1	Land USE COMMISSION
2	STATE OF HAWAI'I
3	PROCEEDINGS HELD ON MAY 9, 2018
4	COMMENCING AT 9:00 A.M.
5	Maui arts & cultural center
6	ALEXA HIGASHI MEETING ROOM
7	One Cameron Way
8	Kahului, Maui, Hawai'i 96732-1137
9	
10	<u>AGENDA</u>
11	I. Call to Order
12	II. Adoption of Minutes
13	III. Tentative Meeting Schedule
14	IV. ACTION SP08-402 Department of Environmental
15	Management, County of Maui to Consider a 30-year Time Extension to the Existing State Special
16	Use Permit in Order to Continue Ongoing Landfill Operations at the Hana Landfill Situated Within the
17	State Land Use Agricultural District at Hana, Maui, Hawai'i, Tax Map Key: 1-3-06:Por. 7 and Por. 12.
18	V. Status Report and Action (If Necessary) A05-755 Hale Mua Properties, LLC (Maui)
19	A03-733 hare Mua Properties, LLC (Maur)
20	VI. ACTION A07-773 Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui Consider Waikapu Development Venture LLC's
	Motion to be Copettioner, or in the Alternative to
21	become a Party, or in the Alternative to Intervene
22	VII. ACTION A07-773 Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui Consider Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui's
23	Motion to Extend Time to Complete Project
24	

1 COMMISSIONERS: 2 ARNOLD WONG, Chair JONATHAN SCHEUER, Vice Chair 3 AARON MAHI LEE OHIGASHI 4 DAWN CHANG NANCY CABRAL 5 GARY OKUDA 6 DANIEL E. ORODENKER, Executive Officer RILEY K. HAKODA, Chief Clerk/Planner BERT SARUWATARI, Planner 7 SCOTT A.K. DERRICKSON AICP-Planner 8 DIANE ERICKSON, ESQ. 9 Deputy Attorney General DAWN APUNA, ESQ. 10 Deputy Attorney General 11 LORENE MAKI, Planner TOMAS OBERDING, Planner 12 For Office of Planning 13 MICHAEL HOPPER, ESO. Deputy Corporation Counsel 14 PAUL FASI, Planner JEFFREY DACK, Planner 15 TARA FURAKAWA, Planner Department of Planning 16 County of Maui 17 ROBERT SCHMIDT Solid Wast Operations Manager 18 County of Maui 19 ELAINE BAKER Environmental management 20 Solid Waste Division County of Maui 21 MURRAY SMITH 22 For Southwest 7 23 PETER HOROVITZ, ESQ. Merchant Horovitz & Tilley

For Waikapu Development

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     APPEARANCES CONTINUED:
 2
      JENNIFER LIM, ESQ.
      DEREK SIMON, ESQ.
      Carlsmith Ball
 3
      For Emmanuel Lutheran Church (Maui)
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- 1 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Good morning. This is
- the May 9th, 2018 Land Use Commission meeting.
- 3 The first item on the agenda is the
- 4 adoption of the April 2018 minutes. Any comments or
- 5 corrections on them?
- 6 Seeing none, is there a motion to adopt the
- 7 minutes?
- 8 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Move to adopt.
- 9 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Whatever, second.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: A motion has been made
- 11 by Commissioner Cabral, Commissioner Mahi seconded.
- 12 All in favor say "aye". Any opposed?
- 13 None. Minutes have been adopted for April 19th.
- 14 The next agenda item is the tentative
- 15 meeting schedule. Mr. Orodenker.
- 16 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: On May 23rd we will be
- in Kona at NELHA for Waikoloa Heights and Shopoff,
- 18 Lanihau and HHFDC status report.
- May 24th on will be on Oahu at the airport
- for Hartung Bros. and IAL, and status report on
- 21 A92-683.
- June 14th we will again be on Maui on
- 23 A89-649 status and LUC training.
- On June 28th, we will be on Oahu for Kualoa
- 25 Ranch, and on July 11, 2018 we will be back on Maui

- for Ka'ono'ulu Ranch status report.
- The remainder of the calendar is open.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you, Mr.
- 4 Orodenker.
- 5 SP08-402 Department of Environmental
- 6 <u>Management, County of Maui</u>
- 7 This is an Action Meeting on Docket
- 8 SP08-402, Department of Environmental Management,
- 9 County of Maui to consider a 30-year time extension
- 10 to the existing State Special Use Permit in order to
- 11 continue ongoing landfill operations at the Hana
- 12 Landfill situated within the State Land Use
- 13 Agricultural District at Hana, Maui, Hawai'i, Tax Map
- 14 Key 1-3-06: Portion 7 and Portion 12.
- Will the parties please identify themselves
- 16 for the record?
- MS. BAKER: Elaine Baker, Solid Waste
- 18 Division, County of Maui.
- 19 MR. SCHMIDT: Bob Schmidt, Solid Waste
- 20 Operations Manager.
- MR. HOPPER: Michael Hopper, Deputy
- 22 Corporation Counsel with Maui County Department of
- 23 Planning.
- 24 MR. FASI: Paul Fasi, Planning Department,
- 25 County of Maui.

- 1 MS. APUNA: Dawn Apuna on behalf of Office
- of Planning. Here with me today is Tomas Oberding.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- 4 I will now call for those individuals
- 5 desiring to provide public testimony on Docket
- 6 SP08-402 to identify themselves. All such
- 7 individuals will be called in turn to our witness box
- 8 where they will be sworn in prior to their testimony.
- 9 The Chair would like to note from time to
- 10 time I will call for short breaks.
- 11 After the completion of the public
- 12 testimony portion of this proceeding, we'll commence
- 13 with the hearing on this case.
- 14 Is there any person for public testimony?
- 15 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Marty Smith signed up.
- MR. SMITH: Yes, I'm sorry, I probably
- 17 signed in error. I am here on item V.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Anyone else wanting to
- 19 provide public testimony on Hana Landfill? Going
- 20 once, twice. Seeing none, let's continue.
- On April 12th, 2018, the Commission
- 22 received the partial record of the County of Maui
- 23 Planning Commission's proceedings recommending
- 24 approval of Applicant's application for amendments to
- 25 the Special Permit.

- 1 On April 19th and 23rd, 2018, the
- 2 Commission received additional parts of the record of
- 3 the County of Maui Planning Commission's proceedings
- 4 recommending approval of Applicant's application for
- 5 amendments to the Special Permit.
- 6 On April 26, 2018, a copy of the Hana
- 7 Community Association's correspondence to the Maui
- 8 Planning Commission was received to complete the
- 9 record.
- On May 1st, 2018, the Commission mailed the
- 11 May 9th, 2018 Land Use Commission meeting agenda
- 12 notice to the parties and to the Statewide and Maui
- 13 mailing lists.
- 14 Let me briefly describe our procedure for
- 15 today on this docket.
- 16 First, I'll give opportunity for the
- 17 Applicant to comment on the Commission's Policy
- 18 governing reimbursement of hearing expenses.
- The Applicant will then make its
- 20 presentation.
- 21 After the completion of Applicant's
- 22 presentation, we will receive any public comments
- from the Maui County Department of Planning.
- 24 After the completion of County's
- 25 presentation, we will receive any public comments

- 1 from the State Office of Planning.
- 2 After we receive public comments from the
- 3 State Office of Planning, the Commission will conduct
- 4 its deliberations.
- 5 Are there any questions on procedures for
- 6 today?
- 7 MS. BAKER: No.
- 8 MR. HOPPER: No.
- 9 MS. APUNA: No.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- 11 Department of Environmental Management,
- 12 please proceed with your presentation.
- MS. BAKER: Okay. Hana landfill is a small
- 14 landfill in East Maui. It receives approximately
- 15 four tons a day. Since we last applied for a Special
- 16 Permit, we have no longer accepted construction and
- demolition waste. We no longer accept junk vehicles.
- 18 We don't collect and receive white goods or scrap
- 19 metal.
- 20 We do have collection events for those on a
- 21 quarterly basis where containers are brought in and
- 22 material collected, and it's hauled out after the
- event, which occurs on a weekend.
- We no longer accept green waste except as
- it's separated, and it too is hauled out to the

- 1 compost site at Central Maui Landfill.
- 2 So basically we're down to just household
- 3 municipal solid waste. And as we -- there's no heavy
- 4 industry in the Hana area, so we don't get that much
- 5 objectionable materials.
- We do test, sample and test the groundwater
- quarterly, and report to the Department of Health on
- 8 the results. And our groundwater is good. We're
- 9 still in the Detection Monitoring Program.
- 10 We do use alternative cover. We tarp three
- 11 days a week, and then at the end of the week, we
- 12 cover with soil. Soil is now brought in. We have
- vacated the cinder pit. We're no longer hauling
- 14 cinder from the local cinder pit to the landfill.
- 15 So we have basically changed since we were
- last here to reduce the amounts and types of solid
- 17 waste that we handle out there.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: County, any questions?
- MR. HOPPER: Questions? No.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON WONG: OP, any questions?
- MS. APUNA: No questions.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any
- 23 questions for the Applicant? Commissioner Cabral.
- VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Yes. You referred to
- some of this, and I don't know, I'm from the Big

- 1 Island, so I don't know your geography that well.
- 2 My question was, you're referring that
- 3 you're taking a lot of this waste to the Central
- 4 Landfill on an ongoing basis.
- 5 The question: How far away is that? And
- 6 how impractical, or what is the situation with the
- 7 ability of possibility to transfer all of it on an
- 8 ongoing basis to the Central in order to not
- 9 necessarily have a landfill in this Hana location?
- 10 MS. BAKER: Well, actually we looked at
- 11 that approach, but the Department of Health was not
- 12 keen on us shutting down the Hana Landfill all
- 13 together because it's so remote, and traffic on Hana
- 14 Highway is subject to interruption due to mudslide,
- rain events, problems with the road.
- So the Department of Health did not want us
- 17 transferring out all of the waste.
- So as far as the mileage, it's 55 miles one
- 19 way, approximately, to Puunene where the Central
- 20 Landfill is located. And we only haul out the
- 21 greenwaste which is only a portion of the waste. And
- 22 as I said, on a quarterly basis scrap metal and white
- 23 goods.
- 24 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you. Excellent
- 25 response.

- What is white goods, though?
- MS. BAKER: Washers and dryers,
- 3 refrigerators, freezers.
- 4 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you very much.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Okuda.
- 6 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: I have a question
- 7 about what's in the record.
- 8 Before I ask that question, the request is
- 9 for extension of 30 years on the permit; is that
- 10 correct?
- MS. BAKER: Yes.
- 12 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Is there anything in
- the record, or is there an EIS or EA in the record
- 14 with respect to this application or this request for
- 15 extension?
- MS. BAKER: We didn't do an EA because this
- 17 time extension -- we have done two EAs in the recent
- 18 past, in 2003, to expand our landfill boundary, not
- 19 an actual footprint, but a buffer zone around the
- 20 landfill.
- 21 And we're currently working with the
- 22 Department of Land and Natural Resources to acquire
- 23 that land with an executive order, along with other
- 24 state agencies. That's what is taking so long.
- But we did subdivide a portion of Parcel 7

- 1 to add to the landfill.
- 2 Then we also did an EA for our recent makai
- 3 clean up. We had an old landfill on the makai side
- 4 of the parcel, and we're removing that waste. We'll
- 5 take out the metals and haul those to Central
- 6 Recycler in Central Maui. But we did do an EA for
- 7 that as well. So we have done two EAs, and that was
- 8 done in 2016.
- 9 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: But for this specific
- 10 request to extend the permit for 30 years, was an EA
- 11 or EIS prepared for that?
- MS. BAKER: No, not for this action.
- 13 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Just a general
- 14 question, maybe a general question to the parties.
- 15 Do any of you believe or don't believe that
- under the Supreme Court case Unite Here! Local 5
- versus City and County of Honolulu which is 123
- Hawai'i at 150, whether an EIS or an EA is required?
- 19 That's my question. And I would be
- interested to know if anyone has an answer to that.
- MS. BAKER: Well, we respond to the
- 22 triggers of using county lands or county funds.
- 23 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Yeah, but didn't
- 24 Supreme Court in that case state that if there's, for
- 25 example, extensions of time or changes of time or

- 1 lapse of time, that under certain circumstances, or
- those type of circumstances that would require either
- 3 an EA, EIS or an update?
- 4 MS. BAKER: I'm not familiar with that
- 5 interpretation. As I say, the triggers we have used
- 6 historically is the use of county lands or county
- funds, and generally that's in support of a new
- 8 activity, not an established activity.
- 9 The Hana Landfill has been there since the
- 10 late sixties.
- 11 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: I don't mean to debate
- 12 this, it's just a question I have that passage of
- time sometimes requires an update or supplemental EIS
- or some type of supplemental pleading.
- My only question is whether or not that was
- 16 considered here or resolved. I'm not saying the fact
- 17 that it hasn't been considered would necessarily
- 18 require denial, it's just a question I have.
- MS. BAKER: No, we did not do an EA for
- 20 this. Our last EA was done two years ago for the
- 21 makai (unintelligible) project.
- 22 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Let me be more
- 23 specific in my question.
- The question is whether any of the parties
- 25 here considered whether or not -- specifically

- 1 considered whether or not the Unite Here! Local 5
- 2 versus City and County case applied or not, whether
- 3 that was specifically considered. Thank you.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions?
- 5 Commissioner Chang.
- 6 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Good morning.
- 7 It does appear that the county is trying to
- 8 reduce the amount of waste that goes into the
- 9 landfill. I am interested in Condition 16 relating
- 10 to the Cultural Assessment.
- 11 What were the findings in the Cultural
- 12 Assessment and what was OHA's comments, responses, if
- 13 any?
- 14 MS. BAKER: The Cultural Assessment done
- for the expansion at that time, or conditions of our
- 16 permits here?
- 17 MR. HOPPER: She's referencing Condition
- 18 16.
- Just to clarify, talking about Condition 16
- of the existing Land Use Commission permit?
- 21 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Yes.
- MS. BAKER: That was done by Hanapono.
- 23 Yes, we did a report, and OHA's response to that was
- 24 approval of the report, and the main findings of that
- 25 report was that we were to leave the cinder pit

- 1 within five years, which we have done.
- 2 The concern of the cultural assessment was
- 3 basically we were, by continuing to mine the cinder,
- 4 we were changing the topography from the topography
- 5 that existed from the -- when the ancestors were
- 6 living in the area. So we have vacated the cinder
- 7 pit. We no longer mine it.
- 8 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Were there any other
- 9 comments that you received on the cultural
- 10 assessment?
- MS. BAKER: That was the main one,
- 12 basically to leave the cinder pit because we were
- 13 changing the topography from what had existed from
- 14 when the ancestors lived in the area.
- 15 COMMISSIONER CHANG: What's the distance of
- the landfill to the ocean?
- MS. BAKER: We're right there. There's a
- 18 250-foot wide buffer zone between us and the ocean,
- and that's why we're removing all of the old trash
- that's on the makai side of our parcel.
- 21 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you very much.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Good morning.
- Can you point to me where in the record, if
- it's there, is the reason behind seeking a 30-year

- 1 time extension rather than the shorter period of
- 2 time?
- MS. BAKER: Well, the 30-year time period
- 4 is in alignment with the estimated life of the
- 5 landfill. The estimated life was 59 years based on
- 6 our last topography which was done a year ago. But
- 7 since then we have moved some of the waste over from
- 8 the makai side. So it seemed reasonable to at least
- 9 approach -- we expect we will reduce the life of the
- 10 landfill from 59 years by moving the waste from the
- 11 makai side, so that will approximate 30 years.
- But it was basically to be able to operate
- within a time period that is close to the remaining
- 14 life of the landfill.
- 15 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Is that in the record?
- MS. BAKER: Paul, is it in the record?
- MR. FASI: Yes.
- 18 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Could you point out to
- me where in the record that is, please?
- MR. FASI: The request for 30 years?
- 21 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: The justification for
- 22 30 years as opposed to a shorter period of time.
- MR. FASI: No, that part is not in the
- 24 record. That was a report done by MEHR and I didn't
- 25 put that in the record.

- 1 The request basically was from DEM, and I
- 2 basically asked their time frame period, and it was
- 3 30 years via email to the department.
- 4 MR. HOPPER: I think we would also state
- 5 that in entering your question I think that's
- 6 something you do have as a matter of record now as
- 7 well from the department, and they've explained their
- 8 reasoning as well, if there was a reason to rely on
- 9 that for a Decision and Order in the future --
- 10 (inaudible).
- If there is additional information you
- 12 want, I think the department could get that to you.
- 13 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I think we're limited
- 14 to the record as presented to us as passed up from
- 15 the Planning Commission, but I'm not positive about
- 16 that.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Just following up.
- 19 Is there anything in the record that would
- indicate what future plans you have for the landfill?
- 21 And alternative sites that you'll be seeking within
- 22 this 30 period time limit which we now know as the
- 23 lifetime of landfill?
- You have to start planning to figure what
- you're going do after 30 years.

- 1 MS. BAKER: And so we did that as a part of
- 2 the transfer station study, and actually the best
- 3 location is just to expand next to our existing
- 4 landfill onto Parcel 7. That's already fairly
- 5 removed from neighbors. There's an established
- 6 infrastructure there. So that at the current time
- 7 that's our best location, but the landfill would have
- 8 to be lined per the new regulation.
- 9 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Would that be
- 10 contained in the record before the Planning
- 11 Commission in the request for extension?
- MR. FASI: Your question is the future
- plans for the landfill, would that be in the Planning
- 14 Commission's record? I don't believe we discussed
- 15 that at the Planning Commission what the future
- 16 alternatives where.
- 17 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm trying to
- 18 formulate if I have another question or not. You can
- 19 come back to me.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions?
- 21 Commissioner Chang.
- 22 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Yes. Is there
- anything in the record reflecting whether the
- 24 community has had an opportunity to provide input on
- 25 this 30-year extension?

