mathematician but that's a 74.5 percent
- 2 increase in population. Now, that question I think is
- 3 the basis how much land was set aside for the future
- 4 for agriculture.
- 5 I don't know of any new land being built,
- 6 being created in Hawai'i except for Lo'ihi. Lo'ihi --
- 7 once again, I'm not a volcanologist but Lo'ihi off Big
- 8 Island I don't think is gonna surface for another 10
- 9 to a hundred thousand years.
- 10 So we are taking away land that just can't
- 11 be created. Obviously population can be created. I'm
- 12 a father of three. I could easily be a father of
- 13 four. And with this I look down the road. There's
- 14 not going to be any chance for land that will be
- 15 available for agricultural use with access to
- 16 freshwater, not purple water, brackish water that we
- 17 need for fruits and vegetables.
- Those are my concerns. Thank you very much
- 19 for listening once again.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Poirier?
- 2 MR. YOST: No questions.
- 3 MR. POIRIER: No questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much, sir.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Next person William Metzger
- 7 followed by Michael Kliks. William? Let's go on to
- 8 Michael Kliks. William is not here I guess.
- 9 MICHAEL KLIKS
- 10 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 11 and testified as follows:
- 12 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Have a seat. State your
- 14 name and address for the record.
- 15 THE WITNESS: My name is Michael Kliks. I
- 16 live at 3081-G Paty Drive, Honolulu, Hawai'i in
- 17 beautiful Manoa Valley.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 19 THE WITNESS: Aloha no kakou to you
- 20 Commissioners. Thank you very much for giving us the
- 21 opportunity to have a public hearing on this matter
- 22 that's so vital to our future. I've submitted
- 23 testimony to you this time and previous hearings.
- 24 Basically it's the same testimony on behalf of the
- 25 Hawai'i Beekeepers Association.

- 1 I'm a farmer, I'm a rancher, I'm a beekeeper
- 2 and I operate Island Pollination Services. My bees
- 3 pollinate many of the crops on this island, and on
- 4 other places.
- 5 Without agriculture we won't have the food.
- 6 Without food we'll be dependent on outside sources.
- 7 I'm not going to dwell on my current testimony. I've
- 8 submitted it to you. You've probably all read it at
- 9 least once.
- 10 I'm not going to dwell on the current
- 11 problems that we have. You all know there is a
- 12 traffic problem, present land use and water use needs
- 13 and today's severe economic and job concerns. Those
- 14 are current issues. I stand on the testimony I have
- 15 submitted.
- But I ask you Commissioners and others
- 17 present here, the Petitioners and Respondents to come
- 18 along with me on a bit of a mental exercise to the
- 19 future. Move along with me in your thoughts and
- 20 deliberations for just a few minutes, 35 years into
- 21 the future in the year 2045.
- I'll be a 103 years old. I will be
- 23 testifying at this Land Use Commission hearing on a
- 24 similar matter I'm sure.
- 25 I'm sure that the Chair will be there and a

- 1 few other longevity, good genetically-based people.
- 2 We'll all be there. We'll have the same problems we
- 3 have now, but worse.
- 4 Mean sea level will be 1 to 3 meters higher.
- 5 That's unavoidable. That means lands within a mile to
- 6 up to 2 miles in some places of the shoreline will be
- 7 inundated with saltwater and ruined for agriculture.
- 8 Sure we can build dikes and protect dwellings but we
- 9 can't protect ag lands.
- The population of O'ahu will be close to
- 11 three million, just O'ahu, if we continue to grow as
- 12 we're growing now, based on intrinsic growth and in
- 13 people who are immigrating to our state.
- 14 Those people will be driving six million
- 15 vehicles, and the service vehicles associated with
- 16 them, trucks, cars, cabs, everything else. There will
- 17 be no A or B ag lands left in this county. All of
- 18 them will be in use for ag or they'll be paved over.
- 19 Imagine, then, at this time in 2045 when
- 20 suddenly there's a massive level five hurricane that
- 21 hits our islands as it did 30 years ago.
- 22 Let's say it's a hundred-year hurricane.
- 23 Hurricanes are happening at a far greater frequency
- 24 than they have ever happened before and much more
- 25 powerful in the Atlantic and in the Pacific.

- 1 Let's say at the same time there's a massive
- 2 eruption of Kilauea Volcano and Pu'uo'o vent spewing
- 3 out clouds of volcanic ash. Look what happened in
- 4 Western Europe. Hundreds of billions of dollars were
- 5 lost and are still being lost. That could happen. We
- 6 already have vog. Vog is nothing compared to the ash
- 7 itself.
- 8 Air traffic would be disrupted. We couldn't
- 9 be helped from the outside for a period of time. Who
- 10 knows how long it might be. If that eruption were to
- 11 trigger an underwater landslide, and we had a massive
- 12 tsunami along with that sea level rise, I don't think
- 13 any of our planners can imagine what that would be.
- 14 We have seen some video documentary
- 15 projections of what that might be: 80-foot waves
- 16 coming through Waikiki all the way up to Manoa Valley.
- 17 I'm going to have my children invest in shoreline
- 18 property and get a yacht parked up there on Paty Drive
- 19 in Manoa.
- 20 You can pick your third disaster to go along
- 21 with those two. It could be bird flu, H-5/N-1 virus,
- 22 could be SARS. It could be terrorism attacks. It
- 23 could be heavy rains and winds. It could be the
- 24 continued drought that we have. It could be an
- 25 economic depression like we have now.

- 1 My question to you is: What will we eat?
- 2 It's not by chance that the word for land is 'aina.
- 3 "Ai" means to eat. You notice it's not "o" ina to
- 4 live, land. 'Aina means to eat. Land with something
- 5 we use to eat from.
- 6 These mental exercises are the tasks that
- 7 the Land Use Commission is mandated to perform as well
- 8 as the Legislature under article 7 of the
- 9 constitution. And I know you all are thinking about
- 10 these things.
- But in our own daily lives we are lucky we
- 12 can think six weeks ahead of time let alone six years
- 13 or 35 years. But please on this issue and related
- 14 issues of Waiawa, Ho'opili and other Central O'ahu ag
- 15 lands conversions to urban, please think about 40
- 16 years, 35, 50 years from now.
- 17 That's where our responsibilities lie. Not
- 18 for us, not even for our children but for our
- 19 grandchildren. Thank you.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YOST: No questions.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Poirier?
- 2 MR. POIRIER: No questions.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Mahalo.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: The next person is Jeffrey
- 5 Pedersen follows by Lucas Miller. We have about seven
- 6 more witnesses.
- 7 JEFFREY PEDERSEN
- 8 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 9 and testified as follows:
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address, please.
- 12 THE WITNESS: My name is Jeffrey Pedersen.
- 13 My primary address is at 98-1277 Ka'ahumanu in Aiea.
- 14 My secondary address is at 92-302 Kiaweo in Kapolei.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 16 THE WITNESS: All right. I'll try and keep
- 17 this brief. I'm another one of the non-expert
- 18 witness. I guess there's a line of us out there. I
- 19 guess same as the previous guy. I'm not an expert on
- 20 anything. However, I am a union member. Actually I'm
- 21 an electrician. And to be perfectly honest, work was
- 22 very hard to come by in 2008. Since 2009 effectively
- 23 I've been pretty much unemployed. I have been doing
- 24 my best to find work.
- Now, this development, if it was to go

- 1 through, it would be pretty welcome. It would be
- 2 great to get some work out there. But I have to sit
- 3 there and think for a moment, yes, it could take care
- 4 of me for a little while if I can get some work there
- 5 helping to build a few thousands houses. But then
- 6 what comes ten years down the road, 20 years down the
- 7 road?
- 8 And social conscience has to kick in and
- 9 say, yeah, you know what? Maybe I can find a
- 10 different avocation or different way to earn money.
- 11 Somehow or another I'm going to make it.
- 12 It's not easy right not. I'm doing
- 13 everything I can to keep and hang onto the house I've
- 14 got. Sometimes I'm not even staying there because we
- 15 may be continuing to rent it out. So we're doing what
- 16 we can.
- 17 My primary concern was with Ho'opili. But
- 18 then I was reading through the paper and came across
- 19 this article. And I said to myself, "What is this Koa
- 20 Ridge?" And I started doing some research on it. And
- 21 I went, "Oh, you gotta be kidding me. It's happening
- 22 again somewhere else." They're taking away farmlands
- 23 and they're going to try to cover 'em over with
- 24 concrete and asphalt. Now, I've got nothing against
- 25 concrete and asphalt. That's part of what I used to

- 1 do for a living. And I really actually enjoy using
- 2 concrete and asphalt getting to and from work. It's a
- 3 lot better than using a lot of the bumpier roads I
- 4 grew up on.
- 5 But part of those bumpy dirt roads I grew up
- 6 on when I was young we assigned to a bunch of
- 7 farmland. And that farmland is incredibly important.
- 8 You're hearing people come in one after the next
- 9 saying, "Don't take away that farmland. It means
- 10 something." There's only so much land here. It's an
- 11 island. No kidding. I mean, yeah, that's true.
- 12 I decided to go back over some of my old
- 13 textbooks from college. And there was a gentleman by
- 14 the name of Maslow. I'm sure you've heard of him with
- 15 his Hierarchy of Needs. Had a pyramid of what's
- 16 really important in life and what's absolutely
- 17 necessary.
- "If you don't have it it means everything to
- 19 you." It goes up to things you can kinda do without.
- 20 At the very bottom of that pyramid was "Need to
- 21 satisfy hunger and thirst," the absolute bottom.
- 22 Hunger and thirst. That means water and food.
- Now, I'm sure you remember not too long ago
- 24 that gasoline costs were starting to approach almost
- 25 \$5 a gallon. I'm sure when the economy takes off

- 1 again it will definitely hit \$5 a gallon, probably
- 2 more. But that also means how much it's gonna cost to
- 3 ship in all the things that we survive on.
- 4 If we were to use every square inch of
- 5 available agricultural land, whether it's the best or
- 6 the worst or something in between throughout this
- 7 entire state, I think we would have a hard time trying
- 8 feeling --
- 9 MS. ERICKSON: Could you please slow down.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Okay. I'll finish up now. We
- 11 would have a hard time trying to feed the one and a
- 12 half million people here now or the projected two or
- 13 three that are coming.
- 14 Can we please protect what we have left?
- 15 I'm willing to make the sacrifices personally, me and
- 16 my family, so that maybe I don't have a job right now,
- 17 but I gotta look ahead. I mean we all got to live
- 18 here. Our kids gotta live here, our grandkids gotta
- 19 live here. Let's take care. Thanks very much for
- 20 your time. I really appreciate your willing to hear
- 21 me.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions, Petitioner?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 2 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anybody? Thank you.
- 4 THE WITNESS: Thank you very much.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Next person Lucas Miller
- 6 followed by Charles Carole.
- 7 LUCAS MILLER
- 8 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 9 and testified as follows:
- 10 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Have a seat. State your
- 12 name and address.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Aloha. My name is Lucas
- 14 Miller. I live at 2140 A Mauna Place, Honolulu,
- 15 96822. I don't have anything formally prepared, and
- 16 I'm not the most educated person on the issues or the
- 17 topic at hand. But I do have a passion for
- 18 sustainability and the 'aina.
- 19 I've lived in Hawai'i for about five years
- 20 and never -- I couldn't have cared less before I moved
- 21 here about farmland and where my food was coming from
- 22 or the water quality that was coming into my home.
- 23 But Hawai'i's opened up my perspective. And
- 24 I just want to share that passion for, for our future
- 25 generations, for our current health and well-being.

- 1 And I think it all basically comes down to how we take
- 2 care of what we have ourselves, our neighbors, our
- 3 communities and our 'aina.
- 4 And I'm against the proposed
- 5 reclassification of the Koa Ridge area. I think
- 6 Hawai'i is all about -- this is the gathering island.
- 7 People should be able to come and move and live here.
- 8 I don't think -- I don't think, however, that we
- 9 should continue to rely on importing of foods as well
- 10 as the importing of new residents.
- 11 So let's keep our ag land, the good stuff
- 12 that we have, ag land, and work on developing other
- 13 areas that are, that would be less productive in
- 14 growing food and supporting our communities, our
- 15 families. Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost? Mr. Poirier?
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- MR. POIRIER: No questions.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Commissioners?

- 1 Okay. Thank you. Next person is Charles Carole and
- 2 followed by Kioni Dudley.
- 3 CHARLES CAROLE
- 4 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 5 and testified as follows:
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Your name and address,
- 8 please.
- 9 THE WITNESS: Charles Carole, 1310 Heulu
- 10 Street, Apartment 1002, Honolulu, 96822. I'm the vice
- 11 president of the League of Women Voters. And the
- 12 League has taken the stand of being against this
- 13 project. We feel that it should remain agricultural
- 14 and not urban.
- And some of the reasons, I'd like to point
- 16 out, this is from the 2006 state data book. It's said
- 17 that the population in 2010 would be 952,000. In the
- 18 2007 data book the population for 2010 was 932,000,
- 19 20,000 less. In the 2008 data book for the population
- 20 in 2010 it was 912,000; 20,000 less, 40,000
- 21 altogether.
- The population is not growing as much as it
- 23 has been projected. And the reason why the
- 24 population, they have been coming down with their
- 25 projections is because of the Census Bureau does an

- 1 annual population estimate, estimate -- that's the
- 2 important word -- for Honolulu. The last estimate for
- 3 2009 July the 1st, 2009 was 207,000 people -- excuse
- 4 me -- 907,000 people.
- 5 And I'd like to also point out the city in
- 6 their 2008 data book annual report they have a section
- 7 called "housing construction plans for O'ahu" where
- 8 they interview or get estimates from the developers
- 9 how much housing would be projected to be built and
- 10 what time.
- 11 And I took for 'Ewa for the fiscal year 2012
- 12 the developers had said that doing in 'Ewa, 1825 --
- 13 800 --excuse me 1,865 housing units would be built in
- 14 2012.
- Now, they have a column "after 2012." And
- 16 for that, for 'Ewa it was 15,445 houses. And that
- 17 excludes the 11,750 houses that would have been built
- 18 if you had approved of the previous petition.
- 19 Also for Central O'ahu for after 2012 they
- 20 project, the developers, 8,500 units. I think there's
- 21 enough units being projected by the existing
- 22 developers without increasing the potential of 3500
- 23 houses.
- 24 And so that's one of the reasons the League
- 25 of Women Voters voted against this particular Project.

