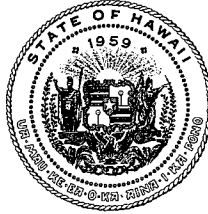


DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR OF
HAWAII



SUZANNE D. CASE
CHAIRPERSON
BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

KEKOA KALUHIWA
FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFREY T. PEARSON, P.E.
DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

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BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION
BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES
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LAND
STATE PARKS

**STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

POST OFFICE BOX 621
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

July 22, 2016

Chairperson and Members
Board of Land and Natural Resources
State of Hawai'i
Honolulu, Hawai'i

Land Board Members:

**SUBJECT: REQUEST TO CONDUCT A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING THE DRAFT
LĀLĀMILO HABITAT CONSERVATION PLAN AND ASSOCIATED
INCIDENTAL TAKE LICENSE, SOUTH KOHALA DISTRICT, HAWAII
ISLAND, TMK'S (3) 6-6-001:071 AND (3) 6-8-002:019.**

SUMMARY:

Lālāmilo Wind Company LLC proposes to complete a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) and obtain an associated 20-year Incidental Take License to operate a wind energy facility (Project) in the South Kohala District on the island of Hawai'i. The Project has a net generating capacity of 3.3 megawatts and includes five turbines, and associated power lines, fencing, and road work.

The HCP, once approved, will result in issuance of an Incidental Take License from the Board for incidental take of endangered animals associated with the HCP activities.

BACKGROUND:

Lālāmilo Wind Company LLC has prepared the draft HCP in consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the DLNR Division of Forestry and Wildlife staff. The draft HCP was published in the June 8, 2016 Office of Environmental Quality and Control's Environmental Notice and is currently available for public review and comments.

Lālāmilo Wind Company LLC has determined that incidental take of two endangered species could occur as a result from operation of the project: Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*) and Hawaiian petrel (*Pterodroma sandwichensis*). Mitigation for the Hawaiian hoary bat will consist of habitat improvement at the Kahuku Unit of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park (HAVO) and associated bat monitoring to evaluate the improvement. Mitigation for Hawaiian

petrels will consist of a monetary contribution toward maintenance of a cat-proof fence around a Hawaiian petrel nesting colony at HAVO, along with predator control. All mitigation measures were developed to provide a net ecological benefit to the species.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to HRS §195D-4, a public hearing on the affected island in conjunction with a public comment period is required prior to BLNR review and approval of the draft HCP and Issuance of an Incidental Take License.

CHAPTER 343 – ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT:

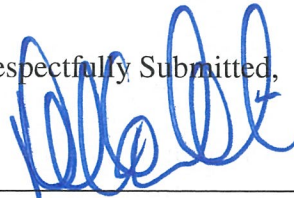
This action before the Board requests approval to conduct a public hearing and does not constitute a use of State lands or funds, and therefore, this action is exempt from the provisions of HRS Chapter 343 relating to environmental impact statements.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board:

1. Grant permission to conduct a public hearing on the island of Hawai'i for the Lālāmilo Draft Habitat Conservation Plan and associated Incidental Take License, South Kohala District, Hawai'i Island;
2. Authorize the Chairperson to set the dates and times for the public hearing; and
3. Authorize the Chairperson to appoint a hearing master for the public hearing.

Respectfully Submitted,



David G. Smith, Administrator
Division of Forestry and Wildlife

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL:



Suzanne D. Case, Chairperson