- 1 MS. BAKER: The Hana Advisory Committee
- 2 recommended acceptance of the our Application as we
- 3 presented it. And I think the recommendation is a
- 4 part of the record; isn't it, Paul?
- 5 MR. FASI: That is correct.
- 6 MR. HOPPER: In addition -- Mike Hopper,
- 7 with Department of Planning.
- 8 The Planning Commission also had a public
- 9 hearing on the matter, I believe, and in both of
- 10 those cases recommended approval.
- 11 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Was the community in
- 12 support of the 30-year extension during these public
- 13 forums?
- MR. FASI: Yes, that's correct.
- 15 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: You're referring to
- the Hana Commission Hearing on February 13th of 2018
- 18 held in Wailuku?
- MR. FASI: The Hana Advisory Committee as
- 20 well as the Maui Planning Commission. The Hana
- 21 Advisory Committee makes a recommendation of approval
- 22 to the Maui Planning Commission.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Thank you.
- MR. HOPPER: For the record, Hana Advisory
- 25 Committee meeting is held in Hana.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi,
- 2 do you have followup?
- 3 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: No.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions?
- 5 Commissioner Chang.
- 6 COMMISSIONER CHANG: If I understood you
- 7 correctly, are you working with DLNR to extend the
- 8 landfill?
- 9 MS. BAKER: Actually, to extend it only as
- 10 a buffer zone for environmental controls, not the
- 11 actual waste footprint. But we are working with DLNR
- 12 to -- because we have groundwater monitoring wells,
- 13 and landfill gas monitoring probes that are outside
- our boundary Parcel 12. So we need to basically
- include them in our parcel, and DLNR is fine with
- 16 that.
- 17 What has taken some time is that he's also
- 18 basically providing parts of Parcel 7 to other state
- 19 agencies.
- 20 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Maybe this is a
- 21 followup to Commissioner Okuda's question.
- 22 With the use of state lands that DLNR --
- will you be doing an updated environmental document?
- MS. BAKER: Well, we already did that EA to
- 25 cover this action. That was the one done in 2003.

- 1 COMMISSIONER CHANG: And that did include
- 2 the additional DLNR land?
- 3 MS. BAKER: Yes. In fact, the action for
- 4 that EA was to add this additional DLNR --
- 5 COMMISSIONER CHANG: That's all part of
- 6 your record?
- 7 MS. BAKER: No, I don't believe so, but it
- 8 is part of the landfill's record that would be filed
- 9 with OEQC on their website, that EA is available.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions,
- 11 Commissioners? Seeing none. County, do you have any
- 12 witnesses or any statements?
- MR. HOPPER: No witnesses, Mr. Chair.
- Just to clarify, the request is a 30-year
- 15 time extension which would be amending the -- 30-year
- time extension with the existing conditions being
- 17 retained. So with the exception of, I believe,
- 18 Condition 1 being changed to reflect the different
- date to February 28, 2048 would be the request, and
- the Planning Department recommends approval.
- 21 Again, subject to the existing conditions
- 22 of the LUC.
- The Planning Department also requested that
- the reference to the county Special Permit be deleted
- from the existing condition, because there's been a

- 1 bit of confusion when they're listed with the State
- 2 Special Permit. The County Special Permit is a
- 3 separate permit that the county grants, and there
- 4 were a few references to that in the existing
- 5 conditions.
- 6 So that's a request. If that's not
- 7 granted, I don't think it's necessarily a major
- 8 issue, but that's something that the Planning
- 9 Department requested be changed.
- 10 But based on the record, the Hana Advisory
- 11 Committee's review, as well the Planning Commission's
- 12 review, the County Department of Planning would
- 13 recommend that you approve the time extension request
- 14 subject to the original conditions already on the
- 15 subject permit.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- 17 Commissioners, any questions for County of
- 18 Maui? Commissioner Okuda.
- 19 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you.
- 20 What is the county's position on whether or
- 21 not a Supplemental EIS or EA is necessary for this
- 22 30-year request? And maybe I can be more specific.
- 23 If you -- calling attention to HAR Section
- 24 11-200-26 which was cited by the Hawai'i Supreme
- Court, says that you really don't need an update if

- 1 the action has not changed substantially in size,
- 2 scope, intensity, use, location or timing, among
- 3 other things, the Supreme Court emphasized the word
- 4 "timing". And then went on to quote the fact that if
- 5 there's changes in those things, you need a
- 6 Supplemental EIS. And in the Local 5 versus city and
- 7 county case, Kuilima had an existing EIS, but then
- 8 there was this passage of time.
- 9 MR. HOPPER: I think in general, if you're
- 10 talking about a special permit for a landfill, and
- 11 the original permit covered the landfill operation
- 12 and dealt with the issues to mitigate the impacts of
- 13 that landfill, in this case you're not talking about
- 14 a substantially different impact over time, I think
- 15 would be the Planning Department's position.
- Because if the landfill is going to
- 17 continue the same use, it's a bit different than a
- project that maybe hasn't been built yet and 20 years
- 19 passed, and there's additional traffic in that area,
- 20 or something like that, such that the impacts are
- 21 different.
- I think in this case you're talking about
- 23 the exact same landfill use over a period of time,
- there is a time extension, and if the Land Use
- 25 Commission or other agencies have required

- 1 consistently a new EA for the same use to continue
- 2 just for a longer period of time that would be, i
- 3 believe, a novel approach to these types of permits.
- 4 So I think the county's position generally
- 5 would be mere passage of time, since the use is the
- 6 same, and impact generally the same, you know, this
- 7 is not something that would generally require an EA.
- 8 But we can further analyze that question if
- 9 there's an issue for the Land Use Commission in this
- 10 case, but in general -- and you know, there have
- 11 been, from time to time, permit extensions for these
- 12 types of uses, I believe, across the state.
- I don't know if every time there's only a
- 14 time extension request and not expansion request,
- 15 there has been an EA done in those cases. Generally
- 16 you would not see that as a requirement if there's no
- 17 expansion with the trigger being, I guess, the argued
- 18 trigger would be use of state or county lands, but
- 19 that use is continuing and is the same use.
- 20 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: That's correct, the
- 21 use is continuing, but we're talking use over what
- 22 period of time? I can see if, for example, it was a
- 23 smaller extension of time, I guess to some extent it
- 24 might be a balancing issue, but where you're asking
- for an extension of the permit for 30 years, doesn't

- 1 a government agency or the decisionmaker need an EIS
- 2 to weigh the different alternatives in making the --
- 3 or making the decision, or deciding whether or not to
- 4 grant 30 years? I think 30 years is kind of long
- 5 time. We all might be dead by that time 30 years
- 6 comes around.
- 7 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Hopefully.
- 8 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Commissioner, speak
- 9 for yourself.
- 10 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Do you agree that's
- 11 what the Supreme Court was basically stating on its
- 12 rationale in the Local 5 case that the passage of
- 13 time itself can be a factor which indicates or which
- 14 requires the need for an updated EIS or a brand new
- 15 EIS?
- 16 MR. HOPPER: I believe under certain
- 17 circumstances that could be true, but I don't think
- there is a clear rule that says, for example, if a
- 19 use continues for 10, 20, 30 years that there has to
- 20 be an EA updated in every single case. I don't
- 21 believe that's necessarily been consistently applied
- 22 throughout the State of Hawaii.
- 23 If that was the case, then every municipal
- 24 agency that continued to run a landfill would have to
- do an EA every five, ten years, and I don't think

- 1 that's necessarily what the Hawaii Supreme Court has
- 2 ruled in all cases.
- I don't know if you're consistently
- 4 requiring that certainly of every applicant for a
- 5 special permit, and maybe you are, and that's
- 6 information for us for not just this landfill, but
- 7 also multiple other landfills that the county runs
- 8 and other counties across the state run.
- 9 I do believe in certain circumstances
- 10 passage of time can lead to an argument that an EA
- needs to be updated, but I don't think that's
- 12 necessarily the case for this permit or for permits
- in general.
- If we're going to come up with a rule that
- 15 says if you have a time extension of an existing use,
- that is going to require an EA, then we'll have to
- 17 look at that, but I don't believe that's what the
- 18 Administrative Rules require in all cases.
- 19 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: I'm just trying to see
- 20 whether or not the Supreme Court case applies here or
- 21 not.
- Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions for
- 24 the county? Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 25 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Can you tell me

- 1 what the Planning Commission, the standard that the
- 2 Planning Commission used to determine whether or not
- 3 to grant the time extension? Was there a standard?
- 4 Was there a list of items that had to be checked off
- 5 before granted?
- 6 MR. FASI: At the Planning Commission
- 7 meeting, the Planning Commission reviews their annual
- 8 report. The Department of Environmental Management
- 9 is required to submit an annual report of their
- ongoing operations every year, so for 30 years it's
- 11 not unregulated or unmonitored.
- 12 They do have to file an annual report with
- 13 the Planning Department. If there's anything unusual
- or significant, we have the authority to take it back
- 15 to the Planning Commission to address that certain
- issue, whatever it may be.
- 17 At the last Planning Commission review,
- they did review the annual report, and they basically
- 19 check for compliance with the conditions, and they
- 20 agreed that the landfill operation is complying with
- 21 the current conditions of all three permits.
- MR. HOPPER: And, Mr. Chair, and Mr.
- 23 Ohiqashi, you could also reference the February --
- 24 I'm sorry, there was a staff report done for the
- 25 permit as well in the original permitting standards

- for a special permit -- yeah, actually dated
- 2 February 13th, 2018, and the standards for the
- 3 permits, the department -- I'm sorry, if you give me
- 4 a minute, I'm trying to find in the record here, that
- 5 you could look for to find the standards.
- 6 Generally the standards applied by the
- 7 Commission. There's a 2018 staff report as well as
- 8 the staff report for the original permit which
- 9 required the Planning Commission to look at Special
- 10 Management Area Permit, County Special Permit and
- 11 State Special Permit.
- 12 In looking at the State Special Permit,
- they applied the criteria of the LUC rules required a
- 14 review of a variety of issues, including the permit
- 15 criteria, whether the use is an unusual and
- 16 reasonable use, and as well as other issues whether
- 17 the use is contrary, the objectives sought to be
- accomplished by 205 and 205A, whether it would
- 19 adversely affect the surrounding property.
- The use would not unnecessarily burden
- 21 public agencies, et cetera, and those were various
- 22 conditions that the State Land Use Commission -- or
- 23 various criteria the State Land Use Commission
- 24 requires in its rules, and the Planning Commission is
- 25 required to review that as part of the record.

- 1 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: As part of the time
- 2 extension?
- MR. HOPPER: I think in applying the time
- 4 extension they gave -- Paul, can give the details --
- 5 but I think they monitored the compliance with the
- 6 conditions to see if the conditions were followed and
- 7 determined that they had been followed.
- 8 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So the record would
- 9 include something -- what I'm trying to say is, I'm
- 10 assuming that -- correct me if I'm wrong -- that the
- 11 record would include evidence that would support that
- 12 the five conditions or the conditions that you
- 13 mentioned requiring Land Use Special Use Permit are
- 14 still in existence, and that because they're still in
- 15 existence, that the question is how long should the
- 16 permit be extended. Is that right?
- 17 MR. FASI: That is correct.
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So one of the -- I
- 19 have my cheat sheet in front of me. Says: One, the
- 20 desired use would not adversely effect surrounding
- 21 property.
- There seem to be indications that you're
- 23 creating a buffer zone around the property utilizing
- 24 state lands, and is that indicative of the fact that
- 25 none of the surrounding areas or contiguous areas to

- 1 the property has changed since the inception of the
- 2 Special Use Permit?
- 3 MR. FASI: That is also correct.
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So the same affect
- 5 on those properties that existed way back then would
- 6 exist now?
- 7 MR. FASI: Correct.
- 8 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: And that would be
- 9 included in the record?
- MR. FASI: Yes.
- 11 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I don't have any
- more questions.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any more
- 14 questions? If not, thank you, county.
- 15 OP.
- MS. APUNA: Office of Planning doesn't have
- any objections to the request for extension of time.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- So, Commissioners, do we have any final
- 20 questions or comments. Seeing none -- Commissioner
- 21 Cabral.
- VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Sorry, I'm not sure, I
- think probably Petitioner would be the one to address
- 24 this.
- 25 Based on your reduction of materials going

- 1 into your landfill -- and I do understand that
- 2 landfills have become very studied and scientific and
- 3 a lot of federal regulations. I'm from Hilo. We
- 4 have to start transferring our rubbish across the
- 5 island due to rainfall, et cetera.
- 6 How many years do you anticipate this
- 7 location that size with what you're looking for?
- 8 You're asking for 30 more years.
- 9 Do you anticipate -- what you're asking to
- 10 receive at this point, is that going to last you
- 11 30 years at this point, based on your projections?
- MS. BAKER: Yes.
- 13 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Okay, thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any other
- 15 questions or comments? Seeing none, Commissioners,
- what is your pleasure?
- 17 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I got to go through
- 18 my cheat sheet.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 20 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm going to move
- 21 that we authorize the extension of 30 years subject
- 22 to the conditions enumerated by the County of Maui to
- clean up some of the language, and that all other
- 24 conditions of SPO8-402 do remain binding as Decision
- 25 and Order dated August 27, 2009, and that I believe

- 1 that the Chair is authorized to sign the order on
- 2 behalf of the Commission.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Is there a second?
- 4 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: I'll go ahead and
- 5 second it. Neighbor island folks have to stick
- 6 together. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Cabral
- 8 second.
- 9 Any discussion on this matter,
- 10 Commissioners? Commissioner Scheuer.
- 11 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I have the same set of
- 12 concerns that Commissioner Okuda more ably explored
- 13 regarding what the interaction is of our action today
- 14 with the need for further 343 review.
- So I guess I'm saying I'm open to further
- discussion or enlightenment from Commissioner Okuda
- or others.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Okuda.
- 19 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: You know, my concern
- 20 is the warning that is always given to us on
- 21 government agencies, and the warning or admonition I
- used to give when I wasn't on a government agency,
- 23 which is, you know what, don't create red tape when
- it's unnecessary, don't have good hard working public
- 25 servants have to waste their time and jump through

- 1 hoops and things like that.
- 2 And I'm cognizant of that, and I don't mean
- 3 to waste anyone's time, but the problem I personally
- 4 had with analyzing this request is the fact that we
- 5 don't have the basic tool which helps us evaluate
- 6 these type of decisions which is an up-to-date EIS or
- 7 EA, which has clearly gone through the consultive
- 8 process with the community and other people.
- 9 And if that was just my concern in a
- 10 vacuum, then who am I to second guess what you folks
- 11 do as professional planners. But the concern I have
- is we now have the Hawai'i Supreme Court case in the
- 13 Kuilima case saying that passage of time is a factor
- 14 that has to be looked at.
- And especially when you're asking for a
- 16 30-year extension of time on a landfill which almost
- by it's very nature has environmental impacts, when
- 18 we look at the requirements that the Supreme Court
- 19 laid out in the Kuilima case, and the fact that the
- 20 Supreme Court referenced back to the public policy
- 21 reason why we have these requirements, which is a
- 22 specific provision in Hawaii's Constitution that
- there's an obligation to protect natural resources, I
- think it's consistent with the constitution and the
- 25 Hawaii Supreme Court case that we have this planning

- 1 tool, or this analytical tool which is the updated
- 2 EIS or EA, and the Supreme Court said, you know,
- 3 under certain circumstances, including passage of
- 4 time, there's no such thing.
- 5 I think Justice Koba said that in his
- 6 concurring opinion, you don't have a perpetual EA or
- 7 EIS, and so that's the reason for my concern about
- 8 the lack in the record here of an updated or
- 9 supplemental EIS or EA.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you, Commissioner.
- 11 Any other questions or discussion?
- 12 Commissioner Chang.
- 13 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I think we all share
- 14 Commission Okuda's concerns about environmental -- or
- 15 just having sufficient information to evaluate this
- 16 additional 30 years. As I look through the
- 17 conditions, I think the county appears to be trying
- 18 to address and minimize the amount of waste that
- 19 you're putting in. Looking at the geographic
- location, it is very difficult to be transporting the
- 21 waste to Kahului, but I think some lessons learned
- from our Oahu situation with Waimanalo Gulch, I think
- 23 it is incumbent upon the County of Maui to begin --
- even if it's 30 years, you're still required to
- comply with the law.

- 1 If the law changes, if there are higher
- 2 standards upon which you have to comply with,
- 3 environmental standards, cultural standards, you have
- 4 to comply with the law. So that in my view is a
- 5 safeguard, notwithstanding that we don't have updated
- 6 additional information, because I think the county
- 7 has said the use is the same, appears to be trying to
- 8 mitigate some of these concerns, like the community
- 9 needs to have some landfill that is nearby where they
- 10 live, so this is a unique situation.
- But I believe it is in the county's best
- interest not to just rely on the 30 years, but to
- begin to start planning and begin to look for an
- 14 alternative landfill and begin to start doing the
- 15 appropriate studies.
- It gives me some comfort that there were
- 17 public meetings on this, so the public was given an
- opportunity to comment. You have a Hana Advisory
- 19 Council who I have to believe is doing what is in the
- 20 best interest of that community.
- 21 But through our annual reports we will be
- looking at monitoring; are you being in compliance
- with the current regulations? And like the Kuilima
- 24 case, that wasn't the government that sued, that was
- 25 community.

- 1 So the community has a right to hold you
- 2 accountable as well. So while we may not have the
- 3 most up-to-date information, environmental
- 4 disclosures, the fact that you have to comply with
- 5 the law, and are urging you to start looking at
- 6 alternative sites, even if it's 30 years, that
- 7 30 years creeps upon you very quickly. Hopefully
- 8 there will be some of us around even within 30 years.
- 9 So just word of caution, don't wait until
- 10 it's too late. In my view this is somewhat of a
- 11 unique geographic circumstance, and to ensure that
- that community has accesses to these resources.
- 13 I think it's just a difficult situation,
- 14 but I'm hoping you're beginning to see the issues
- 15 that we're struggling with here, wanting to do what
- 16 is the right thing. Thank you.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you. Commissioner
- 18 Ohigashi.
- 19 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I support this.
- 20 The reason is this. I agree that the case law cited
- 21 by Commissioner Okuda raises some questions, but I'm
- 22 sure that the Planning Department and their
- 23 Corporation Counsel have explored that whether or not
- the decision was an advisable thing or not.
- I think that they went through the criteria

- 1 and found that the same criteria that used to extend
- 2 this or issue this Land Use Commission permit in the
- 3 first place were still in -- presently were still
- 4 applicable today.
- 5 I'm concerned, like, that it's 30 years,
- 6 that's why my question was basically what are you
- 7 guys doing to figure out what's going on. I feel
- 8 assured that your department is looking into
- 9 alternative or additional land in this matter to take
- 10 care of the problem.
- 11 And from the reports that we receive, it
- seems as though, it appears that the environmental
- 13 concerns have been met. That being the case, I'm in
- 14 support of this matter.
- 15 I ask my Commissioners, fellow members to
- 16 support my motion.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other statements,
- 18 Commissioners, or discussion?
- 19 Thank you, very much.
- Mr. Orodenker, if you will please poll the
- 21 Commissioners.
- 22 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- The motion was made by Commissioner
- Ohigashi and seconded by Commissioner Cabral to
- 25 authorize the extension of 30 years for the subject

- 1 property to conditions, and clean up of language as
- 2 requested by the county.
- 3 Commissioner Ohigashi?
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Aye.
- 5 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Cabral?
- 6 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Aye.
- 7 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Chang?
- 8 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Aye.
- 9 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Aczon is
- 10 absent.
- 11 Commissioner Scheuer?
- 12 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Aye.
- 13 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Okuda?
- 14 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: No.
- 15 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Mahi?
- 16 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Aye.
- 17 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Chair Wong?
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Aye.
- 19 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you.
- 20 Mr. Chair, the motion passes with six
- 21 votes.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you very much.
- We'll take a five-minute recess for the
- 24 next agenda item to set up.
- 25 (Recess taken.)