- 1 The next thing is: Do we need agricultural
- 2 lands? We definitely do for sustainability,
- 3 especially with peak oil coming in. The prices of the
- 4 petroleum, though, today they went down, but normally
- 5 they go up. And as they get more expensive we have to
- 6 be paying more for our imported food.
- 7 So it pays for us to grow our own food as
- 8 much as possible. So I'd like to say that's the end
- 9 of my testimony.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Petitioner?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 14 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost? Mr. Poirier?
- 17 Commissioners?
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- MR. POIRIER: (Shaking head)
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you. Next person up
- 21 is Kioni Dudley followed by Michael Doyle.
- 22 DR. KIONI DUDLEY
- 23 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 24 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: I do.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address, please.
- THE WITNESS: My name is Dr. Kioni Dudley.
- 3 I live at 92-1365 Hauone Street in Makakilo. Good
- 4 morning, Commissioners, and, Mr. Chair. Good to see
- 5 you all again.
- 6 Today I come to speak against the Koa Ridge
- 7 development for two reasons. The first of them has to
- 8 do with traffic. I'd like to make the comment that
- 9 Waiawa Ridge has already been approved. And that's
- 10 17,500 homes. That's, again, the size of Mililani.
- On the 'Ewa Plain we already have 29,000
- 12 homes. We've got 33,000 more planned, already
- 13 approved ready to be built. That's double what we've
- 14 got on the 'Ewa Plain.
- 15 Now, if we take double Mililani traffic and
- 16 double the traffic on the 'Ewa Plain and put all that
- 17 on the freeway, I just don't think it's possible that
- 18 it's only going to slow us down six minutes.
- The reason that the Department of
- 20 Transportation was against Ho'opili was because
- 21 Ho'opili would bring us to a standstill on our
- 22 freeway.
- Now, if Ho'ipili would do that there, then
- 24 why won't Waiawa Ridge do that to H-2? Aren't we
- 25 really talking about two hours to get to town and two

- 1 hours to get back? And can we really do that to our
- 2 people?
- 3 So, you know, while I don't have any
- 4 statistics saying that it's going to be anything other
- 5 than add six minutes, just common sense tells me
- 6 whether there're statistics or not when you double the
- 7 cars on the freeway you're going to double the time.
- 8 If it takes an hour for us to get to town now, it's
- 9 going to take at least two hours or more.
- 10 I'd like to talk about another point, and
- 11 it's something entirely different. It's the Urban
- 12 Growth Boundary. We have an Urban Growth Boundary
- 13 that, as you know, it's for Central and also for the
- 14 Leeward side.
- On the Leeward side that Urban Growth
- 16 Boundary is about 13 years old; it's about eight years
- 17 old for Central. We've already got it filled except
- 18 for the last piece, Ho'opili on our side and the last
- 19 piece Koa Ridge on the Central side. Everything else
- 20 is built.
- 21 I'd like to just ask: I know that you folks
- 22 are concerned with the Urban Growth Boundary and it
- 23 does affect your decisions. And so I want to ask why
- 24 do we have it, you know? We have it so we can control
- 25 growth. There's a couple of reasons for that. One is

- 1 so that we don't cover everything over and lose all of
- 2 our agriculture. So there's an Urban Growth Boundary
- 3 to protect agricultural land.
- 4 But there's also an Urban Growth Boundary
- 5 just to protect the beauty of Hawai'i so that tourists
- 6 will still come. If we pave the place over we're
- 7 going to kill the golden goose.
- 8 So the Urban Growth Boundary is important.
- 9 We ought to look at the Urban Growth Boundary, which
- 10 is only eight years old, and say, "Don't we want this
- 11 for another hundred years?" You know? Where do we
- 12 want sprawl to sprawl to in a hundred years? Isn't
- 13 the Urban Growth Boundary really just about it?
- 14 And if that's so do we really -- does it
- 15 make sense to really take this last piece in the Urban
- 16 Growth Boundary and give it away now? Isn't that
- 17 something that should be done a hundred years from
- 18 now, a hundred fifty years from now?
- 19 There is good reason to hold onto the last
- 20 piece. And I'd like to suggest that it's really
- 21 important to do that.
- I'd like to say that if you were to vote
- 23 against this Project it would not hurt jobs. You
- 24 know, it would not hurt construction. That's
- 25 something we really need to realize. We just need to

- 1 turn around and start focusing our construction on the
- 2 infilling of the Urban Growth Boundary. There's
- 3 plenty of space that's empty yet. There's plenty of
- 4 construction that's possible.
- 5 We need to realize that there are many
- 6 sections there are gettin' old that need to be --
- 7 they're delapidated. They need to be revitalized.
- 8 That's gonna take a lot of construction.
- 9 We need to realize we're going to have
- 10 rising seas. Moiliili is going to be completely
- 11 covered. We're going to have to go in there and take
- 12 all those homes out, raze the ground and build houses
- 13 again.
- 14 There's plenty of work in the future. And
- 15 we still have all of Waiawa's 17,000 houses yet to
- 16 build and the 33,000 on the plain. There's plenty of
- 17 work. Okay. We don't need this.
- 18 The only people who need this, honestly, the
- 19 only people who need it is Castle & Cooke. And the
- 20 only reason they need it is for profits. And those
- 21 profits will not stay in Hawai'i. So I ask you for
- 22 two reasons: The traffic and the Urban Growth
- 23 Boundary, protecting the Urban Growth Boundary, don't
- 24 build this last piece right now. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions?

- 1 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 2 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 3 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost?
- 5 MR. YOST: No questions.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Thank you.
- 7 Michael Doyle followed by Lydi Morgan.
- 8 MICHAEL DOYLE
- 9 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 10 and testified as follows:
- 11 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address, please.
- 13 THE WITNESS: My name is Michael Doyle. My
- 14 address is 92-1268 Kikaha Street, Kapolei, Hawai'i
- 15 96707. Um, I just, I just want to say I'm a student
- 16 at UH West O'ahu majoring in political science. And
- 17 we've heard a lot of great testimony here today, so
- 18 I'm just going to be brief 'cause I want you to think
- 19 about a few things.
- The sustainability and food security is very
- 21 important. I mean importing more than 80 percent of
- 22 our food, I mean what if something happens. There are
- 23 people in this state who are starving and homeless
- 24 now.
- We care more about making a quick buck with

- 1 a development rather than making sure we can support
- 2 all the people that live in this state.
- 3 Yeah. Also the traffic. I mean the traffic
- 4 is a huge issue, especially on my side. A lot of
- 5 people are opposed to anything that will bring more
- 6 traffic, especially since we're not really working on
- 7 an infrastructure solution that will solve the traffic
- 8 issue. So that's all I have to stay right now.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost? Mr. Poirier?
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- 17 MR. POIRIER: No.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Okay, thank
- 19 you. Lydi Morgan followed by Amy Kimura.
- 20 LYDI MORGAN
- 21 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 22 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address.
- 25 THE WITNESS: Thank you. My name is Lydi

- 1 Morgan, 742 Olokele Avenue, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96816.
- 2 And I'm here as a concerned citizen. I'm
- 3 here as the vice president of the Hawai'i Farmers
- 4 Union representing over 300 farmers and farm
- 5 supporters.
- 6 I'm also part of the Sierra Club. And, I am
- 7 seventh generation Cooke descendant: 1834, Amos Star
- 8 Cooke and Juliette Montague Cooke.
- 9 So I believe we all know the saying that
- 10 says that we need to think of the seventh generation
- 11 in our decisions. I don't know if people have been
- 12 doing that up to now, but I would like for us to do
- 13 that at this time going forward.
- 14 I want to think about seven generations from
- 15 now what will this island be like. What will the
- 16 quality of life be like for those people 200 years
- 17 from now?
- 18 I'm here to present a vision for this land
- 19 and for O'ahu that is, I believe, absolutely possible
- 20 and really in the best interest of every single one of
- 21 us.
- In regards to the Koa Ridge property it is
- 23 actively growing food right now. There is broccoli,
- 24 cabbage, zucchini, bananas, lettuce, taro, things like
- 25 that, you know, that we eat that is being grown right

- 1 now.
- 2 There's also the opportunity for development
- 3 of ways to integrate this piece of land into the
- 4 community and ways that, you know, everything from
- 5 farmers markets onsite to farm fresh restaurants to
- 6 centers where families can come, harvest produce.
- 7 People can get in touch with the growing of food.
- 8 This is absolutely critical for each and
- 9 everyone of us to be in touch with how our food is
- 10 grown. It is a real possibility for this land.
- 11 I believe if Castle & Cooke wants to talk
- 12 about benefit to their company and meanwhile to the
- 13 rest of us, which is their duty as stewards of this
- 14 land and meaningful part of what's going on on this
- 15 island, that they can and should look into this vision
- 16 that will benefit us all.
- 17 My other issue is water. I understand that
- 18 at least part if not all of the water that's used to
- 19 irrigate the farmland comes from Waiahole. This is
- 20 clean water.
- 21 I wonder if the development proposes to also
- 22 use this water or where they would be getting it. You
- 23 know, it is specifically for agriculture. And the
- 24 fact that the land is being farmed, it's got access to
- 25 water, it's actively growing food, you know, we've got

- 1 to protect it. We have to.
- 2 You know, we can't -- at this time the water
- 3 from the Lake Wilson, you know, is not available until
- 4 we stop polluting it. So there's a lot of open space
- 5 on this island which we do need to heal, we need to
- 6 farm it.
- 7 We do need to grow more of our food. But
- 8 this piece of land is so critical at this time to hold
- 9 onto and to grow our ability to feed ourselves, our
- 10 food security and our food sovereignty.
- 11 So in closing I would just like to say that,
- 12 you know, the lack of information on the traffic issue
- 13 alone should be a reason to not develop this land.
- 14 The fact that tens of thousands of homes are already
- 15 zoned and approved, that alone should be a reason to
- 16 protect this land as agriculture.
- 17 And, finally, our need to really recognize
- 18 where we are right now. Our intense vulnerability
- 19 right now with importing 80 percent of our food and
- 20 that being dependent on oil and the cost of oil, that
- 21 alone should be a reason to deny the petition to
- 22 rezone this land.
- 23 Together I hope and I pray that this
- 24 decision is crystal clear for each one of you. I
- 25 thank you for your service and thank you for hearing

- 1 my testimony.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Petitioner?
- 3 MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 4 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- 5 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 7 MR. YEE: No questions.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost?
- 9 MR. YOST: No questions.
- 10 MR. POIRIER: (Shaking head).
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anybody here? Okay. Thank
- 12 you very much. Next person is Amy Kimura.
- 13 AMY KIMURA
- 14 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 15 and testified as follows:
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes. My name is Amy Kimura
- 17 and I live at 1310 Heulu Street in Honolulu. I live
- 18 in Honolulu in town and I have no connection
- 19 whatsoever to this development or anything out there.
- 20 And I speak mainly as a concerned citizen because I
- 21 can see how important it is to preserve prime
- 22 agricultural land.
- 23 And I'm very concerned that this is such a
- 24 large piece of land that, should it be rezoned, will
- 25 have a tremendous impact on our future ability

- 1 regarding food security and food sustainability, as so
- 2 many here have already spoken about.
- 3 And so I ask that the Land Use Commission
- 4 members, since you are in a position to make a very
- 5 important decision that would help our future food
- 6 security and sustainability, that you please consider
- 7 the population as a whole of O'ahu and also of the
- 8 state in coming to your decision. Thank you.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Questions?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions.
- 11 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- MR. YEE: No questions.
- MR. YOST: No questions.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Anybody here? Okay. Thank
- 16 you. We're going to take a break now for lunch. We
- 17 will be back at 1:45. We're in recess.
- 18 (Recess was held.)
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: (1:50) We're back on the
- 20 record. Mr. Poirier, you're finished with your -- oh,
- 21 he's gone. Ms. Loomis?
- MS. LOOMIS: We're done, thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: You're done. Thank you.
- 24 Mr. Matsubara, before you call your rebuttal witnesses
- 25 you've submitted some....

- 1 MR. MATSUBARA: Yes, I'll take care of those
- 2 housekeeping matters, Mr. Chair.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Would you do that.
- 4 MR. MATSUBARA: We filed a Third Amended
- 5 Exhibit List on which we included two new exhibits.
- 6 Exhibit 54 is the rebuttal written testimony of Ron
- 7 Nishihara.
- 8 And Exhibit 55 is the Land Use Summary and
- 9 "Greenspace" which basically was done to respond to
- 10 questions Commissioner Judge had when she was
- 11 reviewing the EIS.
- 12 So those are the two new exhibits that we
- 13 have listed in the Third Amended Exhibit List. I
- 14 would ask that those two exhibits be admitted into
- 15 evidence.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City, you have any
- 17 objections?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No objection.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- MR. YEE: No objection.
- 21 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost?
- MR. YOST: I have a concern. And that is we
- 23 didn't receive the written testimony of Mr. Nishihara
- 24 until yesterday morning. And it's given us very
- 25 little time to prepare for any kind of

- 1 cross-examination. I'm also concerned that
- 2 Mr. Funakoshi was slated to testify today, and no
- 3 written testimony was provided for his testimony in
- 4 advance.
- 5 The last time he testified he was presented
- 6 as an expert. And generally we follow the standard,
- 7 as I understand it, of providing written reports of
- 8 experts in advance of their testimony.
- 9 I don't have an objection to them being
- 10 admitted into evidence. But I have a concern about
- 11 having a fair process and maybe giving us an
- 12 opportunity to provide something else in writing, you
- 13 know, a couple days from now to rebut data that may be
- 14 presented as part of the testimony since it was so
- 15 last minute.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: So noted.
- 17 MR. MATSUBARA: Mr. Chair -- sorry.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Do you have anything?
- MS. LOOMIS: No objection.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay.
- MR. MATSUBARA: These are rebuttal
- 22 witnesses. When Mr. Funakoshi testified earlier as an
- 23 expert there were opinions that were rendered, that
- 24 was why written testimony was provided to the copies.
- 25 He's provide as -- he's coming back, a

- 1 rebuttal on factual issues as opposed to any opinion.
- 2 So under the circumstances I think the rules are a
- 3 little different in that regard. That's why he didn't
- 4 have any written testimony.
- 5 For example, the response to Commissioner
- 6 Judge's question on the greenspace, he's going to
- 7 assist in response to Commissioner Wong's questions
- 8 that were asked, so they will be factual statements.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Chair will so note your
- 10 concerns. Commissioners, are there any objections to
- 11 the submittals presented by the Petitioner?
- 12 COMMISSIONER CHOCK: I have no objection,
- 13 Mr. Chair, but I welcome the written comments in
- 14 response to rebuttal witness expert testimony.
- MR. YOST: Thank you. It may or may not be
- 16 necessary. I just wanted to raise it as a concern.
- 17 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you.
- 18 MR. MATSUBARA: And the other housekeeping
- 19 matter, we filed a First Amended List of Rebuttal
- 20 Witnesses and we included Ron Nishihara as a rebuttal
- 21 witness. Initially it was just Rodney Funakoshi. But
- 22 for purposes of responding to the questions that were
- 23 raised by Commissioner Wong in the last hearing we've
- 24 included Mr. Nishihara.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: We have that amended list.

