Subject: Re: Important: Notice of Access Limitations to Maunakea on October 7, 2014

Message sent on behalf of Stephanie Nagata, Director:

To all Maunakea Tour Operators:

On Tuesday, Oct. 7, the Thirty-Meter Telescope will be holding a ground breaking ceremony. OMKM has been hearing there will be a gathering of protestors and many planning to engage in some form of civil disobedience. We do not know what is being planned, but we can anticipate road blockages, including possible vehicle blockages and road sit-ins. We anticipate picketers and hecklers.

The Office of Maunakea Management is working with the Hawaii County Police Department, State Sheriff’s Office, and DLNR’s enforcement division. Due to the potential magnitude of the protests and presence of foreign and local dignitaries, police are highly concerned about security and crowd control. The police are recommending closing the road. The road will be closed beginning at 10 pm Monday, October 6, at the boundary of UH’s managed lands just below the VIS. The road will reopen sometime around 2 pm Tuesday, Oct. 7.

Only official observatory, UH, and State vehicles will be allowed through the road block. Commercial tour vehicles will be allowed for stargazing on Oct 7. Some of you conduct sunrise and day tours. We are asking that commercial operators curtail and not conduct daytime tours on Oct. 7. If you have already planned tours for that day please contact OMKM no later than Tuesday, September 29, of any planned sunrise/daytime tours on Oct. 7. Commercial tours that are not on the permitted vehicle list WILL NOT be allowed through the road block on Tuesday, Oct 7.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation and assistance.

Stephanie Nagata
Director