- 1 <u>A07-755 Hale Mua Properties, LLC</u>
- 2 CHAIRPERSON WONG: The Chair would now like
- 3 to hear the next agenda item Status Report and
- 4 appropriate action on Docket A07-755 Hale Mua
- 5 Properties, LLC (Maui).
- 6 Would the parties please identify
- 7 themselves for the record?
- 8 MR. SMITH: Good morning, Chairman, Members
- 9 of the Commission. I'm Murray Smith, resident of
- 10 Maui and I represent today the owners of the property
- 11 Southwest 7.
- MR. HOPPER: Michael Hopper, Deputy
- 13 Corporation Counsel for Department of Planning. With
- 14 me is planner Jeffrey Dack.
- MS. APUNA: Deputy Attorney General, Dawn
- 16 Apuna on behalf of Office of Planning. With me is
- 17 Tomas Oberding.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you. Let me
- 19 update the record in this docket.
- 20 On February 25th, 2013, the Commission
- 21 received correspondence from Robert Cooper notifying
- the Commission of a change of ownership from Hale Mua
- Properties, LLC to Southwest 7.
- On April 13, 2018, the Commission mailed
- 25 notice to Southwest 7, LLC to appear and provide a

- 1 status report at its May 9, 2018 meeting.
- 2 From April 17, 2018 to April 30, 2018,
- 3 Commission staff exchanged email with Thomas
- 4 Millspaugh of Veneable LLP to establish who the
- 5 proper and responsible contacts were for this docket
- 6 and advise them that the LUC would be requesting a
- 7 status update on May 9, 2018.
- 8 On May 1, 2018, an LUC meeting agenda
- 9 notice for the May 9, 2018 meeting was sent to the
- 10 Parties and the Statewide, and Maui mailing lists.
- On May 2, 2018, the Commission received
- 12 correspondence from Petitioner's Representative,
- 13 Murray Smith.
- On May 6,2018, the Commission received
- 15 additional email correspondence from Petitioner's
- 16 Representative, Murray Smith.
- For members of the public, please be
- 18 reminded that the Commission will not be considering
- 19 the merits of the A07-755 Petition; rather the
- 20 Commission is interested in learning what the current
- 21 state of the activities of Petitioner relating to
- 22 this docket are.
- Let me go over the procedures for this
- 24 docket.
- 25 First, those individuals desiring to

- 1 provide public testimony for the Commission's
- 2 consideration will be asked to identify themselves
- 3 and will be called in order to our witness box where
- 4 they will be sworn in prior to their testimony.
- 5 At the conclusion of the public testimony,
- 6 the Chair will next call for the Petitioner to
- 7 respond and provide its status update on this matter.
- 8 After questioning of the Petitioner, the
- 9 Chair will call on the County of Maui.
- 10 After questioning of the County, the Chair
- 11 will call OP.
- 12 After questioning OP, the Chair will
- 13 entertain any final questions or comments.
- 14 The Chair will also note from time to time
- 15 I'll be calling for short breaks.
- 16 Are there any questions for today on the
- 17 procedures? Mr. Smith?
- 18 MR. SMITH: No questions.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON WONG: County?
- MR. HOPPER: No.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON WONG: OP?
- MS. APUNA: No questions.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any public testimony?
- We don't have anyone written. Anyone out there?
- 25 Going once, twice, three times, okay, no one.

- 1 Mr. Smith, please make your presentation
- 2 and provide your status report.
- 3 MR. SMITH: Yes, let me take a moment to
- 4 give you some history on the property.
- 5 In 2003 and -4 the property was purchased
- 6 from Wailuku Agribusiness and Alexander & Baldwin by
- 7 Mr. Kim, who I'll use interchangeably with Hale Mua
- 8 Properties. It was his entity.
- 9 In 2005, approximately, he received
- 10 conditional approval from the County of Maui for a
- 11 466 lot subdivision on the property.
- 12 In 2008 he gained reclassification from
- your Commission for 114 acres approximately to Urban
- 14 Land Use from the Ag Land Use.
- 15 Also in 2008 Mr. Kim felt he needed to go
- 16 to the marketplace and raise some capital to continue
- 17 with his operation. He wasn't ready to construct,
- 18 but he needed additional funds at that time, is my
- 19 understanding.
- 20 And this is where our client comes in. He
- 21 provided some interim financing to Mr. Kim to tied
- over until the project was completely ready to be
- 23 constructed, and then he was to get a construction
- 24 loan.
- In 2012 Southwest 7, who was the lender,

- 1 pursued action for nonperformance under the trust
- deed and payment as required; and Mr. Kim, I don't
- 3 believe, had made very many payments on it, so it was
- 4 a large sum that was due. And they pursued, through
- 5 the courts, a foreclosure on the property.
- 6 Southwest 7, subsequent to this, we did
- 7 receive a commissioner's deed for the property from
- 8 the state. Subsequent to this, it must have been
- 9 very shortly after the letter from Rob Cooper, he
- 10 passed away, and the property went into an estate,
- 11 which is held for the benefit of Mr. Cooper's widow.
- 12 So since that time, I'm not sure even if
- they were very familiar with the project or the
- 14 conditions that were given or asked for Mr. Kim, so
- 15 he probably didn't hear anything. I'm not even sure
- 16 how he knew to notify you, but that stands on its
- 17 own.
- Currently, they have retained my services
- 19 -- well, backing up a minute. They tried to sell the
- 20 property because it's an asset. The beneficiaries
- 21 live back East, and it's just a problem for them. So
- 22 they tried to market the property since 2012. Had
- 23 many offers and they -- no one stepped up and closed
- on the property because there are some title issues
- 25 that are clouded, and no one felt they could get

- 1 clear title and title insurance even for the project
- 2 and come up with a viable project.
- 3 This stemmed from actions of the
- 4 foreclosure proceeding, no fault of the state, but it
- 5 was improper legal description on the trust deed.
- 6 So I came into the picture very recently
- 7 and they retained me to try to get the property -- I
- 8 know the condition of the property very well, and I'm
- 9 familiar with the legal position on the title. And
- 10 other issues, such as your conditions which we're in
- 11 default on, county conditions.
- 12 And I'm here primarily to ask that we
- 13 consider at least giving some period of time before
- 14 you take action to negate any of the past grants.
- 15 We would be more than willing to provide
- 16 updates currently. Our plan is for me to clean the
- 17 property up, number one. If anyone's familiar with
- it, it's quite a mess. There's many car bodies and
- 19 auto parts, and they have received several
- 20 notifications from the county in violation of
- 21 ordinances for dumping.
- 22 Although I did have a Phase I report done
- 23 recently, and there's no environmental concerns other
- than perhaps small leakage around some of these
- 25 automobiles.

- 1 So that's one of the items that I'm charged
- 2 to get cleaned up.
- 3 And also, if I can, rectify the title
- 4 issues, come into compliance with some of the
- 5 recommendations or the requirements of your board,
- 6 Commission, and try to get this property so that it's
- 7 saleable and usable to a perspective purchaser.
- 8 That, I guess, gives you a little bit of
- 9 the history, it's not by way of excuse, but this is
- 10 an unfortunate situation. We're kind of like a bank
- 11 that's foreclosed on some property that we didn't
- want.
- And I would ask that maybe not 30 years,
- 14 but we be given perhaps a year or something to see if
- we can't bring this property into compliance with the
- 16 county ordinances and Health Department concerns, and
- 17 to see if we can't find some type of purchaser to
- 18 pick up where Mr. Kim took off.
- 19 Unfortunately, when he accepted the
- 20 conditions from the County, and I believe this is
- 21 probably -- I understand there's two issues that deny
- 22 him the ability to proceed. One of them being, if
- anyone is familiar with the Imi Kala Bridge, that was
- 24 a condition of approval that that bridge constructed
- and the roadway extended to the highway to alleviate

- 1 the traffic concerns.
- 2 This had to be completed before the first
- 3 house was sold. And Mr. Kim had an estimate of
- 4 \$10 million, which I feel at least was 20, and today
- 5 it's more like 50 or 60, because Corps of Engineering
- 6 is requiring a complete redesign of the bridge, and
- 7 it's an onerous condition that is impossible to
- 8 fulfill. The benefits of the sale of land doesn't
- 9 come anywhere close to the cost of the bridge.
- 10 So that's really one reason why I feel that
- 11 he failed in his efforts to complete the project.
- But be that as it may, we're now the
- 13 unfortunate owners of the property, and we ask your
- 14 consideration in helping us to bring the property
- into compliance and do what we can to get it sold and
- 16 get some one in there that can perform on the
- 17 construction.
- A new plan would be required. The County
- 19 has rescinded the old approval of the preliminary map
- 20 that Mr. Kim had done, so we would have too start
- 21 over. But we would like to continue to offer the
- 22 property with this Urban Land Use classification.
- 23 We feel it will assist us in finding
- someone that can perform on the property.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you, Mr. Smith.

- 1 Commissioners, do you have any questions
- for Mr. Smith? Commissioner Mahi.
- 3 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Just to catch me up on
- 4 the information, Mr. Smith.
- 5 So my understanding is at present the land
- 6 designation in terms of how it's interpreted is still
- 7 Agriculture?
- 8 MR. SMITH: It's still zoned Agriculture.
- 9 The land use classification was changed by your
- 10 Commission to Urban on 114 acres.
- 11 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Okay. I just wanted to
- 12 clarify that.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you, Commissioner.
- 14 Any other questions? Commissioner Okuda.
- 15 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you for your
- 16 testimony, Mr. Smith.
- 17 When the lender made its loan on this
- 18 property, the lender knew that the property was
- 19 subject to certain conditions including the Land Use
- 20 Commission's conditions, correct?
- MR. SMITH: I assume so, yes. I can't
- 22 swear to it, but I would assume so.
- 23 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Usually before a
- lender makes a loan, a prudent lender anyway, would
- order a preliminary title search and do due diligence

- 1 to determine what the state of title is; correct?
- 2 MR. SMITH: That's correct.
- 3 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Because the lender
- 4 understands that if the loan is not paid and the
- 5 property goes into foreclosure, the foreclosure sale
- is going to be subject to whatever conditions are on
- 7 the property, easements, land use restrictions,
- 8 things like that; is that correct?
- 9 MR. SMITH: That's correct.
- 10 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: So when the lender
- 11 made its loan to Mr. Kim, it understood that there
- would be some risk if the conditions that Land Use
- 13 Commission, or any other government agency, imposed
- 14 could be met?
- MR. SMITH: Of course.
- 16 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you.
- 17 MR. SMITH: I might interject here that
- this appears to be one of the things -- and there
- were a number of items that were very poorly
- 20 accomplished at that time. Mr. Cooper was working
- 21 through an agent who received a commission for this,
- 22 and did a very poor job, and we are suffering because
- of it. And I don't expect that that's your problem,
- but the owner, in reading the documentation, if he
- 25 did at that time, there was a lot to absorb, and I'm

- 1 sure that he never expected and hoped -- the property
- 2 at that time was valued, according to the appraisal,
- 3 38 million, so he didn't assume that he would ever
- 4 own it. But unfortunately, he does. I know that
- 5 there were a number of things that where improperly
- 6 accommodated for.
- 7 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: You know, it's not to
- 8 downplay the hardship, or not have any sympathy to
- 9 your client and things like that, but you can have an
- 10 understanding that -- or tell me if you disagree that
- 11 when property is reclassified from Agriculture to
- 12 Urban, just that fact gives value to the property in
- many cases. Would you agree that's a fair statement?
- MR. SMITH: Yes.
- 15 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: And so it's reasonable
- 16 for the State of Hawaii, through LUC, to basically
- say, okay, look we're going to give you this
- 18 reclassification. You're going to get value out of
- 19 it, but there's certain conditions that the owner has
- 20 to live up to in exchange for the government
- 21 basically bestowing through its actions an increase
- 22 in value.
- 23 Do you agree that's a fair statement?
- MR. SMITH: Yes, I do. I think it's up to
- 25 the Commission to decide whether or not that land use

- 1 should be there. They felt it should be at one time.
- 2 All I'm asking for, if you still feel that way, that
- 3 we are willing to cooperate to make this come to
- 4 fruition.
- 5 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Thank you.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Chang.
- 7 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Mr. Smith, are you the
- 8 owner's legal counsel? Are you a developer?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Professional civil engineer
- 10 registered in the State of California, but our
- 11 residence is here, so I would be an independent
- 12 contractor, provider of my services and expertise.
- 13 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you.
- I just want to confirm, is it your
- 15 testimony or your statement on behalf of the
- landowner that your intention, the landowner's
- intention, is not to comply or develop the land as it
- 18 was proposed, but it is to sell the land? Is that
- 19 the landowner's intention?
- MR. SMITH: Yes, that's correct.
- 21 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you, that's
- 22 helpful.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I know you went over
- 25 this in your testimony, but can you please explain

- 1 again who Southwest 7 is?
- 2 MR. SMITH: Southwest 7, LLC is a Colorado
- 3 limited liability company that was formed by Mr.
- 4 Cooper sometime prior to my knowledge. It's the
- 5 entity that made the loan, and currently the owner of
- 6 the property.
- 7 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: And Mr. Cooper is the
- 8 sole member of Southwest 7?
- 9 MR. SMITH: He was. He was deceased in
- -13, I believe.
- 11 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Who are his heirs?
- MR. SMITH: His heirs now are his wife --
- the property is in trust for her. It's monitored by
- 14 Mr. Millspaugh that you spoke of, and another
- 15 gentleman that is a trust -- he takes care of all of
- 16 the assets in the trust.
- 17 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Cabral.
- 19 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: I read this, and some
- of what I'm reading I'm not sure I'm supposed to even
- 21 ask this, but I'm a lay person. It almost sounds
- like it might be easier for your life, based on
- 23 potential market value of the property without these
- 24 conditions versus with these conditions for a future
- 25 buyer that perhaps you might want to be completely

- 1 removed from this and just go back to full
- 2 agriculture, you're still zoned Agriculture. I mean,
- 3 I don't know if this is a question for somebody
- 4 smarter than me, if you can just opt out of this and
- 5 have us all go away. I don't know what that takes,
- 6 but I almost feel like that might be the simplest
- 7 thing for you at some point in time.
- 8 And I don't know if you would like to ask
- 9 us to do that for you now, if we are allowed, or if
- 10 you're going to ask for that in the future, but it
- does seem like that would be something I would be
- 12 looking at if I was in your unfortunate position or
- 13 Mrs. Cooper's unfortunate position here. I don't
- 14 know the answer to these things.
- 15 MR. SMITH: Would you like me to respond?
- 16 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.
- MR. SMITH: My first reaction, and first
- 18 email to you after discussing with the powers that be
- in the trust, they felt that that was probably the
- 20 best solution, but we looked at it as a very, very
- viable site for a 201H project. And I really feel
- that that's the highest and best use for the
- 23 property.
- So I convinced them that we should at least
- 25 temporarily follow the same path that we're on right

- 1 now and try to find a purchaser that is willing to go
- 2 forth and come up with an affordable program for the
- 3 property.
- 4 That's what was originally anticipated by
- 5 Mr. Kim. And knowing county's need for housing, I
- 6 think this is a very, very good place to locate it.
- 7 So I would ask that we leave status quo for
- 8 the current time, and I will report to you as you
- 9 wish on our progress.
- 10 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Okay.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 12 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: One of the
- 13 conditions that you mentioned was the bridge, Imi
- 14 Kala Bridge. Was that a condition that the Land Use
- 15 Commission placed on you?
- MR. SMITH: No. That was a county
- 17 condition.
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So if you are to
- 19 proceed, to alleviate yourself of that condition,
- that would be a county decision, right?
- 21 MR. SMITH: That would be a county
- 22 condition. We would have -- the new purchaser would
- 23 have to go back through the county procedure.
- 24 Hopefully being able to convince the county that
- 25 there must be some other way to help alleviate the

- 1 traffic, because the bridge and extension, number
- one, there is no right-of-way currently existing.
- 3 There are no plans approved. The bridge cost is
- 4 phenomenal now because the clear span, and the corps
- 5 recognized some additional flood potential, so they
- 6 have increased the length of the bridge, so it
- 7 becomes a condition that really cannot be put on one
- 8 project and expected to make it complete.
- 9 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: And so with regard
- 10 to the other conditions that are making it difficult,
- 11 are you aware of any specific Land Use Commission
- 12 conditions that was placed upon the project?
- MR. SMITH: There are a couple,
- 14 Commissioner. One of them has to do with a
- 15 development of a clubhouse; another one has do with
- 16 rectifying the intersection of Kahekili and Waiehu
- 17 Beach Road. They're rather vague.
- 18 We needed to perform a traffic study, or
- 19 you asked for a traffic study to determine what
- 20 needed to be done to help alleviate traffic in that
- 21 condition, but obviously that hasn't been done. That
- 22 would be performed by the purchaser.
- I had a quote just for a TIAR study, and it
- 24 was a significant number, six figure number. So it
- wouldn't be advisable for us to proceed with that.