- 1 Any problems with that, City?
- 2 MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No.
- 3 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: State?
- 4 MR. YEE: No objection.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost?
- 6 MR. YOST: Same concerns as before but
- 7 otherwise nothing else.
- 8 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: So noted.
- 9 MS. LOOMIS: No.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners? Okay.
- 11 Thank you. Mr. Matsubara.
- MR. MATSUBARA: For the first rebuttal
- 13 witness I'd like to call Mr. Nishihara. For purposes
- 14 of explanation, Mr. Nishihara will be responding --
- 15 Commissioner Wong had three questions.
- The first related to the ag easement.
- 17 The second related to 10 percent of the
- 18 homes with PV.
- 19 And the third related to generation of
- 20 50 percent of the power for the commercial units.
- 21 Mr. Nishihara will be responding to the two
- 22 energy questions in regard to the factors that went
- 23 into Castle & Cooke's analysis on what position they
- 24 would take on energy.
- 25 And then Mr. Funakoshi will follow up on the

- 1 energy commitments by Castle & Cooke.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Very good. Thank you.
- 3 RONALD NISHIHARA,
- 4 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 5 and testified as follows:
- 6 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 7 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address, please.
- 8 THE WITNESS: My name is Ron Nishihara. My
- 9 business address is 1916 Young Street, suite 102.
- 10 MR. MATSUBARA: Mr. Nishihara is still under
- 11 oath, Mr. Chairman?
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes, he is.
- MR. MATSUBARA: Thank you.
- 14 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 15 BY MR. MATSUBARA:
- 16 Q Mr. Nishihara, pursuant to our request you
- 17 prepared written testimony which we have marked as
- 18 Exhibit 54, did you not?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q In your written testimony you addressed two
- 21 of the questions that Commissioner Wong asked that
- 22 related to energy issues?
- 23 A Yes, I did.
- Q Could you restate the question and your
- 25 response to Commissioner Wong's concerns that were

- 1 raised?
- 2 A Sure. The first question was with regard to
- 3 the photovoltaic requirement on the residential units
- 4 on single-family homes. Kind of going back to how we
- 5 developed the sustainability plan was that we came up
- 6 with estimates of what a normal home for a family of
- 7 four would be.
- 8 And then we came up with targets of what we
- 9 thought that we could achieve. And the targets we
- 10 ended up coming up with was a 35 percent reduction
- 11 over an older home or a 25 percent reduction over a
- 12 similar newer home. And that's assuming a family of
- 13 four.
- 14 And along with that we identified the types
- 15 of strategies we would use or could use, and we have a
- 16 whole long list of them. Included in that is
- 17 photovoltaics.
- 18 Because each house is going to be different,
- 19 what we want to be able to do is maintain the
- 20 flexibility so that when the houses are designed we
- 21 can pick and choose from that whole list of strategies
- 22 that we have and come up with the one that would be
- 23 the most optimal.
- 24 The second with regard to the commercial and
- 25 having 50 percent of the --

- 1 Q Just a moment. Before you get to that
- 2 question, wasn't one of the concerns you had in regard
- 3 to the necessity of having the flexibility to utilize
- 4 energy saving devices was the rapid rate which
- 5 technology changes?
- 6 A That's correct. That's another concern.
- 7 And that list of strategies that we would have we
- 8 envision that would be changing as strategies -- as,
- 9 I'm sorry, as technologies evolve.
- 10 Q So it's your understanding that what Castle
- 11 & Cooke has designed in regard to meeting the concerns
- 12 raised by that question takes into consideration those
- 13 points that you raised.
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Could you address the second question
- 16 please?
- 17 A The second question relates directly to the
- 18 last question with regard to technology and how
- 19 quickly the technology is evolving.
- The example I used in my written testimony
- 21 is in my lifetime I've seen vinyl records, cassette
- 22 tapes, eight tracks, compact discs, now the iPod.
- When the Walkman came out I never envisioned
- 24 there would be something better than that. I don't
- 25 know what's going to come out better there. And

- 1 similarly I don't know what would be superior to a PV
- 2 system. It could be out there. We just don't know.
- 3 But we would want to maintain the flexibility to be
- 4 able to accommodate a new technology should it come
- 5 along.
- 6 Q On the commercial issue?
- 7 A Yes, on the commercial issue it's that same
- 8 issue of the potential obsolescence of the technology
- 9 that's there today. And, you know, another issue is
- 10 that with regard to incentives versus mandates I spoke
- 11 about the last time.
- 12 We have seen how quickly the use of
- 13 photovoltaics on commercial projects has been growing
- 14 recently with the current incentives that are there.
- 15 And given that we -- it's already -- I think
- 16 at a previous hearing there was an exhibit that was
- 17 shown that showed the rapid increase in the use of
- 18 photovoltaics. So that's already happening. Through
- 19 the incentives that are already there that's already
- 20 happening. The PV is happening or renewable energy is
- 21 happening in the commercial area.
- 22 Q Is the exhibit you're referring to the
- 23 exhibit that was used by Sierra Club's witness Jeff
- 24 Mikulina?
- 25 A That's correct.

- 1 Q If I recall, the exhibit reflected the fact
- 2 the use of PV as an alternate energy device increased
- 3 significantly between 2005 and 2009.
- 4 A That's correct.
- 5 Q Is there any mandatory statute or ordinance
- 6 that requires the use of PV energy-saving devices on
- 7 homes?
- 8 A No. It's been, it's been all incentive
- 9 driven, primarily tax credits.
- 10 Q So the increase in the use of PV
- 11 installations has largely resulted from the incentives
- 12 that have been provided?
- 13 A I believe so.
- 14 Q So it's voluntary.
- 15 A Yes.
- MR. MATSUBARA: Thank you. That concludes
- 17 my questions relating to those issues. Mr. Nishihara
- 18 is available for questions in regard to those issues.
- 19 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City, do you have
- 20 questions?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yee, questions?
- 23 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 24 BY MR. YEE:
- 25 Q Thank you. Mr. Nishihara, when you

- 1 calculated the energy usage for the homes to be
- 2 designed, do you have a calculation for the amount of
- 3 anticipated energy usage for air conditioning,
- 4 lighting and appliances?
- 5 A Yes. That's in the sustainability plan.
- 6 Q Do you remember what that amount was?
- 7 A You mean as far as a breakdown?
- 8 Q Yes. For the air conditioning, lighting and
- 9 appliances.
- 10 A Are you talking about the baseline or the
- 11 proposed?
- 12 Q The proposed. Again, I'm only talking about
- 13 air conditioning, lighting and appliances.
- 14 A Air conditioning would have been 27 percent.
- MR. MATSUBARA: Mr. Nishihara, could you
- 16 just reference the page.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Unfortunately the pages aren't
- 18 numbered but the heading is Typical Koa Ridge
- 19 Single-family Home with Four Occupants.
- 20 MR. MATSUBARA: This is in the
- 21 sustainability plan submitted as Petitioner's
- 22 Exhibit 20.
- MR. YEE: Thank you.
- 24 THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, what was...
- 25 Q (By Mr. Yee) Let's stop at air conditioning

- 1 for a moment. You said 27 percent.
- 2 A Correct.
- 3 Q What does that mean? I was looking for
- 4 amount of electrical usage. So you give me a
- 5 percentage. Do you have an actual energy usage?
- 6 A Projection would be 187-kilowatt hours a
- 7 month.
- 8 Q Then for lighting and appliances?
- 9 A Lighting total would have been 55.
- 10 Q And appliances?
- 11 A Appliances we've got them all separately.
- 12 So...
- 13 Q You would add up those appliances together.
- 14 So I can get it all from that table you're saying.
- 15 A Right.
- 16 Q So when you look at the reduction in energy
- 17 usage that can be accomplished, the 35 percent
- 18 reduction as compared to the older homes and
- 19 25 percent reduction as compared to the newer homes,
- 20 those reductions can be achieved without PV, correct?
- 21 A Correct.
- 22 Q So if the Land Use Commission was interested
- 23 in imposing a requirement of 10 percent of the homes
- 24 having photovoltaic, that would have been over and
- 25 above the 25 and 35 reduction. You understand that?

- 1 A That's correct.
- Q And you express your concern about the issue
- 3 of changing technologies. Do you remember that?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q Wouldn't that concern be addressed if the
- 6 requirement was simply that 10 percent of the homes
- 7 achieve a certain level of kilowatt hours per month
- 8 from a renewable energy source?
- 9 A That would.
- 10 Q And what would be the amount of kilowatt
- 11 hours for an average home that would be expected from
- 12 a PV installed in that home?
- 13 A Um, roughly 291 kilowatt hours per month for
- 14 a 3-kilowatt system.
- 15 Q So your concern about changing technologies
- 16 could be addressed by requiring 10 percent of the
- 17 homes having or producing 291 kilowatt hours per month
- 18 from renewable sources such as photovoltaic, correct?
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 MR. MATSUBARA: Just for clarification,
- 21 Counsel, the question I posed to him was the verbatim
- 22 question that Commissioner Wong asked that ten percent
- 23 of the units be PV. And that's why we focused on
- 24 PV-outfitted homes.
- MR. YEE: I think I'm responding to the

- 1 written testimony that referred to the concern about
- 2 PV in particular regarding technology and exploring,
- 3 then, the issue well, then, what other condition could
- 4 then be required that would meet his concern about PV.
- 5 A different way to address the question
- 6 would be to require homes to have -- 10 percent of the
- 7 homes have a net zero energy requirement. That would
- 8 also address the changing technology concerns,
- 9 correct?
- 10 A I'm sorry. Could you repeat that?
- 11 Q You expressed concerns about changing
- 12 technology which made a specific PV requirement
- 13 problematic, correct?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q If instead of requiring PV in particular you
- 16 require that 10 percent of the homes achieve net zero
- 17 energy, that would also be a different way to address
- 18 those changing technology concerns.
- 19 A Well, the net zero is a different issue.
- 20 The measurement of how you would reduce the amount of
- 21 energy, whether it be net zero or whether it be just a
- 22 higher percentage, but specifying a higher percentage
- 23 would be a way.
- Q Okay. You testified regarding commercial
- 25 units about a target number of reduction in the use of

- 1 fossil fuels.
- 2 A Correct.
- 3 Q And you, as I read your testimony you were
- 4 in favor of a target number as a way of addressing the
- 5 question.
- 6 A Correct.
- 7 Q Is it your understanding that a target is
- 8 not enforceable?
- 9 A Well, a target -- any time that you come up
- 10 with a target it's going to be based on a model prior
- 11 to construction. What makes a big difference is how
- 12 the building is going to be used.
- The example that I used is we can come up
- 14 with a target of 35 percent reduction on a home. But
- 15 if the user of the home leaves all of the TVs on and
- 16 leaves all of the air conditioning on, obviously
- 17 they're not going to hit that target.
- 18 Q I just want to be clear I understand. So
- 19 you'd be in favor of a 50 percent reduction fossil
- 20 fuel used for commercial buildings as long as the
- 21 understanding was it's based upon a series of
- 22 assumptions. And you would design to meet that
- 23 requirement based upon the assumptions.
- 24 A That's generally how it's done.
- Q Okay. So the target is not just a general

- 1 vague goal you want to achieve, and maybe you will and
- 2 maybe you won't. It actually is a specific
- 3 achievement to be accomplished that can be measured at
- 4 the time of construction.
- 5 A Usually at the time of design.
- 6 Q Measured at the time of design.
- 7 A Correct.
- 8 Q So you can determine whether it's met or not
- 9 met at the time of design.
- 10 A Right.
- 11 Q So in that sense the target is enforceable.
- 12 A Correct.
- 13 Q In terms of with that definition of what the
- 14 requirement would be, i.e. not actual usage but the
- 15 design would meet the target?
- 16 A That's correct.
- 17 Q Then you discuss incentives in your written
- 18 testimony. Do you remember that?
- 19 A That's correct.
- 20 Q Would you agree with me there are different
- 21 ways to reduce fossil fuel use, one of which is
- 22 incentives?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q A different requirement would be something
- 25 like a requirement for solar water heating.

- 1 A That's one way.
- 2 Q Another way would be a general requirement
- 3 to use Best Management Practices to reduce energy
- 4 usage.
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q And the Land Use Commission, would you
- 7 agree, has no jurisdiction to provide for incentives?
- 8 A I'm not familiar whether or not they are.
- 9 Q Okay. So in your discussion about
- 10 incentives you're not asking the Land Use Commission
- 11 to provide incentives, correct?
- 12 A No.
- 13 Q And so with respect to what conditions the
- 14 Land Use Commission imposes, the Land Use Commission
- 15 has to look at the other tools that are available to
- 16 it for reducing fossil fuel use.
- 17 A If that's one of the objectives of the Land
- 18 Use Commission.
- 19 Q Thank you. I have nothing further?
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost?
- MR. YOST: Thank you, Chair.
- 22 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 23 BY MR. YOST:
- 24 Q I'd like to follow up a little bit about the
- 25 discussion of the A/C usage Mr. Yee was talking about.

- l A Yes.
- 2 Q Are you aware that on Kaua'i, at least in
- 3 2009, only 3 percent of the homes on Kaua'i had air
- 4 conditioning?
- 5 A I wasn't aware of that.
- 6 Q Are you aware that there are means of
- 7 architecture where you can use architectural shading
- 8 orientation and window design for natural ventilation
- 9 to achieve comfortable temperatures inside a home
- 10 instead of using air conditioning?
- 11 Are you aware of those alternatives?
- 12 A Yes. And that's a lot of what we were
- 13 taking into account with the energy model.
- 14 Q But the homes that you're comparing when you
- 15 talk about the newer single-family Koa Ridge home,
- 16 comparing it to an alternative newer single-family
- 17 home, you were making the assumption that air
- 18 conditioning is going to be part of the construction
- 19 for both of those types of homes, correct?
- 20 A Well, it wouldn't be offered as a standard,
- 21 as a standard feature. When we did the comparison the
- 22 comparison against the newer home, assumes that there
- 23 is central air conditioning because that's what most
- 24 of the competitors are providing.
- With regard to the model that we came up

- 1 with we figured that we would be using things like
- 2 enhanced insulation, low-e so that we wouldn't have to
- 3 offer air conditioning as a standard.
- 4 Whether or not a homeowner decides to put in
- 5 air conditioning, whether it be through an option or
- 6 whether it be an after-market installation, that's
- 7 what this assumes. But standard air conditioning is
- 8 not assumed in the model.
- 9 Q But isn't a large amount of your efficiency
- 10 gain in the comparison you've made relating to air
- 11 conditioning? You have one for the typical current
- 12 single-family home. It's 52 percent of the energy.
- 13 Your saying in the Koa Ridge home it's only 27
- 14 percent.
- 15 That's almost -- that's 25 percent right
- 16 there, right? That's the entire reduction. If you
- 17 talk A/C out of the equation would you still be 25
- 18 more efficient than a current single-family home that
- 19 doesn't have air conditioning? Or have you not done
- 20 that comparison?
- 21 A No, we have not done that comparison.
- 22 Q So based on the model that you showed us,
- 23 isn't the entire efficiency being gained by alleged
- 24 efficiencies in the use of air conditioning?
- 25 A No. There are other factors.

- 1 Q Fifty-two minus 27 isn't 25? I'm just
- 2 trying to understand. I'm sorry if I don't
- 3 understand.
- 4 A The new home versus the old, there were some
- 5 adjustments to the ceiling fan usage because we were
- 6 going with the assumption that there would be less air
- 7 conditioning in a Koa Ridge home.
- 8 Q Right.
- 9 A So we increased the amount of ceiling fan
- 10 usage. And I believe the rest of it was kept the
- 11 same.
- 12 Q Are you aware that approximately 56 percent
- 13 of the homes on O'ahu currently have air conditioning?
- 14 A I wasn't aware of that.
- 15 Q So you got 44 percent, let's just make that
- 16 assumption, don't have air conditioning at all. If
- 17 the Koa Ridge homes have air conditioning they
- 18 probably wouldn't be more efficient than the existing
- 19 homes that do have air conditioning, correct? Because
- 20 air conditioning is an enormous drain on the
- 21 electrical load of a house, correct?
- 22 A That's correct.
- 23 Q Would you be willing to consider conditions,
- 24 or have you discussed conditions where you might have
- 25 a certain number of houses that don't have air

- 1 conditioning, that you guarantee X number just don't
- 2 have it?
- 3 A I haven't had that discussion and I wouldn't
- 4 be in a position to make a commitment on behalf of
- 5 Castle & Cooke.
- 6 Q Okay. You're aware of the Hawai'i Clean
- 7 Energy Initiative, correct?
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q And you're aware of the statutes HRS 269-92
- 10 that has to do with the renewable portfolio standard.
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And you're aware of HRS 269-96 that has to
- 13 do with the energy efficiency portfolio standard,
- 14 correct?
- 15 A I'm not familiar with the exact HRS chapter
- 16 number, but...
- Okay. But you're aware that those statutes
- 18 relating to those two portfolio standards exist.
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q The statute relating to the renewable energy
- 21 generation portfolio, the goal -- or not the goal but
- 22 the mandate in that statute is for 40 percent of our
- 23 state's electricity production to be from renewable
- 24 sources by the year 2030, correct?
- 25 A Ah, yes.

