April 24, 2013

Sara Collins, Ph.D.
Pacific Consulting Services Inc.
720 Iwilei Road Ste. 424
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96817

Dear Dr. Collins:

SUBJECT: Chapter 6E-8 Historic Preservation Review -
Archaeological Monitoring Plan for the Thirty-Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea
Ka‘ohe Ahupua‘a, Hāmākua District, Island of Hawai‘i
TMK (3) 4-4-015:009 (por.)

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft plan titled Archaeological Monitoring in Support of Construction of the Thirty-Meter Telescope in the Astronomy Precinct on Mauna Kea Ka‘ohe Ahupua‘a, Hāmākua District, Island of Hawai‘i, TMK (3) 4-4-015:009 (por.), Sara Collins, Patrick McCoy and Steve Clark (September, 2012). This document was received by our office on September 20, 2012. We apologize for the delayed review and thank you for your patience. This plan outlines the monitoring provisions that will be followed during the construction of the Thirty-Meter Telescope (TMT) at the aforementioned property, as well as several additional components of the area of potential effect (APE). These include a batch plant staging area, TMT access way, and Hale Pōhaku. The TMT observatory will be built on a five-acre footprint within Area E of the Mauna Kea Astronomy Precinct.

The archaeological monitoring activities are required and authorized in the Mauna Kea Comprehensive Management Plan (CMP-Ho‘ōkea 2009) and the Cultural Resources Management Plan (CMP-McCoy et al. 2009). The proposed areas in the APE have been subject to several surveys and reports, the most recent reports include McCoy and Nees (2005-2007) and Hammatt (2009-2011). McCoy and Nees identified a total of 263 historic properties including 95 previously identified sites as well as two Traditional Cultural Properties (TCP), including Kūkahau‘ula (Site 21438) and Pa‘u Lillinoe (Site 21439). Hammatt surveyed Area E and the batch plant staging area and no additional historic properties were identified in these areas. The plan provides a summary of known sites in the vicinity of the various work areas and site location maps are provided for each area.

The submitted plan contains information on proposed monitoring procedures, as stipulated in Hawai‘i Administrative Rule (HAR) 13-279-4 and it is accepted as final. We request that the discussion of report preparation on page 33 of the final plan be revised to include a statement that the report will be prepared in conformance with HAR 13-279-5. Please send one hardcopy of the revised final document, clearly marked FINAL, along with a copy of this review letter and a text-searchable PDF version on CD to the Kapolei SHPD office, attention SHPD Library. We request that you send one hard copy of the final to the Hilo SHPD office for library purposes.

Please contact Sean Nāleimaile at (808) 933-7651 or Sean.P.Naleimaile@hawaii.gov if you have any questions of concerns regarding this letter.

Aloha,

Theresa K. Donham
Archaeology Branch Chief