- 1 But those two conditions, I note that
- 2 particularly -- not that they're not doable with the
- 3 right development.
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So you are saying
- 5 that you're seeking a buyer that can pick up this
- 6 development and go forward with it?
- 7 MR. SMITH: That's correct. Those not in
- 8 the business of developing, and they just wish to get
- 9 rid of the asset and --
- 10 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So I was just
- 11 following up on that question. How long has your
- search been going?
- MR. SMITH: Well, since I became involved,
- only the last month.
- 15 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Prior to that, how
- long was their search?
- 17 THE WITNESS: They have been trying to sell
- 18 the property since 2012, but so many problems with
- 19 the title and lack of title insurance that it's
- unsalable.
- 21 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So is the lack of
- 22 title part of the Land Use Commission decision
- 23 problem, or is there a condition that relates to that
- 24 cause of lack of title?
- MR. SMITH: No. This was an error

- 1 performed at the time the deed of trust was written.
- 2 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Okay.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Chang.
- 4 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I have a question.
- 5 Mr. Smith, are you aware when the original
- 6 boundary amendment was made, was there an
- 7 environmental document prepared at that time?
- 8 MR. SMITH: Yes, there was a complete EA.
- 9 It was accepted, circulated and approved.
- 10 COMMISSIONER CHANG: And this is a followup
- 11 to the previous -- I think you sat here through the
- 12 previous docket on the landfill.
- And the original approval was made in 2007,
- 14 original granting?
- MR. SMITH: I think it was 2008.
- 16 COMMISSIONER CHANG: It was obviously at
- 17 least ten years ago?
- MR. SMITH: Yes.
- 19 COMMISSIONER CHANG: So in this case an EIS
- 20 was done in 2008 based upon conditions at that time.
- 21 Ten years have past. So as a civil engineer, in your
- 22 opinion, would a new EIS have to be done, assuming a
- 23 developer is found to do this, in light of the
- 24 changed conditions, increased traffic, potential
- 25 increase -- do you think a new --

- 1 MR. SMITH: Yes, I do. I think an amended
- 2 EA would be performed, traffic study have to be done,
- 3 archaeological findings have to be remade. The
- 4 entire process would start from scratch except we
- 5 would utilize information provided in the past to
- 6 help us do that.
- 7 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Okay, thank you.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Mahi.
- 9 COMMISSIONER MAHI: More of a comment.
- Mr. Smith, you're a brave man, to say the
- 11 least.
- MR. SMITH: I'm old --
- 13 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Something I look
- 14 forward to.
- 15 MR. SMITH: -- not much to lose.
- 16 COMMISSIONER MAHI: That's a good attitude.
- 17 I'm curious to hear the reports coming up with
- 18 Department of Planning and the County. But thank you
- 19 -- well, I don't know thank you, the family thanks
- 20 you being the warrior in this case.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON WONG: I just wanted to make
- 22 sure I got this straight for myself.
- So Southwest 7 is looking at a buyer for
- 24 the entire parcel; is that correct?
- MR. SMITH: Yes, that is correct.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON WONG: But you were also
- 2 talking about a 201H project?
- 3 MR. SMITH: Well, I feel that the potential
- 4 buyer would be -- the most viable use for the project
- 5 would be 201H project, which was what was approved in
- 6 the past. And I would -- that, of course, would be
- 7 up to the purchaser, but I feel that because of the
- 8 situation and the conditions, that's more of a
- 9 partnership with the county. And to develop this, I
- 10 believe we would need the assistance of the county to
- 11 get the development completed.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON WONG: So, again, the buyer,
- not Southwest 7, but the buyer would do the 201H
- 14 project. So you're just speculating that they will
- do a 201H project, correct?
- MR. SMITH: Yes. I think it would be most
- 17 appealable for someone looking to do some action for
- 18 this.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Cabral, do
- 20 you have a question?
- 21 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Well, just to share
- 22 with you. Fairly recently our Land Use Commission
- 23 was part of a decision that allowed the County of
- 24 Kaua'i to take some property that they had previously
- 25 purchased somewhat at a discount, but obviously to

- 1 everyone's benefit, then it was converted over to
- 2 workforce housing and that.
- 3 So particularly in light of your bridge
- 4 problem, you might talk to the folks to your right or
- 5 someone in the county housing agencies and see if you
- 6 couldn't do something in regards to your property to
- 7 have the housing agency here do something. The
- 8 Kaua'i Housing Agency is very aggressive in putting
- 9 together low income housing and workforce housing.
- 10 So just trying --
- 11 MR. SMITH: That sounds very appealing to
- me and I would certainly be willing to carry that to
- 13 the owner. I've thought of many things, even a
- 14 corporation with the county or something out there,
- 15 but anything that was viable that can work and we can
- 16 get it done.
- 17 And I think that's certainly part of the
- 18 solution is the county is in that position to do
- 19 that. We would certainly make room for them.
- 20 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: I think it's going to
- 21 be very successful on Kaua'i what has come together
- there, hopefully. Housing is an urgency on all the
- islands and maybe something could be worked out.
- 24 More headaches in planning there, sorry. Thank you.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.

- 1 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I have a few very
- 2 specific questions for you.
- 3 In the Land Use Commission Decision and
- 4 Order regarding this property, Condition No. 14 was
- 5 regarding water resources allocation.
- Are you representing right now that you
- 7 believe that you are able to obtain from the county
- 8 sufficient water credits to develop housing in this
- 9 area?
- 10 MR. SMITH: I believe that with the
- 11 county's past previous improvement to their source
- 12 facility, that water is available. However, under
- the 201H, as you are aware, that is the county
- 14 responsibility to come up with the source.
- 15 And this is certainly one of the greatest
- 16 problems that we need to overcome is the water source
- 17 for the project.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: The property is not
- 19 currently a 201H project, correct?
- MR. SMITH: It is not.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Condition No. 20,
- 22 Petitioner shall give notice to the LUC if any intent
- 23 to sell, lease, assign, place in front or otherwise
- voluntarily alter the ownership interest in the area.
- When were we given that notice?

- 1 MR. SMITH: I believe in 2013 Mr. Cooper
- 2 notified the Commission that he obtained the title
- 3 from a commissioner's foreclosure.
- 4 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Condition No. 21
- 5 regards providing evidence to LUC of clear title.
- 6 You're indicating that there was something
- 7 in the trust transaction that prevented clear title
- 8 from being obtained?
- 9 MR. SMITH: Yes, that's correct.
- 10 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I noticed earlier that
- 11 there were notices to certain unidentified heirs and
- 12 assigns, Native Hawaiians -- are there other Native
- Hawaiians or other claims to this property?
- 14 MR. SMITH: That was cleared up by quiet
- 15 title action by Mr. Kim. In 2006 he received
- 16 complete award of all the kuleana property at that
- 17 time after the successful quiet title action. There
- 18 was one claim that was paid off, and the rest were
- 19 unfounded according to the courts.
- 20 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: There was a question
- 21 earlier. You discussed the county's requirements
- 22 that a bridge across Iao Stream, or rather the
- 23 Wailuku River, would be built, and that this makes
- 24 the project infeasible, that this is a county
- 25 requirement.

- 1 Was that county requirement in place when
- 2 the original Petitioner appeared before the Land Use
- 3 Commission? Are you aware?
- 4 MR. SMITH: It should have been, because he
- 5 received conditional approval in 2005.
- 6 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Which included the
- 7 bridge?
- 8 MR. SMITH: Yes.
- 9 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Are you aware that one
- 10 of the standard conditions in front of the LUC is
- 11 that we hold the petitioners to all representations?
- MR. SMITH: Yes.
- 13 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: So it can also be
- 14 interpreted that the bridge is not only a requirement
- of the county, but since the Petitioner represented
- 16 to this Commission at the time that they were
- 17 building a bridge, that that is a binding condition
- 18 of this reclassification?
- 19 MR. SMITH: I believe that's true. It's
- 20 not to say we would not have to come back before your
- 21 Commission with a plan that would be subsequently
- 22 approved by the county, and we would ask for your
- 23 concurrence to modify certain conditions.
- 24 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Just to be clear,
- you're not in compliance with that condition, and you

- do not intend to comply with that condition?
- 2 MR. SMITH: Well, the map has been
- 3 withdrawn. The county has negated the approval, so
- 4 there is no condition other than as stated before
- 5 your Commission in order to obtain this land use --
- 6 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: There was a
- 7 representation made by the Petitioner to this
- 8 Commission, so it's a condition; right?
- 9 MR. SMITH: All of the conditions that the
- 10 county required, none have been fulfilled -- I
- 11 shouldn't say none. One of the conditions was that
- 12 the quiet title action take place. That has
- 13 occurred. The current owner has done nothing to
- 14 comply with the conditions.
- 15 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Thank you, Mr. Smith.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions for
- 17 Mr. Smith? If not, thank you, Mr. Smith.
- 18 County.
- 19 MR. HOPPER: The County of Maui doesn't
- 20 have much to add. We're finding this information out
- 21 along with you as far as the current status of the
- 22 project, and we weren't requested to provide any
- 23 particular update, but should you want information
- 24 from the county, we can talk to the relevant
- departments and find out.

- 1 Obviously talking about a future buyer and
- 2 future 201H project where nothing exists at this
- 3 point, we don't really have comment or position on
- 4 any of those issues.
- 5 At this point I think we are in a similar
- 6 position as the Commission, hearing the information
- 7 given to you today by the status report.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any
- 9 questions for the county?
- 10 OP.
- MS. APUNA: OP doesn't have any comments on
- 12 this.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Questions for OP?
- 14 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Really?
- 15 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Can we take a
- 16 five-minute recess, please?
- 17 (Recess taken.)
- We're back in session.
- 19 Commissioner's do you have any final
- 20 questions or comments for the parties? Seeing none,
- 21 Commissioners, this is a status report. We are not
- 22 required to take any action at this time.
- If no action is taken, the requirement of
- 24 continued annual status reports will remain and this
- 25 docket will remain open.

- 1 Is there any discussion on this?
- 2 Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 3 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I like to make a
- 4 motion.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Go ahead.
- 6 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I like to move that
- 7 the status report given -- that because the status
- 8 report given by the Petitioner indicates that there
- 9 probably isn't compliance with a number of conditions
- in the Decision and Order, and it appears that there
- 11 hasn't been any or hardly, I guess, no substantial
- 12 commencement of the use of the land, that the
- 13 Commission issue an order to show cause, schedule a
- 14 hearing and serve upon the petitioner notice of the
- 15 hearing to show cause why the property should not
- 16 revert to its former land use classification or
- 17 changed to appropriate classification.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I like to second the
- 19 motion.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any discussion on this
- 21 motion, Commissioners? Commissioner Scheuer.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I seconded the motion.
- I'm going to speak in favor of it. I echo
- 24 Commissioner Mahi's comments on your bravery, Mr.
- 25 Smith, but it's very clear from what you have

- 1 presented, which we appreciate the clarity and
- 2 honesty of your testimony, that the land owner is not
- 3 in compliance with the Commission's orders in this
- 4 matter, and I believe that moving forward to a
- 5 hearing is most appropriate.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- 7 Commissioners, anyone else?
- 8 Commissioner Chang.
- 9 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I too, because what I
- 10 am hearing -- I don't want to put words in your
- 11 mouth, Mr. Smith, but I believe even you have
- 12 admitted that there has been no substantial
- 13 compliance with the conditions. Thank you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Anyone else? If not,
- Mr. Orodenker, if you please.
- 16 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 17 The motion is for the Commission to issue a
- 18 Motion for Order to Show Cause and schedule the
- 19 matter for hearing.
- 20 Commissioner Ohigashi?
- 21 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Aye.
- 22 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Scheuer?
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Aye.
- 24 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Okuda?
- 25 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Yes.

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Mahi? 1 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Aye. 2 3 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Chang? COMMISSIONER CHANG: Aye. 4 5 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Cabral? 6 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Aye. 7 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Chair Wong? 8 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Aye. 9 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you. Mr. Chair, 10 the motion passes unanimously. 11 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you, Mr. Smith. 12 You wanted to say something? 13 MR. SMITH: Yes. Thank the Commission for 14 hearing me out today. If it's possible, could I have 15 some idea of when this hearing might occur? CHAIRPERSON WONG: The LUC staff will be in 16 17 contact with you to work out the details and the date of this next hearing. So they will contact you in 18 19 the future. 20 MR. SMITH: Thank you. 21 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Let's take a five-minute 22 recess. 23 (Recess taken.) 24 ACTION A07-773 EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: This is an action

- 1 meeting on A07-773 Emmanuel Lutheran Church OF Maui
- 2 to Consider a motion by Waikapu Development Venture
- 3 LLC's to be Co-Petitioner, or in the Alternative to
- 4 Become a Party, or in the Alternative to Intervene; a
- 5 and a motion by Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui to
- 6 Extend Time to Complete Project.
- 7 Will the parties please identify themselves
- 8 for the record?
- 9 MR. HOROVITZ: Good morning, Peter Horovitz
- 10 on behalf of Waikapu Development.
- 11 MS. LIM: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 12 Jennifer Lim and Derek Simon on behalf of Petitioner
- 13 Emmanuel Church of Maui.
- 14 MR. HOPPER: Michael Hopper, Deputy
- 15 Corporation Counsel for the Maui County Department of
- 16 Planning, with me is planner Tara Furukawa.
- MS. APUNA: Good morning, Deputy Attorney
- 18 General Dawn Apuna on behalf of Office of Planning.
- 19 With me is Tomas Oberding.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Let me update the record
- 21 in this matter.
- On April 9th, 2018, the Commission received
- 23 Petitioner Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui's Motion
- 24 to Extend Time to Complete Project.
- On April 10th, 2018, the Commission

- 1 received additional digital copy of Petitioner's
- 2 Motion.
- 3 On April 12th, 2018, the Commission
- 4 received Waikapu Development Venture LLC's Motion to
- 5 Co-petitioner, or in the Alternative to Become a
- 6 Party, or in the Alternative to Intervene.
- 7 Also in the same day, Commission received
- 8 OP's request for extension of deadline to respond to
- 9 Petitioner's Motion to May 1st, 2018.
- On April 13, 2018, the Commission provided
- 11 notice that OP's deadline request would only be
- 12 extended to April 27, 2018.
- On April 19, 2018, the Commission received
- 14 the Petitioner Emmanuel Lutheran's Memorandum in
- 15 Support of Waikapu Development Venture LLC's Motion,
- and OP's letter of No Opposition of Waikapu
- 17 Development Venture LLC's Motion.
- On April 26, 2018, the Commission received
- 19 County of Maui-Department of Planning's Statement of
- No Objection to the Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui
- 21 Motion for Extension of Time to Complete Project and
- 22 Waikapu Development Venture LLC's Motion to be
- 23 Co-Petitioner, or in the Alternative to Become a
- 24 Party, or in the Alternative to Intervene.
- On April 27, 2018, the Commission received

- OP's Response to Petitioner Emmanuel Lutheran's
- 2 Motion for Extension of Time to Complete Project.
- On May 1, 2018, the Commissioner mailed
- 4 Agenda Notices to the Parties, the Statewide and Maui
- 5 mailing lists for the May 9, 2018 meeting.
- On May 7, the Commissioner received
- 7 correspondence from County of Maui Department of
- 8 Housing and Human Concerns.
- 9 For the members of the public, please be
- 10 reminded that the Commission will not be considering
- 11 the merits of the A07-773 Petition, rather only these
- 12 motions by Waikapu Development Ventures LLC to be
- 13 Co-Petitioner, or in the Alternative to Become the
- 14 Party, or in the Alternative to Intervene and to
- 15 extend time to complete the project for Emmanuel
- 16 Lutheran.
- 17 Let me briefly describe our procedure for
- 18 today on this docket.
- 19 First I will call for those individuals
- desiring to provide public testimony to identify
- 21 themselves. All such individuals will be called in
- turn to our witness box where they will be sworn in
- 23 prior to their testimony.
- 24 After completion of the public testimony
- 25 portion of the proceedings, the Commission will

- 1 address and first decide on Waikapu Development
- 2 Venture LLC's motion to be Co-Petitioner, or in the
- 3 Alternative to Become a Party, or in the Alternative
- 4 to Intervene.
- 5 And secondly, Petitioner Emmanuel Lutheran
- 6 Church Maui's Motion to Extend Time to Complete
- 7 Project.
- 8 Waikapu Development Venture LLC will make
- 9 its presentation on its motion. After completion of
- 10 this presentation, we will receive any comments from
- 11 Petitioner Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Maui County and
- 12 the State Office of Planning.
- 13 After we have received comments of the
- 14 Petitioner, the County and the State, we will conduct
- 15 our deliberation of Waikapu Development Venture LLC's
- 16 Motion. After Waikapu Development's motion is
- decided, Emmanuel Lutheran Church Maui will make its
- 18 presentation on its Motion to Extend time to Complete
- 19 Project.
- 20 After we have received the comments of the
- 21 Petitioner, the Waikapu Development Venture LLC, the
- 22 county and the state, we will conduct our
- deliberation on Emmanuel Lutheran's Motion.
- Are there any questions on today's
- 25 procedures?

- 1 MS. LIM: No questions.
- 2 MR. HOROVITZ: No questions.
- 3 MR. HOPPER: No, Mr. Chair.
- 4 MS. APUNA: No questions.
- 5 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Mr. Chair, I've
- done it in the past, so I have to indicate that I
- 7 know Jennifer Lim and her husband, my classmate in
- 8 law school and social basis, but I don't believe it
- 9 would affect my decision-making in this.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any comments or
- 11 opposition?
- MR. HOROVITZ: No opposition.
- MR. HOPPER: No, Mr. Chair.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON WONG: OP?
- MS. APUNA: No.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Anyone else? Okay.
- 17 Let's get started.
- 18 Is there anyone in the audience who desires
- 19 to provide public testimony on this matter?
- 20 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Mr. Chair, Steven
- 21 Kealoha signed up to testify, followed by Thelma
- 22 Kealoha.
- 23 CHAIRPERSON WONG: May I please swear you
- 24 in?
- Do you promise to say that everything you

- 1 say will be the truth?
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Please state your name
- 4 for the record.
- 5 THE WITNESS: Steven Kealoha.
- 6 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Please proceed.
- 7 STEVEN KEALOHA
- 8 Was called as a public witness, was sworn to tell the
- 9 truth, was examined and testified as follows:
- 10 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 11 THE WITNESS: Good morning, Commissioners.
- 12 Thank you for this opportunity to testify on this
- 13 particular item.
- 14 I'm a retired volunteer who serves on the
- 15 Board of Catholic Charities Hawaii, and also our Maui
- 16 Advisory Board here on Maui. I have no connection
- 17 with Emmanuel Lutheran at all, so the question is why
- am I here to testify?
- 19 Very simple. It is my understanding that
- 20 by extending the time for Emmanuel Lutheran to
- 21 complete its project, it will lead to the potential
- of having affordable housing development down the
- 23 road.
- I've been involved with issues regarding
- 25 affordable housing over a period of time. I've

- 1 testified on its behalf for many times over the
- 2 years.
- I am not representing any particular agency
- 4 or the Catholic Charities itself, I'm speaking as an
- 5 individual because I'm very interested in this
- 6 particular area of affordable housing.
- Recently the County of Maui, knowing that
- 8 there is a need for affordable housing, they passed a
- 9 bill to allow for housing credits for rental
- 10 development, affordable rental development. So that
- shows you and shows everybody that there is a huge
- 12 need.
- 13 All of the studies that have been conducted
- over time will indicate that there is no way that our
- 15 county nor the State of Hawaii can fulfill the needs
- of our community in making enough affordable housing.
- 17 So this is my whole purpose for testifying on behalf
- of Emmanuel Lutheran's item here today. And I ask
- 19 for your support and approval of their request.
- 20 Mahalo.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- Mr. Horovitz, do you have any questions?
- MR. HOROVITZ: No questions.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Ms. Lim?
- MS. LIM: No questions.