- 1 Q And on the efficiency side, the overall goal
- 2 of the Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative is to achieve a
- 3 70 percent reduction in fossil fuels through a
- 4 combination of energy efficiency and renewable energy
- 5 generation, right?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q So the efficiency side is essentially 30
- 8 percent of that equation by the time we get to 2030.
- 9 A Right.
- 10 Q So isn't it the case that what you're
- 11 proposing thus far really only addresses the energy
- 12 efficiency side of that coin? You have two sides.
- 13 You have the renewable energy generation side and then
- 14 the efficiency side.
- So you've been talking a lot about
- 16 efficiency, but that really only addresses the
- 17 30 percent efficiency mandate, correct?
- 18 A Um....
- 19 Q I can try to ask a simpler question. It's a
- 20 little long.
- 21 A Yeah.
- 22 Q If you're saying -- if we have a goal, not a
- 23 goal, a mandate of essentially achieving a 30 percent
- 24 efficiency improvement by 2030, and you're saying that
- 25 you can provide 25 percent better efficiency with this

- 1 Project, that's not even going to meet the 30 percent
- 2 energy efficiency goal, is it?
- 3 A Numbers-wise no.
- 4 Q And then it doesn't address at all the
- 5 40 percent renewable energy generation side of the
- 6 equation because you're not making any promises as to
- 7 how much of the Project's electricity use is going to
- 8 be generated by renewable energy sources, correct?
- 9 A I think that Mr. Funakoshi is going to be
- 10 addressing the renewable side for Castle & Cooke's
- 11 entire project portfolio later.
- 12 Q Okay. You just recently purchased a 3
- 13 kilowatt PV system for your own home, is that right?
- 14 A Yes.
- 15 Q Are you willing to tell us how much that
- 16 cost you?
- 17 A Sure. The entire system was \$28,840. After
- 18 the tax credits it was \$15,188. But because it's
- 19 rolled into the mortgage the total cost over 30 years
- 20 is \$28,522.
- 21 Q Your own system is rolled into your
- 22 mortgage?
- 23 A Yes.
- Q Okay. So you didn't get any tax credits
- 25 because you rolled it into your mortgage?

- 1 A No, there is a tax credit.
- 2 Q Okay. I understand. So did you calculate
- 3 or are you aware of what your rate of payback is for
- 4 that system, when it will pay itself off?
- 5 A Yes, assuming an 8 percent escalation in
- 6 electric cost the payback is 17 years.
- 7 Over the course of a 30-year mortgage.
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 Q We can agree that technologies are going to
- 10 change and likely improve. But you yourself made a
- 11 decision that it made sense today, based on your own
- 12 economic interests, to install that system now, right?
- 13 That system is better than what you had
- 14 previously in terms of your own economic interests,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A Well, it wasn't just an economic interest.
- 17 And again it goes back to it becomes a personal
- 18 decision of whether or not you're gonna do this. I'm
- 19 going to be the only one in this home.
- 20 And so I could afford to make the decision
- 21 to go with the smaller home with PV as opposed to,
- 22 say, a family of four who would not have that
- 23 opportunity. They'd have to get a bigger home without
- 24 the PV.
- Q Okay. But it does make sense for your

- 1 economic interests as well as other interests,
- 2 correct, over the long term of your mortgage?
- 3 A It's hard to say. I mean a 17 year payback
- 4 I don't know if a lot of people would say that's a
- 5 good payback.
- 6 Q But you're paying less each month for
- 7 electricity. So the cost of actually living in your
- 8 home has to be factored as well, correct?
- 9 A Right.
- 10 Q So that would relate to your equation. Did
- 11 you take that into account in terms of what the
- 12 benefit would be to you over time?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q Now, if you -- if Castle & Cooke was
- 15 installing 10 percent of 5,000 houses with some kind
- 16 of renewable energy technology upfront, it's going to
- 17 be a lot cheaper for that kind of installation to take
- 18 place on a large scale than it would be to just do
- 19 your individual house, correct?
- 20 A That I'm not sure. I'm not sure about that.
- 21 Q We can provide data to that effect. That's
- 22 an example of something I would like to follow up with
- 23 the Commission to provide data on economies of scale.
- 24 With regard to commercial energy usage, you
- 25 said you kind of prefer the fossil fuel reduction

- 1 model.
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q Rather than a requirement that renewable
- 4 energy be generated to meet that 50 percent, right?
- 5 That was your testimony?
- 6 A No. What I am saying is that it would be
- 7 better to be incentivized as opposed to being
- 8 mandated.
- 9 Q Okay. So you're saying you wouldn't agree
- 10 to a mandate in this proceeding for fossil fuel
- 11 reduction?
- 12 A No, I would prefer to see an incentivized
- 13 program.
- 14 Q But if the LUC is not able to provide
- 15 incentives that would make your suggestion kind of
- 16 moot in this proceeding, right?
- 17 A Correct.
- MR. YOST: No further questions.
- MS. LOOMIS: No questions.
- 20 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners, questions
- 21 for Mr. Nishihara? Commissioner Wong.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chairman, I have a
- 23 few questions of Mr. Nishihara.
- 24 Mr. Nishihara, in your home how many people
- 25 are using electricity?

- 1 THE WITNESS: It's just me.
- 2 COMMISSIONER WONG: So that if, in fact, you
- 3 had four people living in the house wouldn't the
- 4 payback period be substantially reduced?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Um, no. The factors that are
- 6 calculated into the payback are the cost of the
- 7 system, the cost of my financing, the estimated
- 8 escalation of the electric cost and the base electric
- 9 cost right now.
- 10 COMMISSIONER WONG: So that if they're more
- 11 people there'll be greater savings. In other words,
- 12 instead of paying 200 a month it will be maybe 150.
- 13 But if you have five people in the house, instead of
- 14 paying \$500 a month for electricity you would be
- 15 paying 300. Wouldn't it be so?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Um...
- 17 COMMISSIONER WONG: Put it another simpler
- 18 way. If no one uses any electricity you wouldn't save
- 19 anything, would you?
- THE WITNESS: Well, if no one's using
- 21 electricity, then the system is generating electricity
- 22 during the day.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: So the electric company
- 24 hasn't adopted a trade thing where they pay you,
- 25 right?

- 1 THE WITNESS: They do.
- 2 COMMISSIONER WONG: In other words, they pay
- 3 you. Is it net metering or they pay you?
- 4 THE WITNESS: No, it's net metering.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: Net metering means they
- 6 do not write you a check, is that correct?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: So that, Mr. Nishihara,
- 9 if you went on a trip for two months you wouldn't use
- 10 any electricity, assuming you turned off everything.
- 11 Did you save any money by putting in the system?
- 12 THE WITNESS: No.
- 13 COMMISSIONER WONG: So if you have two
- 14 people using a lot of electricity you save more, isn't
- 15 is that right?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Ah, let me think about that
- 17 one. The more that you -- the system will generate a
- 18 fixed amount of electricity per month.
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. And the
- 20 electricity that's produced is such that you're fully
- 21 utilizing it. Because you have more people your
- 22 savings will achieve more, isn't that correct? You
- 23 have more savings with more utilization. And no
- 24 savings is nobody using it.
- THE WITNESS: Right.

- 1 COMMISSIONER WONG: Right?
- 2 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: So there would be more
- 4 savings if more people, right?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Um, right as a percentage.
- 6 COMMISSIONER WONG: So in your case where
- 7 you have only one person using electricity your
- 8 savings is less than if there were four people using
- 9 the electricity, isn't that true?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Um, if the amount of
- 11 electricity being used -- or if the amount of
- 12 electricity being generated is less than the amount of
- 13 electricity being used, then the more people that you
- 14 have -- um, it's just -- the amount that you use is
- 15 just going to go up.
- 16 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. So the dollar
- 17 amount goes up but the amount of savings would be up
- 18 too wouldn't it, compared to what you have to pay the
- 19 electric company?
- 20 THE WITNESS: I'm afraid I'm not following
- 21 that.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WONG: In other words,
- 23 Mr. Nishihara, in your case it takes 17 years to pay
- 24 back. But if there are four people living in the
- 25 house it might take only ten or 11 years to pay back,

- 1 isn't that true?
- THE WITNESS: Um, I'm not sure about that.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: Are you familiar with
- 4 studies that indicate with a family of four it takes
- 5 about eleven years to pay back on the average?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Um, I've heard varying
- 7 numbers. But, again it all depends on what you're
- 8 assuming in terms of whether you're financing the
- 9 system and what your estimated escalation in the
- 10 electricity costs will be.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: Assuming the same
- 12 financing, assuming the same escalation. Isn't it
- 13 true that with more people, like an average home of
- 14 four people, it may take around 11 years to pay back
- 15 rather than 17? Or you don't know?
- 16 THE WITNESS: No, I'm not sure.
- 17 COMMISSIONER WONG: Okay. You don't know.
- 18 Let me ask you: In your case after 17 years you paid
- 19 back, who pays the electric bill?
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 21 COMMISSIONER WONG: And you would have total
- 22 savings because it produces electricity, wouldn't you,
- 23 Mr. Nishihara?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: And therefore that would

- 1 be tremendous savings to you, wouldn't it be?
- THE WITNESS: It would be a savings.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: And that is one of the
- 4 reasons why you put in a PV system to save money, not
- 5 to spend more money, isn't that true?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. Thank you
- 8 very much. Let me ask you this. On the average you
- 9 paid about -- with 28,000 with 3 kilowatts you paid
- 10 about \$9,000 a kilowatt.
- 11 As an expert in LED do you know what the
- 12 average cost of LED kilowatt system, for example of a
- 13 bigger size? Would it go up or would it go down?
- 14 THE WITNESS: When you say "LED"....
- 15 COMMISSIONER WONG: I'm sorry. Photovoltaic
- 16 system. You paid about 9,000 per kilowatt.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: Isn't it true when you
- 19 have a bigger system the price goes down?
- THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 21 COMMISSIONER WONG: So it could be, like, as
- 22 low as \$6,000 per kilowatt.
- THE WITNESS: On a larger system.
- 24 COMMISSIONER WONG: On a larger system. So
- 25 the savings would be even greater, wouldn't it be

- 1 true?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: Now, let me ask you:
- 4 You indicated that there's tax credits. What kind of
- 5 tax credits are you getting, Mr. Nishihara?
- 6 THE WITNESS: On the federal side it's
- 7 8,600. On the state side it's 5,000.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: That's because the 5,000
- 9 is the limit, right?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: The state credit is, in
- 12 fact, 35 percent of the system?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: And even with that
- 15 credit limitation it still comes out such that you pay
- 16 back in 17 years with one person using the
- 17 electricity, right?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: You said that the cost
- 20 is built into your mortgage. How much did it cost you
- 21 more to pay on your mortgage?
- 22 THE WITNESS: 28,840.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: I understand. How much
- 24 did it cost you per month because of this \$28,000
- 25 expenditure?

- 1 THE WITNESS: I haven't run that calc.
- 2 COMMISSIONER WONG: When you get back the
- 3 credits did you apply that money to reduce the
- 4 mortgage?
- 5 THE WITNESS: I haven't gotten back any
- 6 credits.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: When you do will you be
- 8 using it to reduce your mortgage?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Um, probable not.
- 10 COMMISSIONER WONG: Probably not. In other
- 11 words, you get to put this money in your pocket,
- 12 right?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: There we go. Now, let
- 15 me say to you, for example, that the additional --
- 16 excuse me -- do you know what your mortgage would have
- 17 been without the system and what your mortgage
- 18 payments per month is with the system?
- 19 THE WITNESS: No, I haven't run that.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: You have no idea. Would
- 21 it be more than the savings from the electricity bill?
- THE WITNESS: Um, I'm not sure.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: Obviously not because
- 24 there is a payback period, right?
- THE WITNESS: Mm-hmm.

- 1 COMMISSIONER WONG: So obviously it is less
- 2 than what your electricity bill would be, right?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WONG: So there's a savings on
- 5 your monthly electric bill and tremendous savings
- 6 after 17 years, is that true?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: Now, let me ask you:
- 9 You said that today technologically is feasible. Your
- 10 words here is that "As of today photovoltaic
- 11 technology is feasible given current tax incentives,"
- 12 correct?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: You also say that you're
- 15 concerned that with technological increases that might
- 16 not be good for PV, is that correct?
- 17 THE WITNESS: In the long term there may be
- 18 something that comes along.
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: Right. For example, if
- 20 you give the example of vinyl records, you know,
- 21 music, right?
- THE WITNESS: Mm-hmm.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: One vinyl record in the
- 24 old day can play only one song, some day they had long
- 25 ones you can play five or six songs. Today you have

- 1 an MP that can play a thousand songs, right?
- 2 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: So technology made it
- 4 better, right?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 6 COMMISSIONER WONG: So that you don't have
- 7 to carry a thousand vinyl, you can carry music for one
- 8 song, you can have one little MP that can carry a
- 9 thousand songs, right?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: So technology doesn't
- 12 make things worse, do they?
- 13 THE WITNESS: No.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: So if you put in a PV
- 15 system, are you suggesting that technology increases
- 16 or advancement would demolish the effect of PV?
- 17 THE WITNESS: No. I'm saying that if you
- 18 make it a mandate you would be forcing people to put
- 19 something in that very shortly could be obsolete.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: Oh, yes. So that are
- 21 you saying that PV someday is gonna be obsolete like
- 22 the MP would be obsolete too? But yet you buy the MP
- 23 to play music, right?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: So you're not saying

- 1 that technology turns human nature or human practice
- 2 backwards.
- 3 THE WITNESS: No.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WONG: It makes us go forward,
- 5 right?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: In other words,
- 8 technology, if anything, it might increase the
- 9 efficient of a PV system.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Or replace it.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: Or replace it. If it's
- 12 gonna replace it is it going to make it worse or is it
- 13 gonna make it better?
- 14 THE WITNESS: Hopefully better.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WONG: That's right. No one
- 16 would replace it if it goes backwards, right?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: We would not go back to
- 19 the horse and buggy days because that's going
- 20 backwards.
- 21 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WONG: So technology will take
- 23 us forward. Isn't that true, Mr. Nishihara?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: So, therefore, when we

- 1 talking about technology are we saying that with
- 2 technology there's greater efficiency, isn't that
- 3 true?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Hopefully, yes.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: Do you disagree that it
- 6 would not be more efficient?
- 7 THE WITNESS: No, I don't disagree.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: Right. So you agree it
- 9 would be more efficient.
- 10 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. You agree
- 12 with technology prices would come down.
- 13 THE WITNESS: Hopefully it will.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: Aside from hopefully now
- 15 with an expert in LED, do you think prices go up or
- 16 prices go down?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Come down.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: Come down. Thank you.
- 19 So with technology you get greater efficiency prices
- 20 come down, right?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WONG: And while electricity
- 23 costs go up isn't the savings even greater?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: So technology gives you

- 1 greater savings, right?
- 2 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. Yet you're
- 4 afraid of technology? Strike that. Did you think
- 5 electricity's going up or going down?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Up.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: That's why when you put
- 8 in your PV system you took into effect there's an
- 9 escalating effect of electricity.
- 10 THE WITNESS: That's correct.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: So when you say a
- 12 payback period of 17 years in fact it may be 17 years,
- 13 if electricity continues to go up, isn't that true?
- 14 THE WITNESS: An 8 percent is factored in.
- 15 So...
- 16 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. So if electricity
- 17 goes up more than 8 percent it would be less than 17
- 18 years.
- 19 THE WITNESS: It'd be shorter.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: And we have no control
- 21 over that.
- 22 THE WITNESS: Right.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: And could be that
- 24 electricity price might drop, right?
- THE WITNESS: Right.