- 1 MR. HOPPER: No questions.
- MS. APUNA: No questions.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any
- 4 questions? Thank you, sir, for your time.
- 5 Next witness, please.
- 6 May I swear you in, please?
- 7 THE WITNESS: Sure.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Do you swear or affirm
- 9 that the testimony you're about to give is the truth?
- 10 THE WITNESS: I do.
- 11 THELMA KEALOHA
- 12 Was called as a public witness, was sworn to tell the
- 13 truth, was examined and testified as follows:
- 14 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 15 THE WITNESS: My name is Thelma Kealoha, no
- 16 relation to Steven Kealoha, although he is my
- 17 neighbor.
- I work for Catholic Charities Hawai'i, and
- 19 I'm Maui Community Director at Catholic Charities
- 20 Hawai'i. We do have a few priorities.
- One of them is homelessness, getting people
- into housing. The other one is affordable housing.
- I also am very active on a social justice
- 24 organization, and their top priority is affordable
- 25 housing.

- 1 So I am here today raising that flag. We
- 2 see people every day -- I have staff here as well
- 3 from Catholic Charities Hawai'i. They're not
- 4 testifying, but they know that we see people every
- 5 day that come into our office, and they're always in
- 6 need.
- 7 There's never housing. There is no
- 8 affordable housing, much less rental housing, and
- 9 none of it is affordable.
- I am here in support of Emmanuel Lutheran
- 11 because I know the bottom line is they're going to be
- 12 working towards affordable housing and work --
- workforce housing, excuse me.
- 14 This workforce housing typically is usually
- 15 80 percent to 140 percent. They're trying to lower
- 16 that median income to 70 percent. That's a group
- 17 that we're all interested in.
- We all have families. I've heard many
- 19 testimonies and have testified myself several times
- 20 that our families cannot qualify for these housing
- 21 packages because it's way beyond their reach,
- 22 especially the local folks.
- 23 Many of my relatives, many of my friends
- 24 and their relatives, and lots of Hawaiians have moved
- 25 away from Hawai'i, because -- why? Because they

- 1 can't afford to live here. They make so much more on
- 2 the mainland, and their housing is so much cheaper.
- 3 They can afford to buy houses elsewhere.
- And what Steven had mentioned was true. We
- 5 are not building anywhere near the affordable housing
- 6 that we need to build, and you guys all know that. I
- 7 don't have to give statistics for that.
- 8 So I am fully in support, and I hope that
- 9 you support Emmanuel Lutheran's request, because we
- 10 really do need housing.
- 11 And I thank you for allowing me to come
- 12 forward and testify.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Mr. Horovitz?
- MR. HOROVITZ: No questions.
- MS. LIM: No questions.
- MR. HOPPER: No questions.
- MS. APUNA: No questions.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners?
- 19 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I would just really
- 20 like to thank Mr. Kealoha and Mrs. Kealoha for taking
- 21 the time to come today and providing testimony.
- 22 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: I wanted to say the
- 23 same, and I should have after Mr. Kealoha, but I
- thank both of you for coming forward.
- This is a topic and a statement we have

- 1 been hearing over and over again, and I actually -- I
- 2 am a property manager in Hilo, which is the most
- 3 affordable place in the state, but right now I do
- 4 need about 150 brand new homes for people that just
- 5 got covered with lava.
- 6 So housing is a huge crisis, and when
- 7 you're on the edge all the time, any kind of problem
- 8 on top of that, God forbid you have something here,
- 9 you're just so far down the road.
- 10 And then the homelessness I see it every
- 11 single day. I do HUD housing management. I have 650
- 12 rental housing I manage and 33 condo associations, so
- it is a large problem.
- 14 And I don't know the big solution for it,
- 15 but it's unfortunate that somehow we have to get more
- 16 not just government, but private housing financing
- into this. So I commend all of you for your efforts
- in this regard. Thank you.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 20 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Thank you, Thelma.
- 21 She's my classmate.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON WONG: You look younger.
- THE WITNESS: I pride myself on that.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you for your time.
- Is there any other public testimony?

- 1 Seeing none, public testimony is closed.
- 2 Mr. Horovitz, will you please make your
- 3 presentation?
- 4 MR. HOROVITZ: Thank you, Mr. Chair and
- 5 Commissioners. Peter Horovitz on behalf of Waikapu
- 6 Development Ventures.
- 7 I'll be brief on our motion because I think
- 8 most of the substance of the project is really
- 9 supportive of Emmanuel Lutheran's request for
- 10 extension of time which is coming up next.
- I think we will probably get into it more
- 12 there.
- The basic point of our motion, which has
- 14 not received any opposition that we have seen, is
- 15 that we are in contract to purchase a portion of the
- 16 property once it goes through the county subdivision
- 17 process and subject to further approvals of Land Use
- 18 Commission.
- As noted in our motion and in the Emmanuel
- 20 Lutheran's motion, the process to get to where we
- 21 want to be involves not only this hearing today, but
- then working with the county departments and county
- council to get a 201H project approved, and then
- 24 coming back to the Land Use Commission for certain
- 25 modifications to the existing findings and order.

- 1 So we will be back before the Land Use
- 2 Commission hopefully at a point where we actually
- 3 have already closed on the property, have a second
- 4 subdivided lot.
- 5 So I think our involvement is beneficial to
- 6 the process. And I think we would either be asking
- 7 in a few months to be a Party, or a Co-Petitioner or
- 8 now, and so I think it would be a benefit to the
- 9 process and to the Commission to make us a party at
- 10 this time.
- 11 I'm happy to answer any questions that the
- 12 Chair or Commission might have.
- Again, we will probably get more into the
- 14 specifics of the project, or our portion of the
- 15 project as part of the Emmanuel Lutheran's motion.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Ms. Lim, any comments or
- 17 questions about the motion?
- MS. LIM: Just very briefly, Chair. I'm
- 19 sure the Commissioners are aware that Emmanuel
- 20 Lutheran did file a motion in full support of what
- 21 the Waikapu Development Venture requested, whether
- 22 they participate in this proceeding as Co-Petitioner
- 23 because they are intending to purchase half of the
- 24 property, and have been under contract to purchase
- 25 half of the property since I believe November 2016,

- 1 so whether as a Co-Petitioner or as a Party or as
- 2 Intervenor, and intervenor sometimes has a little bit
- 3 of a sensational and negative tone to it, but in this
- 4 case whatever the capacity that the Commission feels
- is most appropriate, we are in support of their
- 6 participation for a few reasons.
- 7 One, I think that the LUC rules are clear
- 8 that purchase and sale agreement is certainly akin to
- 9 whether it's a development agreement or option
- 10 agreement, a source of agreement that gives
- 11 individual standing to file petitions for district
- 12 boundary amendments, and this is a petition for
- 13 district boundary amendment, a motion that's being
- 14 filed by the owner of the property, and the owner of
- 15 the property is supporting this request for
- 16 Co-Petitioner status.
- So I believe that the rules -- in fact, I
- believe the rules clearly allow for WDV's
- 19 participation in whatever capacity, Party,
- 20 Co-Petitioner, Intervenor.
- We also believe that it would be extremely
- 22 beneficial to the process that the Commission have
- 23 the ability to both hear from Mr. Horovitz and his
- 24 clients about the Waikapu Development Venture's
- 25 project, because it is so much a part of Emmanuel

- 1 Lutheran's ultimate request to the Commission.
- 2 So even though today at this point we are
- 3 simply asking for the time extension, as you read in
- 4 our motion for time extension, it describes that
- 5 we're coming back to this Commission with a Motion to
- 6 Request Amendment to the representations that have
- 7 been made to the Commission.
- 8 So to delay WDV's involvement doesn't seem
- 9 prudent, because of WDV's involvement is necessarily
- 10 going to be part of Act 2 of this proceeding.
- 11 So with that, I'll reiterate our full
- 12 support. I'm here if there are any questions; if
- 13 not, I'll turn it back to you.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you. County?
- 15 MR. HOPPER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 16 County of Maui, Department of Planning has
- 17 filed Statement of No Opposition to the
- 18 Intervention/Co-Petitioner request, and agrees
- 19 that -- does not oppose that request. So the
- 20 Commission I think can grant that request if they see
- 21 fit.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON WONG: OP?
- MS. APUNA: OP also has no opposition to
- 24 the motion by WDV.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any

- 1 questions? Commissioner Okuda.
- 2 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Mr. Horovitz, in what
- 3 capacity would you like to be involved in this
- 4 proceeding? And can you also explain why you think
- 5 that capacity is better than any other capacity?
- 6 MR. HOROVITZ: We gave you a lot of
- 7 choices. We didn't know what the Commission's
- 8 pleasure would be. I tend to agree with Ms. Lim,
- 9 intervenor might get us involved, but just the
- 10 connotation of it isn't quite as favorable. And not
- 11 that we're expecting any opposition to this project.
- I think, ideally I think we would like to
- be a party. You know we are intending in Act 2 of
- 14 the proceedings to come back to request that approval
- of our 201H project on the portion of land we intend
- 16 to purchase.
- I would anticipate at that point that the
- 18 Commission -- that we would also be asking the
- 19 Commission to somehow bifurcate the project so that
- 20 our project is sustainable, and Emmanuel Lutheran is
- 21 a stand-alone. At that point, since we would be --
- 22 party would be my preference.
- 23 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: And so it's probably
- 24 more appropriate in your view than being intervenor
- 25 if there is a bifurcation?

- 1 MR. HOROVITZ: I agree. Thank you.
- 2 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 3 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Does being an
- 4 intervenor prevent you from filing for bifurcation?
- 5 MR. HOROVITZ: I would have to double check
- 6 my rule book. I don't believe it would, but again, I
- 7 think to Commissioner Okuda's point, being a party
- 8 would clearly give us that standing to do so without
- 9 further change in status I would say.
- 10 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I may be missing
- 11 it. In the pleadings that you -- I was wondering who
- is Waikapu Development Venture.
- MR. HOROVITZ: Waikapu Development Venture
- is a Hawai'i limited liability company. I am
- 15 actually a member of that, Bill Frampton, and there's
- 16 an investor group as well.
- 17 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: You guys make up
- the members -- three of you make up the members?
- 19 MR. HOROVITZ: We have a sub-entity for the
- 20 three of us that is a member of the LLC, and we're
- 21 the managers of it as well.
- COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Of the LLC?
- MR. HOROVITZ: Yes.
- 24 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: You said that
- you're intending to purchase the property. You've

- 1 signed, I guess -- what have you signed so far?
- MR. HOROVITZ: We have a purchase contract
- 3 in place. One of the conditions from ten years ago
- 4 that will come up at some point is the Commission
- 5 placed in its findings an order, the Land Use
- 6 Commission needed to approve the sale of the
- 7 property.
- 8 So that's one condition that ultimately
- 9 would need to be addressed at the second hearing.
- 10 The second point is right now this is a
- 11 25-acre piece. Even absent the Land Use Commission
- 12 condition of sale, they don't have anything
- independent to sell to us. We would have to go on as
- 14 co-tenants, which is generally not favorable. We
- don't have a subdivided lot yet.
- The first part of our process is actually
- 17 getting the large lot subdivided, so a 12-and-a-half
- 18 acre piece that Emmanuel Lutheran intends to retain,
- and 12-and-a-half acre piece they intend to convey to
- 20 us.
- 21 At this point they will have something to
- 22 sell. And then subject to Commission approval, or
- 23 removal of that condition of sale or the condition
- 24 that the LUC approve the sale, we would then purchase
- 25 the property.

- 1 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: The successful
- 2 subdivision of the property is a term of the sale?
- 3 MR. HOROVITZ: Yes. They have to have
- 4 something to sell us, yes.
- 5 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So the sale is
- 6 contingent on a of successful subdivision?
- 7 MR. HOROVITZ: Of the large lot, not of the
- 8 approval of the 201H project.
- 9 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: If you don't mind
- 10 me asking the county, what stage is the subdivision?
- 11 MR. HOPPER: I don't have that information
- 12 right now. Perhaps the Petitioner -- oh, I'm sorry,
- 13 not the Petitioner, the Movant could provide that
- 14 information.
- 15 MR. HOROVITZ: The application has been
- 16 prepared. We actually got an update yesterday. We
- were waiting for one update on the title report, and
- then it can be accepted by the county for initial
- 19 processing.
- 20 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Would you wait for
- 21 final subdivision approval before the sale is
- 22 consummated?
- MR. HOROVITZ: We would have to, yes.
- 24 Until there's final subdivision of the large lot.
- COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: My experience has

- 1 been that, or my view is that those subdivisions may
- 2 take quite some time.
- 3 MR. HOROVITZ: I think --
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm just wondering
- 5 at what point -- are we preparing for six months
- 6 ahead, 12 months ahead before the Motion to Bifurcate
- 7 takes place or two years ahead? I'm not sure what
- 8 the general subdivision requirements term takes.
- 9 MR. HOROVITZ: And I think Mr. Frampton
- 10 might be testifying on the next motion, give further
- 11 detail on exact time of that.
- 12 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: That doesn't help
- 13 me.
- 14 MR. HOROVITZ: The thing to keep in mind,
- 15 what we are dealing with is a large -- is Emmanuel
- 16 Lutheran's subdivision. We're processing it for
- 17 them. At this point it's their property and
- 18 subdivision under their name. It's a large lot
- 19 subdivision that doesn't trigger many of the
- 20 development requirements that will ultimately --
- 21 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm assuming Mr.
- 22 Frampton could tell you the answer because he's a
- 23 member of the LLC, right?
- MR. HOROVITZ: Certainly.
- COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Why don't we have

- 1 him answer.
- 2 MR. HOROVITZ: Six to nine months after
- 3 filing.
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi,
- 6 anything else?
- 7 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm okay. Move on.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Chang.
- 9 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I have a procedural
- 10 question.
- If you are admitted as a party now, and
- 12 then there is a bifurcation, are you going to be
- withdrawn as a party to the Emmanuel Lutheran?
- 14 MR. HOROVITZ: Yes. I think as part of the
- 15 request to bifurcate, if that's the way it goes, we
- 16 would request to be in charge of our own docket, and
- 17 Emmanuel Lutheran will be in charge of their own
- 18 docket.
- 19 COMMISSIONER CHANG: If there was
- intervention, would there still have to be removal of
- 21 the party? I'm just thinking about facilitating what
- is the most expeditious way.
- 23 MR. HOROVITZ: I understand. I still think
- 24 having us as a party gives us better standing to
- 25 participate as not co-equal, but given our

- 1 contractual interest in the property.
- MS. LIM: May I try to supplement Mr.
- 3 Horovitz' response, because in conceptualizing what
- 4 was really the most efficient and appropriate path
- 5 forward, when there's a bifurcation there will be two
- 6 separate parties -- assuming the Commission grants
- 7 the bifurcation, there will be two separate decisions
- 8 and orders, two separate sets of conditions that
- 9 would be recorded against the property.
- 10 So intervenor status somehow doesn't seem
- 11 quite appropriate for a party who would be ultimately
- the party named in that decision and order.
- Right now there is one Decision and Order
- 14 but we know there will be two decisions and orders,
- 15 at least that's the intent, and WDV will be filing a
- 16 request that that happen, and ELC will be filing a
- 17 similar request, but we'll be filing on our own
- behalf, and there will be two separate landowners
- 19 with two separate LUC decisions.
- So for that reason the party status seems
- 21 superior than intervenor status. I just cannot
- 22 think -- and I don't have a history with the
- 23 Commission that some of you do, of course, of an
- intervenor who in fact owned a piece of the property,
- was developing a piece of the property, was obligated

- 1 to go record conditions against the property, that's
- 2 not the role of the intervenor.
- 3 COMMISSIONER CHANG: But in this case would
- 4 WDV, would they be -- for purposes -- maybe it
- 5 doesn't make a difference, but -- this is currently a
- 6 motion to have WDV participate in this current -- in
- 7 your docket, in Emmanuel.
- 8 Would they be bound by any of the
- 9 conditions? Once there is a bifurcation, would they
- 10 be bound by any of the conditions in your separate
- 11 docket?
- MS. LIM: The intent of the bifurcation
- 13 would be that there be separate conditions applicable
- 14 to each of the two separate lots.
- 15 COMMISSIONER CHANG: So they wouldn't be a
- 16 party to Emmanuel -- once there is a bifurcation,
- 17 there wouldn't be --
- MS. LIM: That's correct. That's why the
- desire would be WDV, should this Commission elect to
- 20 grant the request and allow them to participate as a
- 21 party, they will be filing a motion as a party saying
- we hereby request a bifurcation of this, and ELC will
- 23 be filing one too, but clearly we have different
- 24 interests, compatible but different interest and --
- 25 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I understand.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- 2 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I'll go after the
- 3 Hawai'i Island Commissioner.
- 4 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: This is common sense
- 5 here. I don't know all those fancy words, but I kind
- 6 of have a concern.
- 7 First off, let me say this. We're very
- 8 friendly. Intervenors are not necessarily all evil.
- 9 We have had some nice ones before us before. We
- 10 handle it.
- I guess my concern would be as somebody who
- does sell real estate and done some development,
- 13 right now it's kind of like you are not quite married
- 14 yet, so to have all this obligation of the marriage
- 15 without the legal status of it is a little
- 16 concerning.
- I would think that -- maybe I don't know --
- 18 this is for all you smart lawyer types -- is that it
- 19 seems like you would want to be an intervenor for
- 20 now, and then when the actual purchase agreement
- 21 and/or separation of the property, I assume would
- 22 have to come before us at some point in time.
- 23 At that point in time we would be able to
- 24 change the status from intervenor to petitioner,
- 25 whatever the other title is, and then at that point

- 1 we would be recognizing the two properties.
- 2 Because I assume from what you said, is
- 3 that we may in fact -- your two separate properties
- 4 may be looking at some alterations as to what the
- 5 conditions are going to be moving forward because you
- 6 have in a sense potentially two different directions
- 7 that the property would be going in.
- 8 So that's just sort of my layman opinion of
- 9 that. I don't know if you want to respond to that.
- 10 MR. HOROVITZ: I appreciate your comments.
- 11 We did give three options out there, and happy with
- 12 any of them. We think it's the most advantageous
- would be party, but we are perfectly happy with any
- of them.
- Our main goal is to get a seat at the
- 16 table. We think we are important to the process. We
- 17 have an interest in the property, and we are going to
- 18 be back before this Commission. So we wanted to get
- in front of the Commission to be helpful to that
- 20 process, not only deliberations of Emmanuel
- 21 Lutheran's motion today, but the future motions that
- 22 would come later this summer or fall, I would assume.
- So again, we're happy with all three of the
- 24 statuses. We think we can work with them. I think,
- yes, when we do come in for bifurcation if that

- 1 occurs, we would be asking to change to a party, if
- 2 that's not our designation at that point in time, but
- 3 we are happy with any of the designations.
- 4 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Back to what if you get
- 5 a divorce before you're married, it can get really
- 6 complicated. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- 8 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I am ready for a
- 9 motion.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Let me check.
- 11 Commissioner Ohigashi, did you have a
- 12 question to ask?
- 13 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: No.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON WONG: We are good?
- 15 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: We're good.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, what is
- your pleasure on this motion?
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm going to move
- 19 to grant the Movant Intervenor status, and the reason
- 20 for that, I agree with the practical Nancy Cabral. I
- 21 see no difference in this status as Intervenor. They
- 22 can file for bifurcation. Upon bifurcation, they
- 23 automatically would have party status if granted. So
- I don't really see any difference. They're allowed
- 25 to introduce evidence, file motions, do all the

- 1 things a party can do.
- In fact, "intervenor" is another word for
- 3 "party", technically you become a party.
- 4 So given that they're interested as a
- 5 potential purchaser and as a supporter of the
- 6 project, and given their members who are supporters
- 7 of the Emmanuel Lutheran Church project, I think that
- 8 the status is Intervenor.
- 9 Once they acquire an interest in the
- 10 property, they should be either Co-Petitioner or
- 11 Co-Party.
- 12 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- 13 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I'll second the
- 14 motion.
- And I'll just add in comments right now. I
- 16 don't have any -- I'm not aware of any connotation to
- 17 "intervenor" that is negative or limiting that I am
- aware of, so I don't see that as an issue, but the
- 19 converse, which Commissioner Cabral alluded if you
- 20 were made Co-Petitioner or Party at this time, and
- 21 something happens between then and now, it becomes a
- 22 bit awkward to remove you from the proceedings,
- 23 particularly given -- which we'll get into in the
- 24 next docket.
- The history of this proceeding is long and

- there has been some commitments made that haven't
- been fully met at this point, so I'd hate to make
- 3 further reliances at this time on something that they
- 4 hope to happen but not assured will occur.
- 5 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you. Any other
- 6 comments or discussion on the motion? If not, Mr.
- 7 Orodenker.
- 8 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 9 The motion was made by Commissioner
- 10 Ohigashi to grant the motion to give Intervenor
- 11 status.
- 12 Commissioner Ohigashi?
- 13 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Aye.
- 14 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Scheuer?
- 15 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Aye.
- 16 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Okuda?
- 17 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Yes.
- 18 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Mahi?
- 19 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Yes.
- 20 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Chang?
- 21 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Aye.
- 22 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Cabral?
- 23 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Aye.
- 24 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Chair Wong?
- 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Aye.

- 1 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Mr. Chair, the motion
- 2 passes unanimously.
- 3 CHAIRPERSON WONG: I'll call you Intervenor
- 4 now instead of Movant.
- 5 I'm kind of hungry right now, so let's take
- a lunch break until 1:00 o'clock.
- 7 Let me change that to 12:30.
- 8 (Noon recess taken.)
- 9 <u>A07-773 Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Maui -</u>
- 10 <u>Motion to Extend Time</u>
- 11 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Let's get this session
- 12 started.
- 13 Ms. Lim, are you ready for your
- 14 presentation?
- MS. LIM: Yes, Chair.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Please proceed.
- MS. LIM: Good afternoon, Commissioners,
- Jennifer Lim representing Emmanuel Lutheran Church of
- 19 Maui. We filed with you a Motion to Request a
- 20 Ten-Year Time Extension for the Emmanuel Lutheran
- 21 project that the Commission approved ten years ago,
- it was March of 2008.
- Today I have one, or perhaps two witnesses,
- 24 that I would like to present to the Commission, and
- will help describe what's happening with the Emmanuel

- 1 Lutheran project.
- 2 But before we even get there, I would like
- 3 to, if I could, just give a brief introduction, sort
- 4 of an opening statement on this motion, because it's
- 5 not just a simple -- it's a simple request for time
- 6 extension, but there is a whole lot more packed into
- 7 this motion, and that refers to the second motion
- 8 that we anticipate filing at a point in the future
- 9 that I'll try to talk about.
- 10 Right now Emmanuel Lutheran Church was
- 11 approved Urban District reclassification ten years
- ago for about a 25-acre piece property, and the plan
- 13 that Emmanuel Lutheran had at that time was to
- 14 develop a larger school, a church facility.
- 15 Basically an enhanced campus for their existing
- 16 church and school that's in Kahului.
- 17 And Michael Reiley from Emmanuel Lutheran
- 18 Church will be able to talk more about that.
- 19 Over the course of time, sort of shortly
- 20 after that reclassification, they got the property
- 21 rezoned. And then sort of the perfect storm of the
- 22 great recession occurred. Several of the individuals
- 23 who were the driving force in the Emmanuel Lutheran
- development process either passed away, retired. All
- of a sudden the committee that was within the

- 1 Emmanuel Lutheran Church, which happened to be called
- 2 the Land Use Committee, was in the position of having
- 3 gotten a reclassification, and all of a sudden having
- 4 nobody with the experience or health or ability to
- 5 pursue the development that was planned at that time.
- 6 Layering on top that were the problems with
- 7 the great recession that obviously made financing
- 8 very difficult. It also makes rundraising very
- 9 difficult, and Emmanuel Lutheran Church, as you know
- 10 from the pleading, is a non-profit corporation. So
- 11 rundraising is how they will be financing their
- 12 project.
- 13 So the great recession depressed their
- 14 ability to do rundraising, and then there was
- 15 somewhat later a decrease in student enrollment. So
- 16 all of this is going on within the ten-year time
- 17 frame.
- 18 Starting around 2016 Emmanuel Lutheran
- 19 Church began speaking with WDV about the possibility
- of WDV pursuing an affordable housing project on half
- 21 of the Emmanuel property. Emmanuel property is
- 22 Urban, and that could facilitate an affordable
- 23 housing project that they had planned. But the
- 24 Emmanuel project is also subject to the LUC Decision
- and Order.

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1 The representations that were made ten
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- 2 years ago, the time condition that was made ten years
- 3 ago, and then an unusual condition that required
- 4 Commission approval before any sale.
- 5 So these discussions began around 2016.
- 6 The parties signed the Purchase and Sale Agreement.
- 7 Emmanuel Lutheran has communicated through annual
- 8 reports which, acknowledgedly, were somewhat late in
- 9 getting filed. There was, again, a period of several
- 10 years where there just wasn't lot of communications
- 11 from Emmanuel Lutheran to the Commission.
- 12 And I believe annual reports started
- getting filed again in 2016 as the Emmanuel Lutheran
- 14 Group reformed and realized that they had this piece
- of property that they needed to start moving on,
- 16 today's request for the ten-year time extension.
- 17 Like I said, the request, it is just a
- 18 simple request for a ten-year time extension. But
- 19 part of the underlying purpose for getting that
- 20 ten-year time extension is not solely to facilitate
- 21 Emmanuel Lutheran's proposed development, but it is
- 22 also to enable the Waikapu Development Ventures'
- affordable housing project to go forward.
- 24 Right now we are technically out of
- compliance with the ten-year time condition that the

- 1 Commission imposed on the property, because Emmanuel
- 2 Lutheran was to have substantially completed
- 3 development of their property by this time. That
- 4 hasn't happened.
- 5 We intended that Emmanuel Lutheran and
- 6 Waikapu Development Ventures would come forward after
- 7 the 201H approval had been granted by the County
- 8 Council. Again, the 201H approval is the Waikapu
- 9 Development project. Once that has been granted, we
- 10 would come forward with sort of a master motion to
- 11 amend.
- 12 It would be a master motion to amend to
- deal with the fact that the Waikapu project is not
- 14 consistent with representations that have been made
- 15 to the Commission. So that needs to be pursued.
- 16 Also the adjustments, meaning the reduction
- in size and scale of the Emmanuel Lutheran project,
- 18 would be addressed in that motion.
- 19 A request for time extension and a request
- for what we hope the Commission will just discharge
- 21 as a matter of law, the condition that prohibits the
- 22 sale of the property.
- 23 Again, the intention was that this would be
- one master motion that we would file after the 201H
- 25 was approved. Unfortunately, the 201H process got

- 1 somewhat delayed through the County Council, and Mr.
- 2 Frampton from Waikapu Development Ventures will be
- 3 able to talk about that briefly.
- 4 But because of that delay, and in light of
- 5 the ticking ten-year time frame that the property has
- for Urban development, we thought it was most
- 7 transparent. Most, not even differential, most
- 8 respecting the Commission's rules and process to come
- 9 in and make sort of this Act 1 motion, with Act 2
- 10 anticipated to take place probably early next year.
- 11 The Act 1 motion is to say, may we have the
- 12 additional ten years? And by the way, while we're
- asking for this, we're letting you know that there
- 14 are these plans for subsequent motion, and this
- 15 additional ten years we didn't want to make a request
- in a very narrow way and then come back, let's say,
- four or five months from now with motions to amend
- and have the Commissioners say, why didn't you tell
- 19 us all this before.
- 20 So it's an awkward process that we're going
- 21 through, because normally we would have wanted to
- 22 file just one motion and everything before the
- 23 Commission at one time, but the County Council
- 24 process didn't allow that.
- We didn't want to give the appearance that

- 1 we were thumbing our nose toward the Commission's
- 2 ten-year time condition. So we figured we better at
- 3 least get information before the Commission so you
- 4 could be aware of what is happening, allow us to
- 5 present our arguments for why we believe there is
- 6 good cause to grant the ten-year time extension; but
- 7 also in the interest of full transparency, let you
- 8 know this is Act 1, and Act 2 will be after the 201H
- 9 is approved when both parties will come back to the
- 10 Commission with a Motion to Amend.
- I know that was a very long opening
- 12 statement, but I wanted to make sure the Commission
- 13 understood that we do anticipate these two pieces.
- 14 With that I would like to ask Mr. Michael
- Reiley from Emmanuel Lutheran to come and answer some
- 16 questions.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: May I swear you in,
- 18 please?
- Do you swear or affirm that the testimony
- 20 your about to give is the truth?
- THE WITNESS: I do.
- 22 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Please state your name.
- THE WITNESS: Michael Reiley.
- 24 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Please proceed.
- 25 -000-

- 1 MICHAEL REILEY
- 2 Was called as a witness by and on behalf of the
- 3 Petitioner, was sworn to tell the truth, was examined
- 4 and testified as follows:
- 5 THE WITNESS: Thank you for the opportunity
- 6 to be here to testify.
- 7 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MS. LIM:
- 9 Q Why don't you tell the Commissioners what
- 10 your current occupation is?
- 11 A I work for a local company called HNU
- 12 Energy. We are a renewable energy company, and we do
- work throughout the island, construction, electrical
- 14 construction and license engineering.
- 15 Q What is your role with respect to Emmanuel
- 16 Lutheran Church?
- 17 A I've been a member of Emmanuel since the
- 18 year 2000, and I'm the current president of the
- 19 congregation, in charge of the church and schools.
- 20 Q And for about how long have you been with
- 21 Emmanuel Lutheran Church?
- 22 A Been with the church since 2000.
- 23 Q And president of the congregation?
- 24 A Tomorrow I'm up for reelection. They're
- 25 three-year terms, so three years.

- 1 And, depends on how it goes, I guess.
- 2 Q Could you let the Commissioners know just
- 3 briefly what Emmanuel Lutheran Church and School is
- 4 about? What happens at the existing Kahului --
- 5 A Sure, yeah. Well, just last October we
- 6 celebrated both the 500 year of Lutheranism, and the
- 7 and 50th year of Emmanuel Lutheran Church here on
- 8 Maui. So a big celebration. 50 years is a long time
- 9 for any entity to be there. We started preschool
- 10 five years later, so that would be 1972.
- 11 And we have been running K through 8 school
- 12 for many years. So that's kind of -- we have three
- worship services every Sunday, two in Kahului and one
- 14 over in Lahaina.
- And our original pastor, Pastor Fricke is
- 16 now retired for about ten years, was the original
- 17 pastor for 40 years. And now Pastor Joshua Schneider
- is our Senior Pastor.
- 19 Q Were you involved when Emmanuel Lutheran
- 20 came before the Commission ten years ago to request
- 21 District Boundary Amendment?
- 22 A I was not. I have served in various
- 23 positions of leadership in the years I've been there.
- I was an elder for a number of years, Chair of Board
- of Elders for a number of years.

- But prior to tenure at HNU, I ran Hawai'i
- 2 operations for Textron. So all the optics over at
- 3 Pacific Missile Range facility, and a lot of laser
- 4 programs here on Maui up at Science City.
- 5 So I was transferred back to corporate in
- 6 Massachusetts in 2007 and was there until 2009 for
- 7 two years.
- 8 So when this all happened in 2008 I was six
- 9 time zones and 5,000 miles away. No, I was not
- 10 directly involved.
- 11 Q Now, in your capacity -- well, at least
- 12 through the rest of today -- but president of the
- 13 congregation, are you intimately involved with the
- development plans going forward?
- 15 A Yes, yes. Going forward I certainly will
- be and have been now, along with the major players
- 17 there, Pastor Schneider, Senior Pastor, and David
- 18 Hobus is the principal of the school.
- 19 Q Were Pastor Schneider and David Hobus
- involved with the proceeding ten years ago?
- 21 A Pastor Schneider was new to the church at
- 22 the time. He started as a teacher at the school,
- then associate pastor, and then when Pastor Fricke
- 24 retired, he became senior pastor.
- So I believe he came into the process as

- 1 part of it, and has been familiar with the process
- 2 since.
- 3 Q The group within the Emmanuel Lutheran,
- 4 what you call the Land Use Committee, are there many
- 5 members of the Land Use Committee still active?
- 6 A There are not. A number of -- three of the
- 7 members have passed away, including the former
- 8 president and the head of the Land Use Commission,
- 9 Richard Sutheimer (phonetic). He passed away in
- 10 2014. Corley Anderson (phonetic) also passed away,
- 11 but there were other members, people involved that
- 12 have retired. So there is still some residual
- 13 knowledge of what was there, but the main players
- 14 have shifted.
- 15 A lot of changes in ten years as we were
- 16 discussing before. So there's been a changing of the
- 17 guard, some new leadership, and -- does that answer
- 18 your question?
- 19 Q It does, thanks.
- Do you feel that the loss within the Land
- 21 Use Committee was part of the reason why the church
- 22 project hasn't been developed within the ten-year
- time frame originally proposed?
- 24 A I think that was a contributing factor. I
- do think the primary thing, as you pointed out, the

- 1 great recession happened. Again, ten years changes a
- lot. Ten years ago our enrollment was 175, which was
- 3 our maximum capacity at the time. We were turning
- 4 students away, and there was a big need and drive to
- 5 expand our campus and do this project. And we had --
- 6 you know, large enrollment means more financial
- 7 ability.
- And what happened then, through the great
- 9 recession, and people can't send their kids to
- 10 private school, and a lot changes. Our enrollment
- went all the way down to 120 at its low. We are back
- 12 up to 137, so recovering, as a lot of companies and
- 13 entities have, but that's the really the biggest
- 14 thing that changed it.
- I think the fact that a number of members
- 16 retired, passed away and so on, certainly has made
- 17 new leadership have to step up and there's been some
- 18 resetting there. But I think the key elements were
- 19 it was a very different world at the time, and the
- 20 need was very different.
- 21 Even the lot itself at the time it was
- 22 agriculture from historical, but if you go out there
- 23 now, it's one of the fastest growing thriving areas
- on the island, and anything but agriculture at this
- 25 point in time. So that's a very different change

- from -- ten years ago agriculture it was more on the
- 2 border, now it's just right in the center of a lot of
- 3 development.
- 4 Q Is Emmanuel Lutheran planning on building
- 5 exactly the same project that Mr. Sutheimer
- 6 (phonetic) and others presented to the Commission ten
- 7 years ago?
- 8 A I would say substantially the same. It's
- 9 certainly lower in scope, more modest, if you will.
- 10 At the time there was 25 acres, and the plan was
- 11 really the development was going to be on about half
- 12 the size of the property. But in terms of having a
- 13 church, school, preschool, multiple classrooms, all
- of those, the needs are still there, and
- 15 substantially the same.
- We actually, we were on -- one half of the
- 17 campus was there, but again, the desire of Waikapu
- Development Venture was for that, because it's next
- 19 to another affordable housing development that
- they're doing, so we were able to work that. So it's
- 21 really taking and shifting over the development.
- 22 So it was only taking half of the property,
- 23 it still is our plans, but there have been some
- 24 changes. But I would say it's substantially the same
- in terms of the scope and needs, it's just probably a

- 1 little bit more modest on a smaller property.
- 2 Q Like the original project was going to have
- 3 a preschool?
- 4 A Yep.
- 5 Q And classrooms for grades K through 8. Is
- 6 that still Emmanuel Lutheran's intention?
- 7 A Yes.
- 8 Q And the original project also described a
- 9 multipurpose complex?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q And that's still part of Emmanuel's plan?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q The original project also described a
- 14 450-feet sanctuary. Is that part of Emmanuel
- 15 Lutheran's project?
- 16 A We still hope so. That's going -- that
- 17 wouldn't be the first phase. Let's do that -- again,
- that was ambitious. So I would say we certainly
- 19 still want to develop a sanctuary. The final
- decisions on size and capacity and so on could be
- 21 downsized a bit.
- 22 Q But the basics of having classroom,
- 23 multipurpose center and the preschool facility is all
- 24 still part of Emmanuel Lutheran project that you plan
- on presenting to the Commission for a motion?