- 1 COMMISSIONER WONG: But what is the
- 2 likelihood, Mr. Nishihara, in your opinion?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Over the long term I think it
- 4 would go up.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: Thank you. So,
- 6 Mr. Nishihara, just say that technology advancements
- 7 should preclude Castle & Cooke from installing PV
- 8 system's not really true, isn't that right,
- 9 Mr. Nishihara?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Well....
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: I withdraw the question.
- 12 I have no further questions, Mr. Nishihara.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other questions from
- 14 the Commissioners? Commissioner Devens.
- 15 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: Mr. Nishihara, just a
- 16 quick question. How do you define a "normal home of
- 17 four people"? What does that consist of?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Well, what we did was we came
- 19 up with -- we used figures from Hawaiian Electric in
- 20 terms of the amount of energy used by each of the
- 21 various appliances.
- 22 And then what we did was we put in
- 23 calculations of how much hours each of those
- 24 appliances would be used.
- 25 And as a back check what we did was we had

- 1 people on the task force bring in their electric bills
- 2 so that we could actually compare what the model was
- 3 compared to what people's actual homes were being used
- 4 at.
- 5 So it's basically a local home. We didn't
- 6 want to go ahead and use mainland numbers. We wanted
- 7 to use a local home as a baseline and a family of
- 8 four.
- 9 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: When you say "a family
- 10 of four" is that two adults, two kids? Four adults?
- 11 THE WITNESS: No, two adults, two kids.
- 12 COMMISSIONER DEVENS: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other questions for
- 14 Mr. Nishihara? Okay. Thank you very much.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Matsubara, your next
- 17 witness.
- MR. MATSUBARA: Call Mr. Funakoshi.
- 19 RODNEY FUNAKOSHI
- 20 being first duly sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 21 and testified as follows:
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Name and address, please.
- 24 THE WITNESS: Rodney Funakoshi, Castle &
- 25 Cooke Homes Hawai'i. We're in Mililani.

- 1 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Thank you.
- 2 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 3 BY MR. MATSUBARA:
- 4 Q Mr. Funakoshi, I have you listed as a
- 5 rebuttal witness to respond to issues that have arisen
- 6 during the course of the hearing where questions
- 7 existed. Is there any particular order you'd like to
- 8 take them in?
- 9 A Yeah. I think we'll start with Exhibit 55.
- 10 Q Exhibit 55, which we just added to the
- 11 exhibit list, relates to the greenspace issue that
- 12 Commissioner Judge had questions with as it was posted
- 13 in the EIS.
- 14 A Yeah, and I'll briefly explain. Not all of
- 15 you may have it in front of you. But in our January
- 16 hearing Commissioner Lisa Judge raised the question as
- 17 to the amount of parks and open space and basically
- 18 greenspace.
- 19 Because we also had a statement that the
- 20 developments will have parks, landscaped areas and
- 21 open space on approximately 200 acres or 25 percent of
- 22 the Project site.
- 23 But that was inconsistent with another table
- 24 that did not add up to that amount. Instead, parks,
- 25 open space areas only totaled 108 acres. So she

- 1 wanted to know what that discrepancy -- so we prepared
- 2 Exhibit 55 to reconcile that.
- 3 And basically what it amounts to is that
- 4 there's also a lot of common area open space,
- 5 landscaping, road sides within the multi-family and
- 6 single-family development areas that are open space
- 7 that are also considered green areas but not itemized
- 8 in any of the residential or commercial categories.
- 9 So that's what it is.
- 10 Again, we prepared this table in Exhibit 55
- 11 to reconcile the greenspace acreage. And essentially
- 12 what that amounts to is that includes other areas
- 13 within the development, the land use categories of
- 14 residential, commercial, school, medical and other
- 15 areas, roadways that incorporate greenspace.
- So based on that table substantiates the
- 17 statement in the EIS of 200 acres of the Project site
- 18 being comprised of greenspace.
- 19 Q Thank you. You also were planning on
- 20 addressing Commissioner Wong's question relating to
- 21 the ag easements on ag land that Castle & Cooke was
- 22 leasing?
- 23 A Yes. I wanted to point out we have a number
- 24 of points to make relative to the agricultural
- 25 easement proposal proposed by the Department of

- 1 Agriculture, Office of Planning and asked by you
- 2 Commissioner Wong.
- 3 First, I'd like to point out that Koa Ridge
- 4 is designated within the Urban Growth Boundaries of
- 5 the City and County of Honolulu's Sustainable
- 6 Communities Plan. This plan, as well as the other,
- 7 city's other Sustainable Community Development Plans
- 8 already considers and identifies agricultural
- 9 preservation areas from an islandwide perspective.
- The map behind me shows how Koa Ridge and
- 11 our Waiawa developments are within the Central O'ahu
- 12 Sustainable Community Plan's Urban Growth Boundaries.
- 13 I should point out these plans are designed to provide
- 14 a balance between urban development and protecting
- 15 farmlands in other areas such as Kunia, the North
- 16 Shore and other rural areas on O'ahu.
- 17 Secondly, we believe Castle & Cooke is fully
- 18 mitigating impacts on the agricultural operations of
- 19 its impacted farmer. We have arranged for the full
- 20 transition and relocation of Aloun Farms to fallow
- 21 Dole lands that have doubled the acreage, comparable
- 22 soil quality and wear availability.
- 23 Our relocation of Aloun Farms provides the
- 24 proper and best mitigation of impacts on actual
- 25 farming operations. Aloun Farms chose the land and is

- 1 happy with the arrangement which including the waiver
- 2 of rents for the transition period.
- 3 No other landowner in any petition
- 4 reclassifying agricultural lands has done as much, we
- 5 believe, including the state of Hawai'i for UH West
- 6 O'ahu and the Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in
- 7 their Ewa Plains development.
- 8 The purpose of an ag easement was stated to
- 9 preserve an agricultural land base even though the
- 10 amount of land needed to be preserved was not known.
- 11 This purpose is already addressed by state law in
- 12 Hawai'i's Important Agricultural Lands statute.
- The protection of agricultural lands is
- 14 already being implemented through the process of
- 15 designating IAL. Landowners, policy-makers, farmers
- 16 and many other stakeholders worked long and hard in
- 17 crafting state IAL legislation and should be entitled
- 18 to rely on it as the state's law and policy.
- 19 In Hawai'i Revised Statutes section 205-41
- 20 states, "IAL policy, to conserve the state's
- 21 agricultural land resource base, assure long-term
- 22 acceptability of agricultural land for agricultural
- 23 use, to achieve the purposes of conserving and
- 24 protecting agricultural lands, promoting diversified
- 25 agriculture, increasing agricultural self-sufficiency

- 1 and assuring availability of agriculturally suitable
- 2 lands pursuant to the Hawai'i State Constitution."
- 3 These IAL objectives are identical to those
- 4 being made in arguments for the ag easement. And the
- 5 Hawai'i Legislature has determined that they should be
- 6 achieved through the IAL process.
- 7 I would also note that the IAL designation
- 8 runs with the land and not the ownership. Even if IAL
- 9 land is sold it remains subject to the IAL
- 10 requirements set forth in the law.
- 11 Castle & Cooke Homes supports diversified
- 12 agriculture in Hawai'i and is committed to preserving
- 13 prime agricultural lands through the IAL process. We
- 14 have developed a preliminary plan for voluntary IAL
- 15 designation of Castle & Cooke Homes lands on O'ahu.
- 16 We are in the process of finalizing our review and
- 17 analysis and preparing the supporting materials
- 18 including maps, title reports, documentation of IAL
- 19 suitability relative to IAL criteria.
- The designation we're pursuing would
- 21 preserve much greater acreage than what we are
- 22 reclassifying. We further intend to submit our
- 23 voluntary IAL designation to the Land Use Commission
- 24 before the end of the year.
- We believe there are ample prime lands on

- 1 O'ahu and the neighbor Islands to meet Hawai'i's
- 2 future needs. Testimony from Bruce Plasch, our
- 3 agricultural expert, has found over 177,000 acres
- 4 statewide with 15,000 acres on O'ahu.
- 5 Most of these lands have high quality soils
- 6 rated prime A and B. They have ample sunshine and
- 7 access to irrigation water. A shortage of farmland is
- 8 not expected on O'ahu.
- 9 But even if this were to happen, the
- 10 production of vegetables, melons and other crops would
- 11 shift back to the neighbor islands, as was the case
- 12 before the 1990s closure of plantations.
- 13 The lower rents for farmland on the neighbor
- 14 islands partially offset the cost of shipping to
- 15 O'ahu.
- 16 You've heard a number of farmers involved in
- 17 the agricultural industry testifying to the shortage
- 18 of land is not the issue constraining agricultural
- 19 production.
- There are a host of other factors such as
- 21 diminishing available labor and high operational costs
- 22 for equipment, transportation, water, rising fuel
- 23 costs, high incidents of ag theft and need for
- 24 security, sensitivity to market and global
- 25 competition, and lack of or reduced subsidies and

- 1 support by the federal, state, and county governments.
- In summary, we believe we are fully
- 3 mitigating the impacts of our Project on agriculture
- 4 with our relocation of Aloun Farms and our voluntary
- 5 designation of IAL.
- 6 An additional ag easement condition on top
- 7 of this is not warranted, especially where we believe
- 8 there are sufficient prime agricultural lands on O'ahu
- 9 and the neighbor islands to meet Hawai'i's future
- 10 needs.
- 11 Q Mr. Funakoshi, let me just go over that
- 12 issue relating to Castle & Cooke's plans to voluntary
- 13 designate IAL lands. It is the intent to designate
- 14 more acreage as IAL lands than you are presently
- 15 reclassifying in this petition, is that correct?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And it is Castle & Cooke's intent to file a
- 18 petition before the year end before the end of 2010.
- 19 A Yes.
- 20 Q Thank you. You also are providing Castle &
- 21 Cooke's position in regard to certain energy issues
- 22 relating to PV installation and other energy endeavors
- 23 or initiatives undertaken by Castle & Cooke?
- 24 A Ah, yes. This relates to the second and
- 25 third questions raised by Commissioner Wong that were

- 1 at least partially answered by Mr. Nishihara.
- Okay. On energy issues Castle & Cooke
- 3 concurs with the testimony of Ron Nishihara, our
- 4 sustainability expert. Ron worked closely with us and
- 5 guided the preparation of Koa Ridge's sustainability
- 6 plan with an in-house task force of employees from our
- 7 residential and commercial operations.
- 8 We are very excited about developing a fully
- 9 integrated community including a full suite of planned
- 10 sustainability actions.
- 11 With respect to the questions that were
- 12 raised regarding the use of photovoltaics for the
- 13 generation of energy from our renewable and abundant
- 14 sunlight, Castle & Cooke developed and currently has
- 15 the largest solar farm in Hawai'i just dedicated in
- 16 January 2009 on the Island of Lana'i.
- 17 This is a state-of-the-art PV facility with
- 18 7,400 solar panels that rotate with the sun and cover
- 19 10 acres of land on Lana'i. Its 1.2-megawatt capacity
- 20 can supply up to 30 percent of Lana'i's peak
- 21 electricity demands.
- We are now working closely with the state
- 23 Department of Business Economic Development and
- 24 Tourism and HECO on preliminary planning of a large
- 25 wind farm project on Lana'i that via an interisland

- 1 submarine cable to be developed by the state could
- 2 potentially supply 10 percent of O'ahu's annual
- 3 electricity demand.
- 4 The proposed 200-megawatt wind farm would be
- 5 situated on the northwest corner of Lana'i in an area
- 6 that has strong and consistent winds, considered some
- 7 of the best in the state of Hawai'i as well as the
- 8 world.
- 9 On O'ahu and just across the gulch from Koa
- 10 Ridge we are planning a large solar farm in our
- 11 Mililani South Agricultural Park. Castle & Cooke
- 12 plans to lease sites to allow the development of four
- 13 5 megawatt solar PV facilities on approximately
- 14 140 acres to be known as the Mililani Solar Park.
- 15 This is envisioned to be the site of the largest
- 16 concentration of solar PV panels in the state.
- 17 The combined output of 20 megawatts will
- 18 provide enough power for more than 6,000 homes and
- 19 reduce the amount of imported oil by 75,000 barrels
- 20 annually.
- 21 With respect to Koa Ridge our sustainability
- 22 plan --
- 23 Q Mr. Funakoshi, is there any PUC involvement
- 24 in regard to that project you're currently processing?
- 25 A Right. Future HECO and regulatory approvals

- 1 will be needed. With respect to Koa Ridge, our
- 2 sustainability plan commits to achieving reduction of
- 3 energy use of at least 25 percent over typical newer
- 4 homes and at least 35 percent over older homes.
- 5 We will be offering PV as an option and
- 6 educating residents about their long-term benefits.
- 7 Provided that solar PV continues to be the
- 8 most feasible technology, we will further design the
- 9 single-family homes to be PV ready, meaning that we
- 10 will make our best efforts to accommodate PV on the
- 11 rooftops, providing a conduit from the attic and
- 12 providing space for an inverter.
- 13 We consider Castle & Cooke to be a leader in
- 14 the pursuit of renewable energy for the state. Our
- 15 Koa Ridge development, likewise, will reflect this
- 16 ethic of energy management to reduce and conserve
- 17 energy use through efficient community layout and
- 18 building design incorporating alternative energy
- 19 sources wherever feasible. Thank you.
- 20 MR. MATSUBARA: Thank you. Mr. Funakoshi is
- 21 available for questions.
- 22 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: City?
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yee?
- 25 CROSS-EXAMINATION

- 1 BY MR. YEE:
- 2 Q Thank you, Mr. Funakoshi. First of all, the
- 3 Office of Planning does appreciate the efforts Castle
- 4 has made to address our concerns. And while we're not
- 5 sure how that will eventually impact our final
- 6 position, we certainly acknowledge the sincere efforts
- 7 you have made.
- I do, however, have several questions
- 9 regarding the information you've presented today. On
- 10 a somewhat more minor note with regard to your
- 11 calculation of open space, is there any requirement
- 12 either in the CC&R's or the deeds that will require
- 13 the landowners to have that assumed amount of open
- 14 space on their property?
- 15 A Those are planning estimates. But, you
- 16 know, they have to incorporate your normal setbacks,
- 17 side yard, rear yard, front yard. We have made some
- 18 allowances so they are very conservative.
- 19 But roadways and whatnot, greenspace areas
- 20 are based on our roadway sections, preliminary roadway
- 21 sections. Best efforts have been made to estimate
- 22 accurately the amount af greenspace.
- 23 Q This would be true for commercial as well?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q So it will be part of the design that there

- 1 will be this amount of open space for commercial and
- 2 residential properties?
- 3 A Ah, yes. But again those are planning
- 4 estimates.
- 5 Q And what does that mean?
- 6 A In general some rules of thumb in terms of
- 7 how much covered versus landscaped areas would be
- 8 probable in the development because we don't have full
- 9 control over what specifically would go on every piece
- 10 of property.
- 11 Q So the amount may be less than the 200.
- 12 A Yes. But we have endeavored to be
- 13 conservative in our estimates.
- 14 Q Okay. You understand that the Office of
- 15 Planning's role, or one aspect of the Office of
- 16 Planning's role is to propose mitigation of any
- 17 impacts caused by development.
- 18 A Yes.
- 19 Q Okay. And your proposal to mitigate the
- 20 impacts of urbanizing a fairly large piece of
- 21 agricultural land to mitigate the cumulative impacts
- 22 of this further urbanization, would that be your IAL
- 23 proposal?
- 24 A Well, we are, um, using the IAL process to
- 25 address the overall state concerns for preservation of

- 1 ag land and so forth, correct.
- 2 Q I'm sorry. Please finish.
- 3 A Yes. So I mean I went through some of the
- 4 purposes of the IAL law which we feel mirror the
- 5 concerns that have been expressed relative to the need
- 6 for an ag easement. So our preference is that
- 7 preserving ag land be pursued through the IAL process.
- 8 Q Would you agree to a condition in this case
- 9 that an IAL application be made by the end of the year
- 10 for amount of land equal to or greater than the
- 11 Petition Area?
- 12 A It's our every intention to at least file.
- 13 Whether we can actually get an approval, we may not
- 14 have control over that.
- Q Will you commit to filing by the end of the
- 16 year?
- 17 MR. MATSUBARA: It will be a representation
- 18 in the finding of fact which will be covered by the
- 19 condition relating to developer's representations,
- 20 yes.
- 21 Q (By Mr. Yee) In this request for IAL will
- 22 you be waiving the 15 percent credit for
- 23 reclassification?
- 24 A That has not been decided.
- 25 Q So you may be coming to this Commission to

- 1 ask, to declare a certain amount of land to be IAL and
- 2 also asking to either urbanize 15 percent of the
- 3 similar amount of land or at least get credit for
- 4 that?
- 5 A We have not decided that particular point.
- 6 Q Do you have a range of acreage for this IAL
- 7 request?
- 8 A Not that we can disclose at this time since
- 9 we are still in the process of assessing the various
- 10 holdings.
- 11 Q Do you have any commitments on what you will
- 12 be doing on these IAL lands? Will it be used for
- 13 farming?
- 14 A Um, I'm not sure that, you know, we -- I
- 15 don't think I can answer that right now.
- 16 Q You're aware that an IAL designation other
- 17 than some limitations on farm dwellings does not have
- 18 a use restriction?
- 19 A Correct.
- 20 Q So when you determine these lands to be IAL,
- 21 a land could be reclassified to urban and still stay
- 22 in IAL at least technically under the law, correct?
- 23 A We consider that to be very highly unlikely.
- 24 Q Will you commit to not urbanizing the lands
- 25 upon which you declare lands to be IAL?