- 1 A Yes.
- 2 Q Are you aware that the Commission imposed a
- 3 ten-year completion deadline upon Emmanuel Lutheran?
- 4 A I am.
- 5 Q And what is it that we're asking the
- 6 Commission for today?
- 7 A We're asking for an extension to that
- 8 original timeline for the reasons we just presented.
- 9 Q A ten-year extension?
- 10 A Yes.
- 11 Q Now, I know that the fine details on the
- development of Emmanuel Lutheran plan haven't been
- 13 fully vetted.
- 14 Why do you anticipate that ten years is a
- 15 sufficient period of time, not too much, not too
- little, to develop the project that you're describing
- is going to be somewhat more modest than what was
- 18 proposed ten years ago?
- 19 A I think the scope and what we're trying to
- 20 accomplish is substantially the same, and ten years
- 21 was the appropriate timeline at that point. We're
- 22 already now two months into another ten years, and as
- 23 we discussed, one of the key elements we need to be
- 24 able to do is divide and sell off a portion of that
- 25 land.

- 1 There is a number of reasons for that, not
- 2 the least of which is financial, the ability -- when
- 3 we were doing be fundraising originally, we were able
- 4 to raise funds and accomplish a lot with
- 5 architectural and regulatory processes and so on, but
- 6 what we found is that a number of the large granting
- 7 entities had a condition where you can't have debt on
- 8 the property. And we still had mortgages, so we
- 9 didn't qualify for those.
- 10 So by dividing and selling it off, we will
- 11 be able to completely pay off the mortgage and have
- some initial funds to get going, and then we can do
- 13 the fundraising and develop that.
- 14 Q So the sale will actually facilitate your
- ability to obtain grants and do the other fundraising
- 16 that was always contemplated for the financing of the
- 17 project?
- 18 A Correct.
- 19 Q So although the Commission heard me say it,
- 20 I want to hear you say it.
- 21 We are here today requesting a ten-year
- 22 time extension. Do you anticipate that you'll be
- 23 returning to the Commission for any additional
- 24 request for approval should the Commission grant the
- 25 ten-year time extension?

- 1 A For additional extensions, you say?
- 2 Q No, other approvals.
- 3 A Yes, yes. This is just for that extension.
- 4 We need approval to sell -- any sale of the property,
- 5 and we're going to need -- I don't think there's any
- 6 -- the other things in the Decision and Order I don't
- 7 think we are taking any contention with.
- 8 Q The other conditions, you mean?
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q The other conditions at this point,
- 11 Emmanuel Lutheran is fairly comfortable with those
- 12 conditions, but for the timeframe and the sale
- 13 condition, and then, of course, the representations,
- they're a little bit different?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 Q I'll ask you, although it's really maybe a
- 17 question for Mr. Frampton would be more ready to
- answer, but when do you anticipate that the sell
- 19 would be ready to close, setting aside any concerns
- 20 about the Commissioner's condition of requiring the
- 21 sell?
- 22 A The question probably is better for Mr.
- 23 Frampton, but from what I understand of the process,
- I believe roughly a year from now.
- 25 Q You know, with that, is there anything else

- 1 you would like to say to the Commission before I turn
- 2 you over for additional questions?
- 3 A Just like to thank you for your time and
- 4 for your consideration.
- 5 This is -- well, it's really two much
- 6 needed things here: Good quality education for
- 7 families from an institution that's been here more
- 8 than 50 years. Excellent reputation. We do a lot in
- 9 the community, at the county fair, we run a pumpkin
- 10 festival every year with huge turnout.
- 11 You go around the community, and a lot of
- 12 people have children and grandchildren that have come
- through our preschool and our school programs. It's
- 14 a real ministry to that, and it's a real service to
- 15 the community.
- We're just thrilled to have this
- opportunity to actually sell a portion for another
- 18 real need here is affordable housing, and to start at
- 19 70 percent and go up. I really admire what these
- 20 gentlemen and this venture is doing to offer that.
- 21 That's why I asked for your consideration. This is
- 22 something that is really needed. It is in a key part
- of where development is happening. And we just think
- 24 the Island of Maui is going to be much better for
- 25 being able to bring these projects forward.

- 1 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
- 2 Mr. Horvitz, any questions?
- MR. HOROVITZ: No questions for the
- 4 witness.
- 5 MR. HOPPER: Mr. Chair, just a clarifying
- 6 question.
- 7 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 8 BY MR. HOPPER:
- 9 Q You had stated that you believe the
- 10 Emmanuel Lutheran project to be consistent with the
- 11 Decision and Order and the conditions.
- 12 You're not commenting though on a proposed
- 13 201H project or anything Waikapu Development Venture
- would be needing?
- 15 A That is correct. That would not be
- 16 consistent with the original Decision and Order.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: OP.
- MS. APUNA: I have one question.
- 19 CROSS-EXAMINATION
- 20 BY MS. APUNA:
- 21 Q In the Petition on page 13 it says that:
- 22 Conceptual planning for the original project was
- 23 undertaken in 2007, 2008.
- Does there need to be a new conceptual
- 25 planning for the project that needs to be done in the

- 1 next ten years?
- 2 A There will need to be some modifications to
- 3 that, but we use Maui Architectural Group and Potomac
- 4 Engineering and a number of groups to come up with
- 5 plans for that campus is where a lot of the
- 6 development and the original funding went, but now
- 7 things have changed some.
- But it's not just going back to square one.
- 9 It's a completely different element. There will be
- 10 some of this.
- I think before investing too much in the
- 12 rest here, we really need to see what's going to be
- able to happen with dividing and selling a portion,
- 14 then being able to take care of those things so we
- 15 can fundraise and reengage in the development.
- 16 Q So there was talk of conceptual planning
- and then there was fundraising campaign and a
- 18 rezoning under "PROGRESS" of the Petition since the
- 19 original D and O.
- 20 Are you saying everything is pretty much
- 21 starting at square one, these things that have been
- 22 considered progress? It wouldn't really have -- I
- 23 mean you would have to start over for the ten years
- 24 as far as what has been accomplished, you have to
- 25 redo these things or have to somehow reset; is that

- 1 correct?
- 2 A Well, there is an element of a reset, but I
- 3 would not say we're back at square one. Certainly
- 4 the zoning was a big thing and that's what started
- 5 the ten years, and we hope that doesn't have to
- 6 revert or be a problem.
- 7 Part of the fundraising, there will be
- 8 excess proceeds from the sell that is going to help a
- 9 lot, and we feel we will be able to leverage that
- into -- we have -- the economy is a lot better, so a
- 11 lot of the school families are very excited to help
- 12 us with a capital campaign, and a lot of the entities
- that provide grants for these kinds of things, once
- 14 we have removed the debt from the property, that
- 15 would also be able to help us reach the financial
- 16 goals.
- 17 Q I think you testified that the actual sale
- 18 adds more time to the ten years in order to -- the
- 19 sale and the actual subdivision of the property, that
- 20 that kind of adds to the original ten years, or adds
- 21 to the amount of time within the ten years that you
- 22 did?
- 23 A I think it contributes to the ten years
- that we are requesting because we really can get
- 25 started -- we're two months into the ten years,

- 1 probably be another year into the ten years before we
- 2 can actually sell and be doing some of these things.
- 3 So the actual time we are going to have to develop it
- 4 is going to be less than ten years remaining before
- 5 we get to that point. Sorry if I wasn't clear.
- 6 Q No, that's clear. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioners, any
- 8 questions? Commissioner Chang.
- 9 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you for being
- 10 here and for your testimony.
- 11 And I am not making a judgment about the
- merits of either the school or the housing project.
- 13 But is it your testimony that the school cannot be
- 14 developed without the financing, the sale of the
- property for the 201H project?
- 16 THE WITNESS: That is correct. And it's
- because we can't access some of the grants there and
- 18 also the proceeds of selling. That was a decision we
- 19 made as a congregation a couple of years ago that
- 20 we -- that would be the way to get back on track with
- 21 development.
- 22 COMMISSIONER CHANG: My understanding that
- 23 the LUC approved just the school, and it was based
- 24 upon all of the information that was provided to LUC
- in 2008. And now we're looking at that same parcel

- of land not only the school, but now having a housing
- 2 component on the same parcel of land that was subject
- 3 to the rezoning?
- 4 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 5 COMMISSIONER CHANG: I suspect my questions
- 6 will be more relevant to the housing, but it is your
- 7 testimony if you are not able to sell the property,
- 8 and they are not for the housing, you would not be
- 9 able to proceed forward with the development of the
- 10 school?
- 11 THE WITNESS: Never say never, especially
- if they're Christian. But, you know, there have been
- many cases of wealthy individuals donating things.
- 14 So I would not say no. I would say the current plan,
- if you need a plan, would be to develop and do that.
- There's a need. We certainly will look at
- other options, but this was to us the clearest one.
- There were some things we didn't know back at that
- 19 time, like if you still have debt on the property you
- 20 really can't access a lot.
- We hired someone to come in and help
- 22 fundraise and all that. We learned a lot the first
- 23 go-around, we hope to apply to success this time.
- 24 COMMISSIONER CHANG: And I appreciate that.
- I know you cannot predict the future.

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1 But at least based upon the information
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- 2 that you know today, based upon the exhaustion of the
- 3 options that you've gone through, you will not be
- 4 able to build the school and comply with the
- 5 conditions of the rezoning without the sale of the
- 6 property to Waikapu Development for their housing?
- 7 THE WITNESS: That's correct at this point
- 8 in time.
- 9 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Okay, thank you.
- 10 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Cabral.
- 11 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: I think I need to have
- 12 a disclosure. I don't know this gentleman directly,
- 13 I don't think I remember him, but HNU did two
- 14 photovoltaic projects at two of my condominiums
- 15 successfully about five or six ago. I know the
- 16 company he works for, I don't know him, So I wanted
- 17 to disclose that.
- In terms of the housing project -- and I
- don't recall how many units they're looking at
- 20 putting on there, or you may not know until you find
- 21 out. Do you know about --
- THE WITNESS: Conceptual plan is for 80.
- VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Was that a mix of one,
- two and three bedroom?
- THE WITNESS: Two and three.

- 1 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: So a couple hundred
- 2 people will probably live on that property. I'm not
- 3 familiar with your neighborhood, the subject
- 4 neighborhood, so can you tell me a little bit about
- 5 what is going on in terms of traffic, neighbors, all
- 6 the rest of it, since this was ag, is ag, or what's
- 7 going on around you?
- 8 Do you have a \$50 million bridge you need
- 9 to build in order to get in the place? You know, can
- 10 you tell me a little bit about the impact that this
- 11 combined effort now is going to have at school coming
- 12 and going kind of a time?
- 13 THE WITNESS: I will take a crack, but if
- 14 you ask Mr. Frampton that separately, he would be
- more knowledgeable.
- 16 It's an area nestled up against the West
- 17 Maui mountains there, right below Wailuku Heights.
- Originally it was 50 acres, and it was sold to two
- 19 different churches, Valley Isle Fellowship has about
- 20 25 and Emmanuel Lutheran Church bought 25.
- 21 Valley Isle Fellowship has done exactly
- 22 what we're looking and doing now. They split it.
- 23 They sold half for 100 percent affordable housing,
- 24 and that's successful and we are looking to do the
- 25 same.

- 1 A lot has popped up in that area,
- 2 McDonald's, Longs and Walgreens all in that area. So
- 3 it's very far from ag at this point and housing all
- 4 around. Again, we're one of the fastest growing
- 5 areas of Maui.
- 6 VICE CHAIR CABRAL: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Anyone else?
- 8 Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 9 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: The first thing you
- 10 mentioned that part of the development encroached in
- 11 the area that you intend to sell or part of it was
- 12 planned for and it was encroached in that area you
- 13 plan to sell?
- 14 THE WITNESS: The original plans for the 25
- acres was to put most of the campus, of the
- development is what that area we are selling to
- 17 Waikapu Development Venture.
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So the area that
- 19 your -- so you're transferring it to the other area;
- 20 is that correct?
- 21 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 22 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: And that complex
- 23 will fit in that other area?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 25 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I don't know how to

- 1 do this. I'm not sure where the dividing line will
- 2 be. So the plans that was approved, I guess at that
- 3 time, show that this was one portion of the lot moved
- 4 to the other, right?
- 5 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 6 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: You mentioned there
- 7 was like a 400 --
- 8 THE WITNESS: 450 feet.
- 9 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: What kind of area?
- 10 THE WITNESS: That would be basically a
- 11 church area.
- 12 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: You are not sure if
- that will be completed, but it may have to be scaled
- 14 back. Would you be able to develop that, or
- 15 scaled-back version within the ten-year period?
- THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Scheuer.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Are you able to
- 19 explain why the church missed so many annual reports?
- 20 THE WITNESS: I can try. I think it was
- 21 this -- there's no good excuse, so I can't excuse it.
- 22 But the explanation, I think, would be there was a
- 23 big push to get this going, and then, you know, this
- 24 combination of the perfect storm of the project kind
- of getting cut off at the knees.

- 1 I think the Land Use Commission at that
- 2 point -- not Commission, Committee, you guys are the
- 3 Commission -- I wouldn't say disbanded, but a lot of
- 4 the organization, the thrust for that, once we
- 5 couldn't get the grants and we had enrollment go down
- 6 and all that, there were other challenges with the
- 7 school shrinking and all of that.
- 8 So, no, that was a changing of the guard a
- 9 little bit, and those reports lapsed. And I think
- 10 since that, over the past few years, we've gone back
- 11 on track.
- 12 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I have a couple of
- 13 questions regarding the relationship of the church to
- 14 the larger organizations and how that may or may not
- 15 relate to this project.
- Is the church part of like the Missouri
- 17 Synd or Wisconsin -- (inaudible).
- 18 THE WITNESS: Missouri Synd.
- 19 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Is there like a
- 20 financial or other relationship there related that --
- 21 that would get to the ability of this congregation to
- 22 actually undertake the project?
- THE WITNESS: Yes, there are some meetings.
- In fact, our current mortgage is through the Church
- 25 Extension Fund Missouri Synd, so we are able to

- 1 secure funds through that, and there are grant and
- 2 other financing abilities through that.
- 3 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: But they have a
- 4 mortgage, but they're not otherwise an owner in the
- 5 property?
- THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 7 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I'm also -- well, I'm
- 8 interested in some of these -- when you subdivide
- 9 property, if you're successful in subdividing the
- 10 property, each half of the property suddenly becomes
- less than 15 acres of land and could be presumably
- 12 handled purely at the county level.
- 13 Is there still an intention to move these
- 14 proceedings through this body, or to try and have
- this only handled at county level?
- 16 THE WITNESS: I don't think there is an
- 17 intention either way. I think that that is what it
- is. That did not weigh in the decision of how much
- 19 to sell to make both parcels less than 15-acres. I
- 20 think we realized at the time that it wasn't a
- 21 consideration. If it no longer falls under the
- jurisdiction of this, that's -- I mean no
- 23 expectation.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: So you considered it?
- 25 THE WITNESS: I'm aware of that condition,

- 1 but it was not -- it didn't play into any of the
- 2 decision so far.
- 3 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Presumably you were
- 4 here earlier regarding the Hana Landfill, we had a
- 5 discussion about how long an EIS stayed fresh, if you
- 6 will; How long it can be used as good basis for
- 7 decision-making.
- 8 Given both the ten-year time frame since
- 9 you originally received approval from us, as well as
- 10 the changing circumstances on the totality of the
- 11 property, I assume you're intending to go through a
- 12 brand new 343 process as part of this development,
- 13 your development, not affordable housing, your school
- 14 development?
- 15 THE WITNESS: I expect that may be a
- 16 requirement.
- MS. LIM: If I may, I have to step in
- 18 because in fairness, Dr. Reiley is not a land use
- 19 lawyer or particularly familiar with the land
- 20 development process. And this is actually going into
- 21 a legal direction that he is just not equipped to
- 22 respond to.
- 23 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Thank you, Ms. Lim.
- 24 I'm just trying to get -- just trying to understand.
- There's this commitment in good faith by

- 1 the Petitioner that says ten years is sufficient.
- 2 Presumably that's based on some sort of set of steps
- 3 that the Petitioner has some independence of their
- 4 counsel concept of what is involved to successfully
- 5 see this project through.
- 6 MS. LIM: Well, to clarify, in terms of
- 7 intention and why requesting another ten years,
- 8 certainly Dr. Reiley is capable of responding to
- 9 those questions. But in terms of discussing EA's, I
- 10 just have to make a correction. There was no 343
- 11 trigger for this project ever. So we are not in a
- 12 position where 343 would need to be refreshed.
- 13 And I'm not conceding when or if projects
- 14 ever need to be refreshed in 343. But in this
- instance, there was never a 343 trigger, so there is
- no EA or EIS to be updated, and the extension itself
- obviously doesn't constitute a 343 trigger. It's
- merely time tension, it's not any of the enumerated
- 19 343 items under 343.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: I wasn't suggesting
- 21 time extension would somehow trigger 343 in this
- 22 instance.
- I just wanted to get something else. Under
- 24 your testimony you talked about already two months
- into the new ten-year period.

- 1 The old ten-year period has expired,
- 2 correct?
- 3 THE WITNESS: Correct.
- 4 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: And there's no
- 5 ten-year period yet?
- 6 THE WITNESS: Right, if that was granted,
- 7 there would be a start point. My assumption was the
- 8 start point would be when the last -- since it's an
- 9 extension, it would continue from when the last one
- 10 ended.
- It may have been a false assumption. I
- 12 apologize.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON WONG: One thing for everyone
- 14 here, I just want to remind the Commissioners and to
- 15 all the parties, that the Commissioners have a plane
- 16 to catch at 3:30, so just be aware of the time.
- 17 Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: My question first
- is Ms. Lim, who is your other witness?
- MS. LIM: Bill Frampton.
- 21 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Second question,
- 22 more like a question to the parties, is that the
- 23 ten-year requested extension would apply to the
- 24 property as a whole rather than the specific project,
- 25 that's my understanding. And the specific project

- 1 promises to build -- if you modify the project, the
- 2 question that I would have is that would the ten-year
- 3 requirement also apply to the new project?
- And the second question is: Is that the
- 5 reason we are -- you're asking for a ten-year
- 6 requirement essentially for the purposes of having
- 7 the options available to you to develop the church;
- 8 is that right?
- 9 THE WITNESS: I would say it's clearing the
- 10 major obstacle which is encumbrance on the property.
- 11 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Technically if you
- don't have the ten-year, you can't develop the
- property, you can't develop the church, that's the
- 14 reason why you're transparent about the whole process
- 15 you're trying to get through, right?
- 16 THE WITNESS: Yes, sir.
- 17 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So knowing that,
- and knowing that there's additional steps forward, it
- 19 would seem like the issues that the Commission has to
- 20 wrestle with is whether or not a time extension can
- 21 be given on the property, and the property as a whole
- 22 right now.
- 23 And even if -- the other question, even if
- 24 you don't bifurcate it, because -- and it becomes
- 25 part of your project, will that -- won't you have to

- file a Petition to Amend to allow the housing
- 2 component to become part of the project as a whole?
- I think that that's what we're developing,
- 4 so --
- 5 THE WITNESS: I think it's kind of been
- 6 characterized as Act 1 and Act 2. We are out of
- 7 compliance. The time has lapsed. And we thought it
- 8 was important to get in front of the Commission and
- 9 ask for an extension, but the next Act 2 would be
- 10 addressing these things.
- 11 COMMISSIONER SCHEUER: Unlike Mr.
- 12 Scheuer -- I'm not saying it's unlike him.
- I'm not that much concerned about the fact
- 14 that a church has missed deadlines in a land use
- 15 matter that it got permission for and a time when we
- 16 had a great recession. I can understand I think, as
- 17 a human being and as I guess a practicing lawyer, I
- 18 can understand that. You're all volunteers and you
- 19 guys are out there trying to do your best.
- 20 So I'm more concerned about what the future
- 21 is in terms of how that this type of housing that
- they are proposing can come into fruition, given the
- 23 fact that you're -- it hinges upon a ten-year
- 24 extension, that's my concern.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Chang.