- 1 A I don't think I can do that.
- 2 Q So will you commit to not having the land
- 3 reclassified to rural?
- 4 A No, I don't think I can commit to that
- 5 either.
- 6 Q Will you commit to having the use of the IAL
- 7 lands to be solely for farming and accessory, farming
- 8 and accessory uses?
- 9 A Can you repeat that?
- 10 Q The purpose of IAL is for things like
- 11 diversified agriculture and farming, correct?
- 12 A Okay, yes.
- 13 Q And the purpose of IAL is not to create more
- 14 land for cellular telephone towers or wind farms or
- 15 day camps, correct? That's not what IAL land is
- 16 supposed to be preserving, correct?
- 17 A Well, I'm not sure what the letter of the
- 18 law allows in IAL or agricultural land. Presumably
- 19 what is allowed in agricultural lands would be
- 20 allowable in IAL lands.
- 21 Q Do you remember your testimony regarding the
- 22 purpose of IAL?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q And do you remember saying that the purpose
- 25 is to promote diversified agriculture and agricultural

- 1 self-sufficiency?
- 2 A Yes.
- 3 Q That points to issues such as farming rather
- 4 than things like cellular telephone antennas or day
- 5 camps, correct?
- 6 A Well, okay. But, well, I'm not sure. I'm
- 7 not sure.
- 8 Q So when you say that you're going to achieve
- 9 the same purpose as we have asked for for agricultural
- 10 easements, you're not prepared to limit the use of
- 11 these IAL lands to farming uses rather than all the
- 12 other types of non-farming uses that can occur on
- 13 agricultural lands?
- 14 A I thought we thought that IAL did not
- 15 address uses.
- 16 Q And I'm asking you that you're not going to
- 17 put any additional promises that this IAL land, that
- 18 you're going to come to the Commission with will be
- 19 used only for farming and farming accessory uses
- 20 rather than all the other uses that are potentially
- 21 allowed on agricultural lands, all the other
- 22 non-farming uses that are allowed.
- 23 A Okay, I'm not prepared to commit to that.
- 24 The IAL is a process that really addresses the
- 25 underlying land, not to my knowledge the use of it.

- 1 Q So is there any mitigation effort that
- 2 you're going to propose that will mitigate the
- 3 cumulative loss of prime agricultural lands at least
- 4 on the island of O'ahu?
- 5 A Well, we would hope that there are overall
- 6 plans to do that. And we believe the city has done
- 7 that through their various Sustainable Development
- 8 Plans, Community Plans. And those incorporate the
- 9 consideration of needs for agriculture as well as for
- 10 urban development.
- 11 And so we believe that's as good a process
- 12 as any to provide for the long-term protection and
- 13 supply of agricultural lands.
- 14 Q You've talked about what the city may be
- 15 doing. But what are you going to be doing to mitigate
- 16 your impact?
- 17 A Well, we believe we have fully mitigated.
- 18 When you have a development come into an area -- let's
- 19 say anywhere. Let's say the state, for example,
- 20 builds a highway.
- 21 What you do you're affecting an existing
- 22 potential resident or business that needs to be
- 23 relocated. So that's taken care of. Then the state
- 24 goes ahead and puts in its road or highway. Or the
- 25 city.

- 1 We are doing no different in fully
- 2 mitigating the displacement of an agricultural
- 3 operation. There's no loss of any farmlands. The
- 4 lands that it's being relocated to were already
- 5 fallow. So the farmer is happy. And there's no
- 6 effect on agricultural production. That we consider
- 7 is full mitigation.
- 8 Q You understand that I wasn't addressing the
- 9 question to the particular farmer but the larger
- 10 question of the reduction of the agricultural land
- 11 base. Did you understand that was the purpose of my
- 12 question?
- 13 A No, I'm sorry.
- 14 Q I wasn't addressing the question of what is
- 15 going to happen to Aloun Farms. I was addressing the
- 16 question of the impact this reclassification will have
- 17 in reducing the agricultural land base on the Island
- 18 of O'ahu.
- 19 And are you, Castle & Cooke, doing anything
- 20 to mitigate that cumulative loss in our agricultural
- 21 land base?
- 22 A Well, we have no control over a cumulative
- 23 loss. We only have control over our own lands. And
- 24 that is precisely the responsibility of commissions
- 25 such as this to determine that.

- 1 Q You have no control over the cumulative loss
- 2 but you have the control over this particular piece of
- 3 property, right?
- 4 A Only over what we own. And so...
- 5 Q And you have control over the other lands
- 6 that's owned by Castle & Cooke, correct?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q So you could through, through limitations in
- 9 your other lands in effect or mitigate the cumulative
- 10 loss of land, the agricultural land base on O'ahu.
- 11 A Um, I believe that's precisely what we are
- 12 doing with the IAL process.
- 13 Q So that's -- in your mind the IAL is the
- 14 method by which you're proposing to mitigate that
- 15 impact from this reclassification?
- 16 A Yeah, we believe that's the established and
- 17 correct way to do it.
- 18 Q So if this is your mitigation, the IAL is
- 19 your mitigation, don't you think that should then be a
- 20 condition within the Decision and Order, a specific
- 21 condition?
- 22 A Well, I believe that if, as you say, your
- 23 purpose was to mitigate the impacts of our actions,
- 24 the mitigation is really what we have done in terms of
- 25 relocating Aloun Farms.

- 1 We bring IAL up not to have it as a
- 2 condition to our approval of this petition. We really
- 3 are bringing it up to just show you our commitment and
- 4 intention for preserving agricultural lands.
- 5 Q Moving on to energy. You've listed a
- 6 variety of projects that Castle & Cooke will be going
- 7 through subject to PUC approvals.
- 8 Is there a commitment -- are you making a
- 9 commitment to make these requests to the PUC for these
- 10 projects?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q And as I understand it PV will be an option
- 13 to any homeowner in the Petition Area?
- 14 A Yes. We will provide that option.
- 15 Q All homes will be PV-ready?
- 16 A All single-family homes we will make them
- 17 PV-ready.
- 18 Q Why, then, won't you agree to a 10 percent,
- 19 at least 10 percent of the homes to have PV?
- 20 A Well, we believe strongly that specific
- 21 sustainability measures such as PV and particularly PV
- 22 is a tough one. There's a lot of reasons. one, of
- 23 course, is the cost. So, you know, solar water
- 24 heaters have been required. And of course we will
- 25 implement those.

- 1 But they actually have raised the cost of
- 2 the price of a home simply because we have to -- we
- 3 don't get -- the credits have been eliminated so it
- 4 really increases the cost of the house.
- 5 The PV system, if we were to have to absorb
- 6 that would result in a much greater increase in the
- 7 price of a house.
- 8 We would prefer that that be, you know, the
- 9 choice of the homeowner who can not only do it if we
- 10 can afford it, but then also can enjoy tax credits
- 11 which we most likely will not be able to use.
- 12 Q So for you the issue is cost.
- 13 A Well, it's much more than cost. Um, it's
- 14 really affordability. We will have to pass that on to
- 15 the homeowner. So you will affect the ability of
- 16 people to buy what are already expensive homes in the
- 17 state of Hawai'i.
- 18 Then the other consideration is really the
- 19 entire network. It's probably a more complicated
- 20 discussion than we want to get into here. But, HECO,
- 21 just as when you put a lot of renewables into a small
- 22 area it affects the circuit for that area in much more
- 23 severe way than it would when they are disbursed
- 24 islandwide, as currently is the case with PV
- 25 installations.

- 1 So when you force it to be in a concentrated
- 2 location, whether at a commercial area or, say, a
- 3 residential area, you know, it could have a much more
- 4 profound impact on the HECO grid.
- 5 So, you know, you would be complicating, we
- 6 believe, the discussion or -- you know we would -- it
- 7 would not be that simple a decision for you to make
- 8 that we would have to probably bring in HECO to
- 9 address some of the potential fluctuation issues that
- 10 may arise from the concentration of renewable energy
- 11 in one spot without proper planning.
- 12 Q But you don't think that's true if
- 13 10 percent of the homes had PV on it, do you?
- 14 A That could very well be. It really depends
- 15 on how the circuit is laid out. That could certainly
- 16 be a concern.
- 17 Q Okay. Well, that's a factual statement that
- 18 maybe we can leave for another day.
- 19 In your testimony, going back to your IAL,
- 20 you talked about the legislative effort to make IAL a
- 21 means of accomplishing these purposes. Do you
- 22 remember that?
- 23 A Okay.
- Q Do you know how long it took from the time
- 25 the constitutional amendment was in place regarding

- 1 IAL to the time legislation was actually passed to
- 2 implement this?
- 3 A I don't know. Is it decades? Yeah, I mean
- 4 as long as I've been in planning, you know, they've
- 5 argued, they've called it different names. It used to
- 6 be LESA before. Now it's IAL. It's decades.
- 7 Q So if we had to rely solely through
- 8 legislative efforts for each specific means by which
- 9 we are to protect our agricultural lands, it would be
- 10 unfortunate if we had to it wait an additional several
- 11 decades for any other protections for these
- 12 agricultural lands.
- 13 A My understanding is the deadlines are
- 14 imminent for designation of IAL. And, you know,
- 15 within the next year or two I would imagine there's
- 16 going to be a lot of activity in designating IAL.
- 17 Q But IAL is not the only means by which we
- 18 have to use to protect agricultural lands, right?
- 19 A We believe it's the -- I thought it was the
- 20 state's adopted means to do that.
- 21 Q In fact there are things such as the
- 22 planning process that's intended to protect
- 23 agricultural lands, correct?
- 24 A That's true and, you know, there are --
- 25 Q So we can't solely rely on the Legislature.

- 1 We also have to apply an analysis in the planning
- 2 process on how to protect agricultural lands, correct?
- 3 A So, again, I believe that what the counties
- 4 have done on O'ahu through their development and
- 5 Sustainable Communities Plans and on neighbor islands
- 6 through their community plans and general plans are
- 7 doing basically that, identifying where they would
- 8 want to see development happening and where they would
- 9 like to see remain in agriculture as part of their
- 10 planning efforts.
- 11 The state similarly can do a similar plan.
- 12 There was, for example, as part of the Water Code
- 13 allowance for an agricultural Water Use and
- 14 Development Plan that really has not taken on the
- 15 challenge of identifying what lands should be
- 16 preserved for agriculture.
- 17 Q Not to diminish those other efforts, but the
- 18 LUC also has a role in the protection of agricultural
- 19 lands, correct?
- 20 A That's true. Although it is on a
- 21 case-by-case basis --
- 22 Q Yes.
- 23 A -- and it would be preferable that it be on
- 24 a more comprehensive approach through a larger
- 25 consideration of availability, needs. We would have

- 1 hoped that that would precede and help support
- 2 Commission decisions.
- 3 MR. YEE: Thank you. I have nothing
- 4 further.
- 5 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Mr. Yost.
- 6 MR. YOST: Thank you, Chair.
- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. YOST:
- 9 Q The state's public policy that relates to
- 10 this particular parcel of land we're discussing in
- 11 this proceeding, Mr. Funakoshi, isn't it true that the
- 12 state's public policy is the land be preserved for
- 13 agricultural use because it's zoned agricultural,
- 14 correct?
- 15 A It is currently classified agriculture,
- 16 correct.
- 17 Q And isn't that zoning classification an
- 18 expression of the public policy that the land be
- 19 protected and used for agricultural purposes?
- 20 A It's an expression of what you can do with
- 21 the land today. The expression of what the state
- 22 wants for an area or what the city or county wants for
- 23 an area is reflected through a plan.
- Q Well, not just a plan, right? Because if
- 25 you want to reclassify the land that's currently

- 1 designated as agricultural land, you have to come to
- 2 this Commission and you have to convince a super
- 3 majority of the Commission to reclassify.
- 4 So isn't that provision that a super
- 5 majority, not just a majority but a super majority of
- 6 the Commission, is required to change the zoning
- 7 classification, isn't that a public policy expression
- 8 that's designed to try to preserve the ag land as
- 9 opposed to make it easy to reclassify it?
- 10 A Well, you do need to demonstrate that it
- 11 meets the criteria of the district to which you want
- 12 to designate it to.
- 13 So, for example, if we wish to designate it
- 14 to urban, then there are decision-making criteria for
- 15 your project and the site that needs to be met.
- So, for example, they want it to at least be
- 17 adjacent to already existing urban lands.
- 18 Q I'm sorry, Mr. Funakoshi, that wasn't my
- 19 question. My question is is the requirement that a
- 20 super majority vote in favor of reclassification, is
- 21 that an expression of public policy that it not be --
- 22 that the land should be preserved or at least in any
- 23 decision to reclassify should be done based on that
- 24 heightened standard?
- Doesn't that heightened standard in effect

- 1 protect the ag land to some extent?
- 2 A No. I think, I just think that it means it
- 3 is an important decision, that they do want a clear
- 4 majority of the decision-making body to make that
- 5 decision. So we don't have a problem with that. It
- 6 is an important decision.
- 7 Q The Sustainable Communities Plan that you
- 8 referred to the county developed in December 2002,
- 9 when was that supposed to come up for public review?
- 10 A We thought beginning of this year.
- 11 Q Wasn't it supposed to be on a five-year
- 12 cycle?
- 13 A Yes.
- Q And when would that have been? In 2007,
- 15 correct?
- 16 A Yes. But, you know, rarely, although they
- 17 say that rarely do any of the counties, much less city
- 18 and county adhere to the timeframe for updates of
- 19 these plans. They try to start it at least within the
- 20 five-year time and I think they have done that.
- 21 Q Has Castle & Cooke been involved at all in
- 22 discouraging the release of the updated Sustainable
- 23 Communities Plan for public review?
- 24 A No, not at all. We have not been involved
- 25 -- we have not -- our only communications have been

- 1 inquiries as to when we might expect it to come up.
- 2 So we have done that a number of times.
- 3 Q You haven't had any representative on any
- 4 sort of review commission with Belt Collins, members
- 5 of this county to discuss the renewal and public
- 6 review of the plan? You haven't had representatives
- 7 in those meetings?
- 8 A No.
- 9 Q You talked about a solar farm in Mililani.
- 10 A Yes. It's a proposed solar park.
- 11 Q What use was that land being used for before
- 12 you considered changing it to solar farm?
- 13 A Well, currently there are some farms on it.
- 14 And, you know, we are in the process of discussing
- 15 with some of the tenants relocation.
- 16 Q Haven't you served farmers on those lands
- 17 with notices of eviction?
- 18 A Um, no, not that I'm aware of.
- 19 Q You're not aware of that?
- 20 A No.
- 21 Q That they have six months to leave the land.
- 22 You're not aware of that?
- 23 A Ah, no I'm not aware of that.
- 24 MR. YOST: We'll have to provide information
- 25 separately to the Commission on that issue. It's our

- 1 understanding that that's the case.
- 2 A Okay.
- 3 Q The IAL designation process, that is a
- 4 process that contemplates that if a private landowner
- 5 offers land for designation, then 85 percent would be
- 6 preserved for agricultural use, under the currently
- 7 statutes anyway, not necessarily farming, then
- 8 15 percent would be freed up for urbanization,
- 9 correct?
- 10 A Yes, I believe so.
- 11 Q So is what you're proposing essentially if
- 12 you're going to do an equivalent amount of IAL
- 13 designation, let's say that's reduced by 15 percent
- 14 because you get a 15 percent allowance, then
- 15 effectively what you're doing is having 65 percent of
- 16 a total land area -- let's say the land area is the
- 17 Koa Ridge proposal -- and your IAL designation land --
- 18 you put 'em together and of that land 65 percent is
- 19 going to be urbanized, right?
- 20 A Sixty-five percent?
- 21 Q That's correct. Right? If you take the Koa
- 22 Ridge land and the IAL designation land of equivalent
- 23 size to the Koa Ridge land. Okay? And 15 percent of
- 24 the IAL land can be reclassified. And 100 percent of
- 25 the Koa Ridge land's gonna be reclassified. So you

- 1 put these two parcels of land together isn't
- 2 65 percent over all going to be reclassified? Or am I
- 3 getting my math incorrect? Is it something between 50
- 4 and 65 percent?
- 5 A Um, I'm not sure. You could be right, but
- 6 I'm not sure.
- 7 Q Okay. Well, my point is, my question is if
- 8 IAL is designed to try to preserve 85 percent of
- 9 eligible lands, the process that you're following is
- 10 perhaps preserving only 35 percent because you're
- 11 coming here and bringing lands to the Commission that
- 12 could qualify as IAL lands; you're asking that a
- 13 hundred percent of them be reclassified to urban.
- 14 Okay.
- Then you're going someplace else. You're
- 16 saying okay, we'll reclassify the same number of
- 17 acres -- we'll present them for designation as IAL.
- 18 We want 15 percent of that to be urban as well.
- 19 So over all your process instead of looking
- 20 at the lands within your land portfolio that might
- 21 qualify for IAL, submitting all of those to be
- 22 designated, you're picking and choosing and deciding
- 23 that portions of your IAL-qualified portfolio should
- 24 be 100 percent urban as opposed of 85% ag/15% urban.
- Do you see what I'm saying?

- 1 A Okay. But we see that, I mean it's a
- 2 separate process we're talking about.
- 3 Q But you're offering it as mitigation.
- 4 A We're offering....?
- 5 Q The IAL designation as mitigation.
- 6 A Mitigation of?
- 7 Q The urbanization of the parcel that's
- 8 proposed in this proceeding, right? Isn't that what
- 9 you're trying to say?
- 10 A Our mitigation has already been done as far
- 11 as we're concerned in terms of Aloun Farms.
- 12 Q You've talked about mitigation of the
- 13 agricultural production. But you haven't talked about
- 14 mitigation at all, I guess, about the land itself, the
- 15 loss of the land. Because we agreed the land will be
- 16 lost, forever, right? Once it's paved over it will no
- 17 longer --
- 18 A The use will be changed. The farmlands will
- 19 not be lost. The farm is simply being moved to
- 20 another location.
- 21 Q The farm land will be lost, correct?
- 22 A The land will be changed from agriculture to
- 23 urban. So you may have homes instead of crops, that's
- 24 true.
- 25 Q Okay. Mitigation means that you -- the word

- 1 "mitigation" means that you are offsetting the impact
- 2 of whatever you are doing, right? That's what "to
- 3 mitigate" means.
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q When you talk about full mitigation, isn't
- 6 it the case that in terms of the loss of this prime ag
- 7 land the only way you could fully mitigate that loss
- 8 would be to somehow create new prime ag land somewhere
- 9 else, like on the Big Island, which won't be ready for
- 10 10,000 years, you cannot fully mitigate the loss of
- 11 agricultural land inventory, correct?
- 12 A But, you know, I've never seen that done in
- 13 terms of a mitigation. It's not an irreplaceable -- I
- 14 mean there are other ag lands available.
- 15 Q Land is irreplaceable is it not, on this
- 16 island that we live on?
- 17 A Yes.
- 18 Q Okay. So it's partial mitigation. Whatever
- 19 you might propose at best is partial mitigation,
- 20 correct? It's not full mitigation of the impact.
- 21 A We believe it is full mitigation. If you
- 22 come in with a development and there is an existing
- 23 use, your obligation to mitigate the impact of your
- 24 development is to relocate that existing use. And we
- 25 have done that. And that's full mitigation as far as

- 1 I'm concerned.
- 2 Q I'm going to move on to the next issue.
- 3 You've mentioned that PV is going to increase the cost
- 4 of the house, right, if you install PV onto it?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q But isn't it true that if it was
- 7 incorporated within a mortgage that it might actually
- 8 decrease the cost of living in that house over time
- 9 for the homeowner? Because you're going to be
- 10 offsetting the electricity bill, correct?
- 11 A For the homeowner, yes, but the initial
- 12 purchase price will be higher.
- 13 Q Right. But the homeowner, when they do
- 14 their budget, they look at their mortgage payment,
- 15 they look at their utility bills, they look at
- 16 everything altogether, right?
- 17 A No. They look at how much home they can buy
- 18 for what they can qualify for.
- 19 Q That's part of what they look at. But when
- 20 they look at how they can afford to live, doesn't
- 21 their budget include utility bills, other expenses?
- 22 A That's true. They need to incorporate that.
- 23 Q So when they think about how much they can
- 24 afford in terms of the monthly payment, that's going
- 25 to be influenced if they're saving none on their

- 1 electricity bill, right?
- 2 A Yes. But the initial upfront costs rarely
- 3 makes that a choice they would make.
- 4 Q Well, do you think it might make that a
- 5 choice for 10 percent of the potential buyers, just as
- 6 perhaps 10 percent of buyers of automobiles might
- 7 choose to by a Prius instead of a Honda Civic?
- 8 A It may well be that 10 percent may choose to
- 9 take that option.
- 10 Q Okay. You haven't done any market studies,
- 11 though, so you don't have any analysis, right?
- 12 A Not to that detail in terms of selection of
- 13 PV. But clearly that would be a significant cost item
- 14 that would clearly raise the price of the house that
- 15 they would be purchasing. So it would certainly, you
- 16 know -- they would need to consider it seriously.
- 18 cost of the house?
- 19 A Well, the price we have heard basically
- 20 \$30,000 is about the cost of a PV system.
- 21 Q You think that that's true in terms of
- 22 building to scale as was being proposed here for 500
- 23 houses? You think \$30,000 is the amount it would cost
- 24 if you built to scale?
- 25 A I'm not sure, but, you know, it could

- 1 probably come down a bit, presumably.
- 2 Q Okay. All right. If it came down as low as
- 3 between 15 and \$17,000 is that sort of increase in
- 4 cost of significant concern, do you think, to a new
- 5 home buyer in terms of the benefit they would receive
- 6 from having that on the house?
- 7 A I think so, especially given the high cost
- 8 of our homes already. That usually people are
- 9 stretched to their limit of their borrowing
- 10 capability. So, you know, normally they would always
- 11 defer those kinds of purchases.
- 12 Q But you have never tried it before so you
- 13 don't really know in terms of a PV house.
- 14 A Correct.
- MR. YOST: I have no further questions.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Neighborhood Board?
- MS. LOOMIS: No questions.
- 18 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Commissioners?
- 19 Commissioner Teves.
- 20 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Hi, Mr. Funakoshi. I
- 21 have a couple questions regarding Castle & Cooke's
- 22 land on O'ahu only. My question is -- one of my
- 23 questions is: How many acres of undeveloped lands
- 24 does Castle & Cooke now hold on O'ahu?
- 25 THE WITNESS: I don't have that information

- 1 with me.
- 2 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Can you get that
- 3 information?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes, I suppose.
- 5 COMMISSIONER TEVES: And since we are on the
- 6 same subject, I want to know how much acres of land is
- 7 ag. The other question is -- but different classes of
- 8 that ag: A, B.
- 9 Does your company have right now any
- 10 undeveloped residential land that's not being built on
- 11 zoned for ag?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Undeveloped?
- 13 COMMISSIONER TEVES: I mean it's already
- 14 zoned for residential use, but you haven't built on it
- 15 yet.
- 16 THE WITNESS: We do not have any, I believe.
- 17 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Okay. Okay. Thanks.
- 18 So can you get me those answers to those other
- 19 questions, please.
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 21 COMMISSIONER TEVES: Thank you. That's all
- 22 I have.
- 23 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other questions?
- 24 Commissioner Wong.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Funakoshi, you

- 1 talked about relocating farmers so that they can have
- 2 farmland to use if this Project were to proceed; is
- 3 that correct?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Ah, yes. That's already in
- 5 the process of taking place. Aloun Farms is already
- 6 clearing and preparing the lands to which they're
- 7 being relocated.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: And how many acres of
- 9 land would be available to replaced farmers?
- 10 THE WITNESS: (Pause)
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: 300 acres?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Um, wait. Let me double
- 13 check. We initially provided a 335-acre site and have
- 14 added an additional 332 acres. So that is a total of
- 15 667 acres, which is double what he currently
- 16 cultivates at Koa Ridge.
- 17 COMMISSIONER WONG: And having designated --
- 18 how many farmers do you have who will be using or
- 19 actually will be entering leases for those 667 acres?
- THE WITNESS: We just have one lessee. So
- 21 Aloun Farms is leasing and will be, yeah, presumably
- 22 using the entire site.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: So Mr. Aloun Farms would
- 24 be leasing 667 acres.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.

- 1 COMMISSIONER WONG: As the replacement land
- 2 for the Koa Ridge property.
- 3 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WONG: And how long a lease
- 5 would he have?
- 6 THE WITNESS: We provided a ten-year lease
- 7 with a five-year option.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: And would the lease rent
- 9 increase?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Um, I'm not sure.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: If the rent -- put it
- 12 this way is it normal for the rent to increase or
- 13 decease after ten years?
- 14 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WONG: Do you know of any
- 16 leases where the rent went down after ten years?
- 17 THE WITNESS: (Pause) Okay. I don't know.
- 18 It probably wouldn't go down, but I'm not sure that it
- 19 would necessarily --
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right.
- 21 THE WITNESS: -- go up.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. It might
- 23 stay the same but it sure ain't gonna go down, right?
- 24 THE WITNESS: Probably not.
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. Now, suppose

- 1 Mr. Aloun Farms does not renew the lease after ten
- 2 years, those lands might not be farmed. Is that
- 3 possible?
- 4 THE WITNESS: It's possible.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. And so let me ask
- 6 you what is the adverse -- if truly you have a lease
- 7 with ten years and options, and assuming that the
- 8 options' exercised, how many years would it run out?
- 9 Twenty years?
- 10 THE WITNESS: How did you get 20 years?
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: I'm sorry. How many
- 12 options does he have?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Ten years, five-year option.
- 14 But it can certainly be renewed after that.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. But does the lease
- 16 provide for it? The lease provides for a ten plus
- 17 five, is that correct?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: So that basically if
- 20 Aloun Farms continues it might be 15 years, right?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 22 COMMISSIONER WONG: And if Castle truly
- 23 believes that that land ought to be used for farming,
- 24 what is the negative impact to Castle & Cooke by
- 25 having an agricultural easement on that land?

- 1 THE WITNESS: Well, again, when you come
- 2 back to the whole notion of, you know, the proper
- 3 application of an ag easement in the course of
- 4 reclassifying another property. So that is where we
- 5 have a problem.
- 6 COMMISSIONER WONG: I'm sorry. But I
- 7 haven't heard any negative impact if it's going to be
- 8 leased for 15 years, an easement for 15 years makes no
- 9 difference other than, perhaps, a philosophical aspect
- 10 of: Well, should this kind of thing be done or not,
- 11 right? It doesn't cost Castle & Cooke a nickel, does
- 12 it, during the 15 years?
- 13 THE WITNESS: Ah, no, I suppose not.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. So, in other
- 15 words, there's no negative impact to Castle & Cooke
- 16 for that 15 years, isn't this true, Mr. Funakoshi?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Well, you know, just as you
- 18 know whenever you place that kind of a restriction you
- 19 are removing some of your rights as a landowner.
- 20 So...
- 21 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. But if you already
- 22 gave up that right by reason of the lease what right
- 23 are you giving up more?
- THE WITNESS: Well...
- 25 COMMISSIONER WONG: Okay. Now,

- 1 Mr. Funakoshi, I can understand if the agricultural
- 2 easement were for 30 years that you will be giving up
- 3 something on the last 15 years. But you're not even
- 4 willing to give up the first 15.
- Now, let me go on to the next question.
- 6 Let's talk about photovoltaic system. You heard the
- 7 testimony to the effect that where a photovoltaic
- 8 system can be infused, wrapped into the mortgage that
- 9 the increase in mortgage payment is less than the
- 10 electrical cost savings.
- 11 Isn't that true? You heard that testimony.
- 12 THE WITNESS: The increase in...?
- 13 COMMISSIONER WONG: In other words, you pay
- 14 a little bit more on the mortgage but you save a heck
- 15 of a lot of electricity per month, right?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 17 COMMISSIONER WONG: That's what
- 18 Mr. Nishihara was saying, is that right? You don't
- 19 disagree with that statement, do you?
- THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 21 COMMISSIONER WONG: And that actually is a
- 22 reason why people put in photovoltaic systems with the
- 23 mortgage because your mortgage goes up but your
- 24 electric savings go higher than that, right? You
- 25 agree with that?