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1 COMMISSIONER CHANG: One final question.
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- I just want to confirm for the record that
- 3 for purposes of Emmanuel Church, and you representing
- 4 Emmanuel Church, and you're familiar with all of the
- 5 conditions, that it is your representation that the
- 6 church acknowledges that you are not in substantial
- 7 compliance with the Land Use Commission conditions
- 8 for granting the boundary amendment?
- 9 THE WITNESS: Yes.
- 10 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Okuda.
- 12 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: May I ask Commissioner
- Ohigashi a question? Are you suggesting that this
- 14 petition is premature?
- 15 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'm thinking about
- 16 that. I don't know. But the motion before us is for
- 17 time extension and I think that is not premature.
- 18 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: If I may, Mr. Chair.
- 19 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: But the Petition
- 20 that they're talking about obviously hasn't been
- 21 filed.
- 22 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Mr. Chair, if I can
- ask Commissioner Ohigashi one more guestion?
- 24 Are you suggesting then that maybe all of
- 25 these should be combined in a single petition so we

- 1 can see the entire picture at one time?
- 2 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Maybe I'm speaking
- 3 too much by recapping in my mind. I was trying to
- 4 confirm where the status of it is.
- 5 My understanding is they wanted to file it
- 6 altogether, but circumstances dictated, because they
- 7 weren't able to get county approval of their project,
- 8 they couldn't file omnibus, I guess, kind of motion
- 9 for petition before us, so they have to go -- because
- 10 of the time limitation, they have to file the time
- 11 limitation first.
- I'm willing to review that, but I'm trying
- to get the reason why they're being so transparent.
- 14 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Your motion for
- 15 extension is somewhat of a preemption to our Order to
- 16 Show Cause why you're not in compliance.
- MS. LIM: The motion for extension, for the
- time extension is to hopefully avoid any notion
- 19 within the Commission that it's appropriate to issue
- 20 Order to Show Cause.
- 21 Right now this project fell out of
- 22 technical compliance. I think it was March 7th of
- 23 2018. It's not been terribly long. And both in the
- 24 filings, included in are Exhibit C is a letter that
- 25 we wrote -- that I wrote on behalf of Emmanuel

- 1 Lutheran Church to the Executive Officer of the Land
- 2 Use Commission, notifying him officially. This was
- 3 after a meeting, and it wasn't the first time the
- 4 project was discussed, but notifying the Commission,
- 5 director and staff of the intention to pursue the
- 6 omnibus motion.
- 7 But then as Commissioner Ohigashi noted,
- 8 the ability to get the 201H application -- which has
- 9 nothing to do with Emmanuel Lutheran Church -- that
- is a wholly separate independent matter being pursued
- 11 by WDV, but the ability to get that 201H approval
- schedule on the council calendar just became too
- difficult, because as you probably know, 201H
- 14 approval from the moment they get officially
- 15 submitted, what you have here is our Exhibit B to the
- motion, is a draft to the 201H application.
- 17 We assumed that -- first of all it's
- 18 available, because WDV prepared it, but we assumed
- 19 the Commission would want as much information in
- 20 front of them, but it is just a draft application.
- 21 From the moment that that application gets
- formally submitted by the Department of Housing
- 23 concerns to the County Council, they have got to take
- 24 action in 45 days for it to be deemed approval, for
- 25 201H approval.

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1 So there is a coordination effort that has
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- 2 to happen anytime somebody is submitting a 201H
- 3 application. When the window shuts for the 201H to
- 4 be approved before our March 7, 2018 deadline -- and
- 5 frankly we were aware that that window was going to
- 6 shut probably February/March time, because, again,
- 7 the scheduling with the council had not happened, we
- 8 said okay, what are we going do? Are we just going
- 9 to sit back and hope the Commission doesn't feel
- 10 compelled to issue an Order to Show Cause, even
- 11 though we are in technically noncompliance, sit back,
- 12 hope that that doesn't happen, hope that the County
- 13 Council isn't concerned about the risk of an Order to
- 14 Show Cause because of the deadline, because at that
- point it would have clearly passed, or do we come to
- 16 the Commission and request the extra timeframe.
- 17 COMMISSIONER CHANG: And I greatly
- 18 appreciate the transparency.
- Based upon what I hear today, the housing
- 20 project is critical to Emmanuel's ability to build.
- 21 It is connected. In the absence of the financing of
- the sale, they cannot build. So they are connected.
- And I do appreciate the transparency. We
- are probably getting far beyond testimony of your
- witness, so maybe we will just go on, but I would

- 1 like to hear from your planner, but in my view it is
- 2 tied, and that was the testimony. Without the sale,
- 3 they cannot build.
- 4 MS. LIM: Acknowledged, Commissioner Chang.
- 5 I also never say never. There are always abilities
- 6 to pursue additional funding, but you are correct.
- 7 MR. HOROVITZ: If I may make one quick
- 8 comment, Chair, on the timing with the Council, just
- 9 to clarify.
- 10 The issue of timing with getting before the
- 11 Council, for those who don't practice before it, when
- they go into budget season, it's almost impossible to
- 13 get anything but budget stuff scheduled.
- 14 So we circulated the Draft Petition to 29
- or so state and county agencies, and haven't received
- 16 any negative comments back. But we just lost a
- 17 window of opportunity to actually get a hearing.
- 18 So that's a shutdown until the budget gets
- 19 done. We are still working with the County Council
- 20 members, and after today, hopefully, we will go back
- 21 and say, okay, now let's get an actual date.
- It wasn't because of any opposition to the
- 23 project or what we're trying to do, just simply a
- 24 matter that there is no time on the calendar, given
- 25 how much time it needs to do the budget.

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1 COMMISSIONER CHANG: And I'm not making a
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- 2 judgment on the merits of the project, but you are
- 3 putting the cart before the horse. You are presuming
- 4 that the Land Use Commission --
- 5 MR. HOROVITZ: We are, and we knew going in
- 6 that that's our risk, and we were comfortable to take
- 7 it, because we believe -- from our perspective, WDV's
- 8 perspective, we support the extension request
- 9 regardless of what happens with our project. That's
- 10 unequivocal. There is a need for housing and
- 11 schools. They're independent.
- 12 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Thank you.
- 13 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi.
- 14 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I want to move for
- 15 executive session for the purposes of discussion with
- our attorney on legal issues concerning the ability,
- our duties and responsibilities as Commissioners.
- 18 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Do I have a second?
- 19 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Second.
- 20 CHAIRPERSON WONG: All in favor say "aye".
- 21 Any opposition? Let's move to executive session,
- 22 please.
- 23 (Executive session.)
- 24 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Reconvene to call for a
- 25 recess.)

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1 (Recess called.)
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- 2 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Ohigashi,
- 3 do you have --
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I have a motion to
- 5 make.
- I'm going to move that we defer or continue
- 7 this matter for a period of six months, next hearing
- 8 to be worked out between the parties and our staff,
- 9 and that as a condition of this continuance or
- 10 deferment, that the Petitioner will provide to the
- 11 Commission a detailed timetable of any and all State
- 12 -- required all State and County approvals and
- actions necessary for the current proposal to move
- 14 forward, and to bring the Petitioner into full
- 15 compliance with the D and O, and that such be
- 16 provided at least 60 days before the next hearing.
- 17 Also that the Petitioner -- and if the
- 18 Intervenor wants to help them -- provide written
- 19 status report and submit motions that they may want
- 20 to have considered at the next hearing.
- Is six months too short?
- MR. HOROVITZ: Thank you. I appreciate the
- 23 motion.
- 24 Yeah, I think -- I think it might be a
- 25 little bit too short. I'll tell you timeline-wise,

- 1 we anticipate, if all goes well, that we would go
- before getting County Council meetings in
- 3 September/October timeframe, that they would then
- 4 decide by let's say end of November or so. Then we
- 5 go through the county resolution process probably by
- 6 January or so.
- 7 That's the time line we're working on right
- 8 now. I would prefer to come back with a motion
- 9 saying we have a fully approved project, so you can
- 10 see that it's done.
- So my preference would be for nine months
- or so, but if the Commission is really comfortable
- 13 with six, I'll take what we can get.
- 14 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: I'll propose six
- 15 months, and if you want continuance, that we would
- 16 authorize the Chairman to grant any continuances,
- 17 based upon your ability to convince him.
- MR. HOROVITZ: I'll do my best.
- 19 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Is there a second?
- 20 COMMISSIONER MAHI: I'll second.
- 21 CHAIRPERSON WONG: We're in discussion.
- 22 Commissioner Scheuer.
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: A couple things.
- 24 First is that last bit about deferring continuances
- 25 to the Chair. I would like to have it a little

- 1 clearer before we vote on it. I don't have my head
- 2 entirely wrapped around it.
- 3 Second thing, and, you know, forgive me,
- 4 I'll make this brief. I think it's important for
- 5 everybody who comes before us, whether they're public
- 6 testifier, Petitioners, Intervenors, Parties, that
- 7 they feel very welcome and comfortable.
- I just want to address one thing on the
- 9 record. When I question a witness, I don't question
- 10 them any differently whether they're a member of a
- 11 church or private developer or anything. It's our
- duty to treat everybody who comes before us fairly.
- 13 I actually, for many years, was a member of the
- 14 Lutheran Church of Honolulu. I don't have anything
- for or against Lutherans or any other denominations
- 16 because of that.
- 17 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other discussion?
- 18 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: My only concern is
- 19 that we need -- my six months is -- we need a time to
- 20 resolve this. If we say until moved on, it would be
- 21 taking forever. So I like to keep the six months,
- 22 but allow the Chair some discretion in determining
- 23 whether a continuance is necessary or not, unless it
- has to be brought before the Commission.
- 25 CHAIRPERSON WONG: This is just myself.

- I would feel comfortable if you give me six
- 2 months more for the extension -- not more than six
- 3 months, anything else would have to come back.
- 4 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: So would I have to
- 5 amend my motion to include that language?
- 6 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Yes, please.
- 7 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: If I can restate my
- 8 motion by adding that the Chair has discretion up to
- 9 six additional months, other than that it would have
- 10 to come back.
- 11 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Mahi, there
- 12 was an addition.
- 13 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Yeah.
- 14 CHAIRPERSON WONG: You have no problem?
- 15 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Move along.
- 16 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other discussion?
- 17 Commissioner Scheuer first.
- 18 VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Could you read the
- 19 motion back?
- 20 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: The motion was to
- 21 continue or defer this matter for six months with
- 22 condition that timeline be filed within 60 days
- 23 before the hearing, and that the Petitioner submit
- 24 any additional motions, with an authorization for the
- 25 Chair to grant a continuance for up to six additional

- 1 months.
- 2 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Maybe I can restate
- 3 it.
- 4 First I move to defer or continue this
- 5 motion for a period of six months. The Petitioner
- 6 shall provide a detailed timetable of any and all
- 7 required state and county approvals and actions
- 8 necessary for the current proposal to move forward
- 9 and to bring the Petitioner into full compliance with
- 10 the present D and O.
- 11 And we want to have that filed 60 days
- 12 before our next hearing. So if you are going to ask
- for a continuance, you're going to have to ask it
- 14 60 days before.
- The Petitioner also shall provide a written
- 16 status report. That's where I introduced the
- 17 Intervenor may submit motions for approval to the LUC
- 18 regarding the actions that they have detailed today.
- 19 And that should be filed 60 days before the next
- 20 hearing.
- I ask that the Chairman has an
- 22 additional -- have the ability to authorize a
- 23 continuance for an additional six months, up to an
- 24 additional six months, and if they are requesting
- longer period than that, that it should be brought

- 1 before the Commission.
- 2 The last thing -- that's all I can
- 3 remember. But that's pretty clear.
- 4 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Commissioner Okuda, you
- 5 had a question?
- 6 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: No, no. Commissioner
- 7 Ohigashi has answered all my questions.
- 8 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other discussion on
- 9 this motion?
- 10 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Mr. Chair, is it
- 11 appropriate for me to ask in particular Waikapu
- 12 Development -- I mean what are we going to expect --
- 13 what is going to happen within six months? Is that
- 14 fair to ask? I want to know what I'm voting on.
- What's going to happen?
- MR. HOROVITZ: I think it will be a few
- more months than six months. We have our 201H draft
- 18 that's been circulated and already received comments.
- 19 We're going to be going before the County Council to
- 20 get their approval on the process. We then need them
- 21 to move, approve the resolution, fully authorize it.
- 22 So at that point we would have a county approved 201H
- 23 project.
- The subdivision itself will be nearly
- complete, we would hope. So we would then be asking

- 1 the Commission, at least our portion of it, to the
- 2 piece of land that we intend to purchase, to amend
- 3 the Decision and Order to allow the 201H project. We
- 4 will know exactly what it's looking like on our
- 5 portion of the property.
- I expect there might be some other request
- 7 at that time, but that's it in a nutshell.
- 8 COMMISSIONER CHANG: Is your sale
- 9 conditioned upon the 201H approval?
- 10 MR. HOROVITZ: No. Our sale is conditioned
- 11 upon the large two lot subdivision. The 201H
- 12 approval, whether by the county, that's entirely our
- 13 risk. The sale of the property, and Emmanuel
- 14 Lutheran's ability to get our funds to do what they
- 15 need to do has nothing to do with whether county
- 16 approves the 201H.
- 17 COMMISSIONER CHANG: When will the sale be
- 18 consummated and the subdivision be filed and
- 19 approved?
- 20 MR. HOROVITZ: The large lot subdivision is
- 21 ready to go. We are simply waiting -- literally
- 22 waiting on an updated title report. And this person
- who is processing the subdivision has gotten all the
- other OK's to get that.
- We hoped to have it all already; we did

- 1 not. Hopefully within the next week or so that will
- 2 go on in. Estimate for large lot subdivision like
- 3 this, six to nine months to go. We need that to
- 4 occur, and then the Decision and Order from ten years
- 5 ago requires LUC approval for them to sell it to us.
- 6 So assuming we had the subdivision done
- 7 when we came back here the next time, as soon as you
- 8 guys say, okay, we will allow Emmanuel Lutheran to
- 9 sell the property, we're ready to close.
- 10 COMMISSIONER CHANG: That helps me
- 11 understand.
- I am at this point not prejudging the
- merits of your 201 application.
- I would urge you to review the 201
- application that was filed by the County of Kaua'i
- and the series of questions and considerations by the
- 17 Commission, as I think that will give you a good
- indication of what the Commission is looking for. So
- 19 notwithstanding what may have gone before the county,
- 20 but what the Commission is looking for, because it
- 21 does appear as if your sale to the church is
- independent of whether you're going get the 201H
- 23 approval, but I suspect the 201H approval is critical
- 24 to your -- I mean that's what you're looking for. So
- 25 there's no necessarily guarantee that the county may

- 1 approve it, that the LUC -- I'm not going to
- 2 prejudge. But just it might just be helpful for you
- 3 to review the record on that County of Kaua'i as it
- 4 may help you prepare for your presentation both to
- 5 the county as well as to LUC.
- 6 MR. HOROVITZ: Appreciate that. Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRPERSON WONG: Any other questions
- 8 about this motion or discussions?
- 9 If not, Mr. Orodenker, please poll the
- 10 Commission.
- 11 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Chair.
- 12 A motion was made by Commissioner Ohigashi,
- much more eloquently than I have written down,
- 14 seconded by Commissioner Mahi. I think everyone
- 15 heard it. The motion is to continue or defer this
- 16 matter under certain conditions and certain
- 17 requirements.
- Commissioner Ohigashi?
- 19 COMMISSIONER OHIGASHI: Aye.
- 20 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Mahi?
- 21 COMMISSIONER MAHI: Aye.
- 22 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Okuda?
- 23 COMMISSIONER OKUDA: Yes.
- 24 EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Scheuer?
- VICE CHAIR SCHEUER: Aye.

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               EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Chang?
2
               COMMISSIONER CHANG: Aye.
               EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Commissioner Cabral?
3
               VICE CHAIR CABRAL: No.
4
               EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Chair Wong?
5
6
              CHAIRPERSON WONG: Aye.
               EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Thank you.
7
8
               Mr. Chair, the motion passes with six "aye"
9
    votes and one "no" vote.
10
               CHAIRPERSON WONG: Thank you.
               If there's no other business to attend to,
11
we are adjourned.
13
                (The proceedings adjourn at 2:13 p.m.)
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1	CERTIFICATE
2	STATE OF HAWAII)) SS.
3	COUNTY OF HONOLULU)
4	I, JEAN MARIE McMANUS, do hereby certify:
5	That on May 9, 2018, at 9:00 a.m., the
6	proceedings contained herein was taken down by me in
7	machine shorthand and was thereafter reduced to
8	typewriting under my supervision; that the foregoing
9	represents, to the best of my ability, a true and
10	correct copy of the proceedings had in the foregoing
11	matter.
12	I further certify that I am not of counsel for
13	any of the parties hereto, nor in any way interested
14	in the outcome of the cause named in this caption.
15	Dated this 9th day of May, 2018, in Honolulu,
16	Hawaii.
17	
18	
19	/s/ Jean Marie McManus
20	JEAN MARIE McMANUS, CSR #156
21	
22	
23	
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25	