- 1 THE WITNESS: Okay. Assuming they can
- 2 qualify for the higher mortgage.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: Oh, yes. Let's talk
- 4 about qualifying for the higher mortgage. How much
- 5 are these homes going to sell for?
- 6 THE WITNESS: We haven't determined that,
- 7 but the market at that time will help us determine
- 8 that.
- 9 COMMISSIONER WONG: Do you have an idea of
- 10 the range of what these prices will be? I can tell
- 11 you it ain't going to be a hundred thousand.
- 12 THE WITNESS: That's true.
- 13 COMMISSIONER WONG: All right. Let's hear
- 14 some other numbers.
- 15 THE WITNESS: Okay. It would be -- I don't
- 16 know. We're going to have a portion certainly that's
- 17 going to be in the affordable category.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: Great.
- 19 THE WITNESS: So 30 percent. So some of
- 20 that will be available to people with less than,
- 21 making less than 80 percent of average median family
- 22 income. So you could have homes from 200,000 to, say,
- 23 600.
- 24 COMMISSIONER WONG: Okay. Let's take a
- 25 \$600,000 home. If you add 30,000 more to it how much

- 1 more are you increasing the home cost?
- THE WITNESS: If you add what?
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: Thirty thousand for a
- 4 photovoltaic system.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Okay. So you would have,
- 6 what, a \$630,000 mortgage.
- 7 COMMISSIONER WONG: Correct. You indicated
- 8 that one of your objections to a photovoltaic system
- 9 is that it's going to be more difficult for the
- 10 consumer because you're going to pass the cost on,
- 11 right?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Well, it's gonna elevate the
- 13 amount that he has to qualify for.
- 14 COMMISSIONER WONG: That's because Castle &
- 15 Cook ain't gonna absorb that cost. It's going to pass
- 16 it on to the consumer, right?
- 17 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: So your profit's not
- 19 going to be any less, would it, whether you have a
- 20 photovoltaic system on the building or not. Isn't
- 21 that true?
- 22 THE WITNESS: Ah, yes.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: It ain't going to cost
- 24 Castle & Cooke a nickel, would it?
- 25 THE WITNESS: Yes. So it really, it's a

- 1 question of affordability.
- 2 COMMISSIONER WONG: Oh, it's a question of
- 3 affordability. We're not talking about putting them
- 4 on affordable homes, Mr. Funakoshi. I'm talking about
- 5 the \$600,000, home right?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Well, normally that already
- 7 stretches the limits of people's borrowing power.
- 8 COMMISSIONER WONG: Let's talk about
- 9 borrowing power. Apparently you're an expert on that.
- 10 Borrowing power takes into account how much a person
- 11 earns, doesn't it?
- 12 THE WITNESS: Okay. Yes.
- 13 COMMISSIONER WONG: And it takes into
- 14 account how much he has to spend to live, right?
- 15 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 16 COMMISSIONER WONG: And it takes into
- 17 account how much he'll spend for the mortgage.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 19 COMMISSIONER WONG: And it takes into
- 20 account how much he has to pay for the electricity,
- 21 right?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 23 COMMISSIONER WONG: And if his electricity
- 24 savings is going to be more than his mortgage,
- 25 wouldn't his affordability be as equal if not better

- 1 because you're going to wrap it into the mortgage?
- 2 THE WITNESS: Well, he would need to qualify
- 3 for it.
- 4 COMMISSIONER WONG: Yes. The qualification
- 5 takes into consideration how much you net after you
- 6 pay all these expense? And if you've got savings from
- 7 the electricity, and we have already heard the
- 8 mortgage cost is cheaper, less with the electricity
- 9 savings, it becomes more affordable, doesn't it?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Okay. I don't believe so.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: You don't know. You're
- 12 not an economist.
- 13 THE WITNESS: I'm not sure. I don't believe
- 14 so.
- 15 COMMISSIONER WONG: You don't believe so but
- 16 you have no figures to show otherwise.
- 17 THE WITNESS: Okay.
- 18 COMMISSIONER WONG: Now, let me ask the next
- 19 question on commercial. Mr. Nishihara never offered
- 20 any testimony as to why at least 50 percent of the
- 21 electrical consumption for the commercial spaces could
- 22 not be accomplished other than to say, oh, technology
- 23 might change.
- Is that your same reasoning?
- 25 THE WITNESS: Well, you know, the generation

- 1 of electricity is not that simple for many commercial
- 2 establishments, especially if you have higher density
- 3 buildings with smaller roofs, multi-floors, you cannot
- 4 generate that amount of electricity.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: With this huge amount of
- 6 767 or 69 -67.67 acres you're going to find some land
- 7 that might not be so suitable and pipe it into the
- 8 commericial building, Mr. Funakoshi?
- 9 THE WITNESS: We would have to designate
- 10 areas. You know, it would be -- you know, you could,
- 11 for example, put -- they have done over parking lots
- 12 basically put PV and double as, like, carports and
- 13 roofs. So that has been done. But those are
- 14 substantially higher costs. You know, I don't see how
- 15 we can commit to doing that.
- 16 COMMISSIONER WONG: I understand. That is
- 17 the same reason why Mr. Nishihara just said, "Well,
- 18 you know, because technological changes why we
- 19 shouldn't do it." So basically that's the same reason
- 20 you have, right?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Well, the generation of
- 22 electricity is a tough question. 50 percent is quite
- 23 a bit. It's a lot easier to achieve more the
- 24 efficiency type savings, which is where most people go
- 25 to.

- 1 So that's really, you know, what they do and
- 2 try to max out the efficiency savings.
- 3 COMMISSIONER WONG: When you say "most
- 4 people go to", I don't understand. I understand
- 5 people like a Costco or some of the big boxes, they're
- 6 going towards PV and other things.
- 7 So when you say "most people going to only
- 8 efficiency" do you have any support for that kind of
- 9 statement?
- 10 THE WITNESS: Well --
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: Or is that your
- 12 speculation?
- 13 THE WITNESS: No, rarely do any commericial
- 14 buildings start out with suggesting they would
- 15 generate 50 percent of the electricity they consume.
- 16 COMMISSIONER WONG: Oh, yeah. But --
- 17 THE WITNESS: Or even a lot of commercials,
- 18 they don't put those in. Those are really third-party
- 19 installations that provide that.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: Well, I'm not concerned
- 21 whether it's third-party, fourth-party or maybe Castle
- 22 & Cooke can get a third-party to put it into. We're
- 23 not objecting -- I'm not opposed to a third-party
- 24 putting it in. I just want to know why it could not
- 25 be done. And so far I haven't heard testimony to that

- 1 effect. I have no further questions.
- 2 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. Commissioners, any
- 3 other questions? One question, Mr. Funakoshi, just
- 4 point of clarification. You did say that you have a
- 5 site across from Koa Ridge and there's four sites for
- 6 5 megawatt PV, is that correct?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Yeah. We have four lots of
- 8 five that will each produce 5 megawatts. So it's
- 9 four, 35-acre sites.
- 10 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay, 35 acres each. And
- 11 just a matter of clarification. That right now our
- 12 request to see if you could do 10 percent PV on
- 13 10 percent of the homes is not a doable thing, right?
- 14 THE WITNESS: We would not want that
- 15 restriction.
- 16 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay. All right. Very
- 17 good. Commissioners have any more questions or
- 18 comments? Do you have something? Yes, go ahead.
- 19 REDIRECT EXAMINATION
- 20 BY MR. MATSUBARA:
- 21 Q Following up on Chair Piltz' questions on
- 22 the Ag Park. To your knowledge it's currently in ag
- 23 currently in D and E land?
- 24 A Yes.
- 25 Q And the tenants are being offered relocation

- 1 to ag lands that is A and B lands?
- 2 A Um, yes or other areas, yeah.
- 3 Q But the quality of land they're being
- 4 offered is better than the D and E lands they're
- 5 currently on.
- 6 A Or comparable or, yeah, or A and B, yes.
- 7 Q In terms of our sustainability plans PV is
- 8 offered as an option to all homeowners?
- 9 A Yes.
- 10 Q Is it Castle & Cooke's intent to provide
- 11 that as an individual choice to each homeowner who
- 12 buys a home?
- 13 A For single-family homes, yes.
- 14 Q Yes, single-family homes so the homeowner
- 15 can choose whether he wants that option or not.
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q And if he so chooses it he can get the tax
- 18 credits, the tax benefits and wrap it up in his
- 19 financing when he goes to get his mortgage.
- 20 A Yes.
- 21 Q You're assisting in that regard by making
- 22 each of the homes PV ready?
- 23 A Yes.
- 24 Q So if he selects that option he has at least
- 25 the step of having a PV-ready home, is that correct?

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q So it's not a matter of not wanting to
- 3 provide 10 percent, you're providing it to all
- 4 homeowners. If they so choose they can have the PV
- 5 option.
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Now, in terms of the concerns relating to
- 8 technology change that you mentioned -- Mr. Nishihara
- 9 mentioned -- that you two discussed before today, was
- 10 it the concern that if you were mandated to have 500
- 11 homes with PV that if better technology arose prior to
- 12 your completing building all 500 homes, you may be
- 13 forced to use an outmoded technology as opposed to
- 14 having the flexibility of using the best technology
- 15 that currently becomes available?
- 16 A True.
- 17 Q Isn't that the concern with technology
- 18 change being mandated to, perhaps, utilize the
- 19 technology that becomes outmoded?
- 20 A That's only part of it, yes.
- 21 Q Okay. Now, in terms of the IAL process,
- 22 isn't the IAL designation just an overlay of ag lands?
- 23 Over existing ag lands?
- 24 A Yes. Yes.
- 25 Q IAL does not consider any uses.

- 1 A Right.
- 2 Q It doesn't grant or restrict uses.
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q What it does, though, is designate a land as
- 5 IAL so it would be more difficult to remove it from
- 6 the agricultural district?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q Now, if you wanted to remove it from the
- 9 agricultural district or change the classification
- 10 from ag to urban, who would you have to come to to do
- 11 that?
- 12 A The Land Use Commission.
- 13 Q Right. So the Land Use Commission would
- 14 have the authority to determine whether or not land
- 15 that you've put an IAL designation over gets
- 16 reclassified or not?
- 17 A If we would even submit such a petition,
- 18 yes.
- 19 Q I was just following up on OP's question.
- 20 If you wanted to remove the IAL designation who would
- 21 you have to go to to do that?
- 22 A The Legislature.
- Q No. Assuming you didn't use the 85/15.
- 24 A Oh.
- 25 Q All you did was designate --

- 1 A Right. The LUC.
- 2 Q If you utilized the 15 percent credit you
- 3 would get --
- 4 A Yeah.
- 5 Q -- then you would go to the Legislature.
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 O To remove that.
- 8 A Yes.
- 9 MR. MATSUBARA: Thank you, Mr. Chair. No
- 10 further questions.
- 11 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Chairman?
- 12 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes.
- 13 COMMISSIONER WONG: Mr. Funakoshi, I think
- 14 counsel asked you that your real concern is that if
- 15 you were mandated to do PV some day this would be
- 16 better technology, and you'd be jeopardized by being
- 17 forced to use PV system, right?
- 18 THE WITNESS: Well, that's always one
- 19 consideration.
- 20 COMMISSIONER WONG: But you said that was
- 21 the only one. That's what I understand. So if there
- 22 is better technology you would rather use the better
- 23 technology than the old PV system, right?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- COMMISSIONER WONG: So, for example, if this

- 1 Commission were to say that you must use PV system or
- 2 such other better than technology, that would take
- 3 care of your problem, wouldn't it?
- 4 THE WITNESS: That problem, yeah.
- 5 COMMISSIONER WONG: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Okay.
- 7 MR. YOST: Chair, I've got one follow up on
- 8 the redirect if that's okay.
- 9 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Go ahead.
- 10 MR. YOST: It's a brief thing.
- 11 RECROSS-EXAMINATION
- 12 BY MR. YOST:
- 13 Q Mr. Funakoshi, you mentioned there was a
- 14 concern about HECO having too much concentration of
- 15 renewable energy in one area.
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 Q Then Ben just asked you about how you're
- 18 going to offer every single homeowner in this area or
- 19 in the development the option of having PV on the
- 20 house.
- 21 So isn't it the case that in your own
- 22 planning you've already determined that there isn't a
- 23 problem with HECO's circuit? Because otherwise you
- 24 couldn't offer that option to a hundred percent,
- 25 right?

- 1 A We would offer it but we don't -- we
- 2 wouldn't expect that everyone will install it.
- 3 Q Okay.
- A So that, it would happen, you know, very
- 5 slowly presumably, or very, on a very distributed
- 6 basis.
- 7 Q Well, 10 percent is a pretty small amount of
- 8 acceptance, wouldn't you agree, of that option? I
- 9 mean haven't you considered at least 10 percent might
- 10 take you up on the option so you'd have to be prepared
- 11 for that?
- 12 A That's certainly possible. Maybe the more
- 13 critical point is whether it's being required of us as
- 14 opposed to it being a homeowner's choice is really
- 15 more the concern or developer's choice, for that
- 16 matter.
- 17 Q If it's required, though, you could actually
- 18 plan for it and that might make it easier to deal with
- 19 HECO and whatever grid concerns exist, right? You
- 20 wouldn't have to do 10 percent, meaning the first 500
- 21 houses, you could do it over a staggered period of
- 22 time, so forth.
- 23 A Okay. That's true.
- MR. YOST: No further questions.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Any other comments from the

- 1 Commission? Commissioner Chock.
- 2 COMMISSIONER CHOCK: Just wanted to address
- 3 one comment that was made at the last hearing raised
- 4 by one of the witnesses for the Intervenor
- 5 Neighborhood Board regarding potential conflicts of
- 6 interest on the Commission.
- 7 And personally, although she didn't
- 8 recognize anyone specifically, I did take some time
- 9 to research the matter. And from my personal
- 10 situation feel I have no conflict. I can be objective
- 11 on this petition as I have on every other petition,
- 12 will consider the evidence that's weighed on the
- 13 record before making any decision. So I just wanted
- 14 to address that, Mr. Chair.
- 15 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: So noted. Thank you for
- 16 that. Given that the parties have completed their
- 17 presentations before this Land Use Commission, I
- 18 declare the evidentiary portion of this proceeding to
- 19 have been completed subject to the receipt of various
- 20 follow up reports and/or answers that may have been
- 21 requested during the course of this hearing.
- I direct that the parties draft their
- 23 individual findings of fact, conclusions of law and
- 24 decision and order based upon the record in this
- 25 docket and serve the same upon each other and the

- 1 Commission.
- 2 The proposed findings of fact must reference
- 3 the witnesses as well as the date, page and line
- 4 numbers of the transcripts to identify your facts.
- 5 In addition to the transcript the exhibits
- 6 in evidence should be referenced. I note for the
- 7 parties that the Commission has standard conditions
- 8 which we would like the parties to consider in
- 9 preparing your proposed orders. A copy of the
- 10 standard conditions may be obtained from the
- 11 Commission staff.
- 12 Of course, should any of the parties desire
- 13 to stipulate to any portion or all of the findings of
- 14 fact, conclusions of law and decision and order, they
- 15 are encouraged to do so.
- 16 Regardless of whether the parties pursue a
- 17 partial or fully stipulated order, I direct that each
- 18 party file its proposal with the Commission and serve
- 19 copies on the other parties no later than the close of
- 20 business on June 21, 2010.
- 21 All comments or objections to the parties'
- 22 respective proposals shall be filed with the
- 23 Commission and served upon the other parties no later
- 24 than the close of business on July 7, 2010.
- 25 Any response to the objections must be filed

- 1 with the Commission and served on the other parties no
- 2 later than the close of business on July 19, 2010.
- 3 However, could I prevail upon the parties to
- 4 consult with staff early in the process to ensure
- 5 that technical and non-substantive formatting
- 6 protocols be observed by the Commission and are
- 7 adhered to. Oral arguments will be scheduled after
- 8 the receipt of the parties' respective filings.
- 9 Are there any questions with respect to our
- 10 post-hearing procedures?
- MR. MATSUBARA: No questions, Mr. Chairman.
- MS. TAKEUCHI-APUNA: No questions.
- 13 MR. YEE: I have one question which was I
- 14 believe the Commission asked the Petitioner to prepare
- 15 the number of acres that Castle & Cooke owns,
- 16 undeveloped ag and classifications. I was wondering
- 17 if the Commission could ask the Petitioner when he
- 18 would intend to submit that to the Commission and the
- 19 other parties. As I would assume that could be a part
- 20 of the D&O we are preparing.
- 21 MR. MATSUBARA: It should be well in advance
- 22 of the due date for the D&O. We will keep you
- 23 apprised.
- MR. YEE: Okay.
- 25 CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Mr. Yost.

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             MR. YOST: Perhaps we could set a date. We
 2 don't have to do it immediately. Perhaps if he needs
   to look at how long it would take, but we wanted to
 4
   submit something brief as well on the solar costs.
              If we all had a date we would know when that
 5
   was, we could just stick to it. It might be easier
    for everyone. Perhaps it doesn't need to be decided
 7
 8
   today.
 9
              CHAIRMAN PILTZ: Yes. You can get with our
   executive director. Well, thank you for your efforts
    in efficiently presenting your case in this matter. I
11
12
   thank you all very much. We're adjourned.
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         (The proceedings were adjourned at 4:00 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE					
2						
3	I, HOLLY HACKETT, CSR, RPR, in and for the State					
4	of Hawai'i, do hereby certify;					
5	That I was acting as court reporter in the					
6	foregoing LUC matter on the 20th day of May 2010;					
7	That the proceedings were taken down in					
8	computerized machine shorthand by me and were					
9	thereafter reduced to print by me;					
10	That the foregoing represents, to the best					
11	of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the					
12	proceedings had in the foregoing matter.					
13						
14	DATED: This day of2010					
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19	HOLLY M. HACKETT, CSR #130, RPR Certified Shorthand Reporter					
20	Certified Shorthand Reporter					
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