



**Testimony to
The Board of Land and Natural Resources**

Friday, February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM

Agenda Item D-5, Decommissioning Bond for Hawaii Gas

Chair Dawn N.S. Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources:

Amend Prior Board Action of August 25, 2023, Item D-1, Amend Prior Board Action of July 28, 2023, Item D-4, Issuance of Direct Lease to The Gas Company, LLC for Storage Site and Tank Farm, Operating Yard, Related Activities and Appurtenant Pipelines to Said Tanks, Nawiliwili, Lihue, Kauai Tax Map Key: (4) 3-2-003:030. The purpose of the prior amendment was to issue a one (1) year holdover of General Lease S-4250.

The purpose of the current amendment is to include a decommissioning bond requirement in the new lease for the removal of all trade fixtures and other equipment on the property at lease expiration or earlier termination.

The Gas Company, LLC dba Hawaii Gas (Hawaii Gas) supports the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources, Land Division's (Land Division) testimony on this agenda item.

BACKGROUND

As provided in the Land Division's testimony, the Board of Land and Natural Resources (Board) instructed the Land Division to work with Hawaii Gas on a proposal to address the Board's previous decommissioning bond recommendation and to return in sixty (60) days to present a recommendation on the removal of improvements at the end term or early termination of the lease.

REMARKS

Hawaii Gas supports the testimony submitted by the Land Division on this agenda item. As stated in the Land Division's testimony, Hawaii Gas agrees that the proposed verbiage to include in the new lease helps to protect the State's interests and avoids undue financial hardship for Hawaii Gas and corresponding price increases for its customers by limiting the requirement for a decommissioning bond to occur in specific contractual or financial circumstances.

Given the above, Hawaii Gas supports the recommendations set forth in the Land Division's testimony.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

From: [Jeracah Lawless](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] LAND DIVISION AGENDA ITEM D6: AMEND GENERAL LEASE NO. S-5976 Hospice of Hilo, Lessee
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 11:27:54 AM

Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson
State of Hawaii / Board of Land and Natural Resources / P.O. Box 621 / Honolulu, HI
96809

SUBJECT: LAND DIVISION AGENDA ITEM D6: AMEND GENERAL LEASE NO. S-5976 Hospice of Hilo, Lessee
Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii / Tax Map Key (3) 2-4-001:179
Land Board Meeting Date: February 9, 2024

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed amendment of General Lease No. S-5976 to allow the Lessee, Hospice of Hilo, dba Hawai'i Care Choices (HiCare), to expand services offered on the premises leased at 590 Kapiolani Street, Hilo to include a Type II Adult Residential Care Home (ARCH).

As you are aware, our community is home to a diverse population, including many elderly individuals who may require specialized care and assistance. As our community continues to age and current home operators retire without any successor in place, the need for adult residential care homes will only continue to grow. Here are some key reasons why opening an adult residential care home would benefit our community:

- **Dignified Care for Seniors:** An adult residential care home would provide a dignified and supportive environment for our seniors who may need assistance with daily activities, such as bathing, dressing, and medication management. This would enable them to maintain a higher quality of life while aging gracefully.
- **Local Access to Care Services:** Currently, many seniors in our community have to travel significant distances to access appropriate care facilities. Establishing a care home would ensure that our aging residents can receive the necessary care and support without the added stress of long-distance travel.
- **Community Integration:** A care home in our community would promote social integration and a sense of belonging for its residents. This would foster a supportive environment where seniors can engage in meaningful activities and maintain connections with their families and the community.
- **Relief for Families:** Families often face challenges in caring for their aging loved ones at home. Having a local adult residential care home would provide a much-needed option for families seeking assistance in caring for their elderly members, offering respite and support.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in SUPPORT of this measure.

Respectfully,

Jeracah Lawless
Member of the Hawaii Care Choices Advisory Council

From: [Earle Medeiros](#)
To: [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Na Moku Aupuni O Koolau Hui, item #D7
Date: Wednesday, February 7, 2024 9:27:25 AM

Aloha Chair Chang & Board Members,

Save our Aina for our people and our future generations!!!. Who is better to have this lease then these people of this Aina. They will take extra care and of this lease and Aina better than any one else. I would say that it's about time that the people of Keanae have a seat at the table. My name is Earle Kuikahi Medeiros. I live in Haneoo, Hana, Maui, practically all of my life. I am 68 years old and my Dad and I had friends and family in keanae and would spend a lot of time there, by the way my Dad would be 112 at this time.

About time the people of Keanae have a chance to guide their own destiny. I have known a lot of people in Keanae over all these years. Like I said,who is better to get this lease, care take this Aina,and also educate other people , then the PEOPLE OF KEANAE!!!. Oia'i' o!!!

Aloha,

Earle Kuikahi Medeiros

P.S. You can reach me at this address or my phone number,808. 248. 8606

Thomas Yeh
505 Kilauea Avenue, Suite B
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 961-0055
<tly@yehand kim.com>

February 7, 2024

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL
blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson
State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

**SUBJECT: LAND DIVISION AGENDA ITEM D6:
AMEND GENERAL LEASE NO. S-5976
Hospice of Hilo, Lessee
Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii / Tax Map Key (3) 2-4-001:179
Land Board Meeting Date: February 9, 2024**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my wholehearted support for the (a) proposed amendment of General Lease No. S-5976 to allow the Lessee, Hospice of Hilo, dba Hawai'i Care Choices (HiCare) to expand services offered on the premises leased at 590 Kapiolani Street, Hilo, to include a Type II Adult Residential Care Home (ARCH), and (b) for the District Land Agent's recommendation to amend Paragraph C of the lease to allow for the lease to utilize the prevailing Minimum Rent Policy for eleemosynary organizations.

I am currently serving as a member of the HiCare board of directors, and during my tenure, have been greatly impressed by the services being offered by HiCare, which go beyond the initial purpose of providing hospice care. HiCare now provides palliative care for persons requiring specialized medical care and who have serious illnesses, bereavement for surviving family members, as well as hospice care to patients in home and other settings. The HiCare leadership team is a devoted body of well qualified and devoted personnel who believe in HiCare's mission of providing compassionate care.

The current Pohai Malama facility (site plan of facility and rooms attached) represents a substantial investment in creating a place that has all the amenities required for both hospice patients and ARCH patients. Over the years, it became evident that the vast majority of hospice patients preferred to receive such care in the comfort of a home setting. As such, the Pohai facility was not being utilized to the extent of its capacity. In order to make better use of the

facility, after much thought and conducting a feasibility study, the decision was made to seek approval from the Department of Health to obtain approval to operate a Type II ARCH (6 or more residents) facility at Pohai, as well as the Board of Land and Natural Resources.

The demographics for the East Hawaii and larger Hawaii Island community provides HiCare with confidence that the Pohai facility will be successful on this planned use. HiCare has already received favorable feedback from families who want to use the facility for this purpose and there are currently no licensed ARCH II facilities on the island.

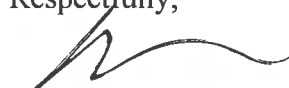
With the Pohai facility and planned staffing, as an adjunct to providing the ARCH services, HiCare will also be able to provide daily activities, palliative care, memory care and continue to provide hospice residents whose needs transition to that level, services that current ARCH I facilities (5 or less residents, usually in a home setting) are not capable of providing.

I have no doubt that residents and patients at the Pohai facility will receive compassionate and quality care consistent with HiCare's mission, which I have observed for family members and friends in the past.

Finally, HiCare is a recognized 501(c)(3) organization which qualifies for status as an eleemosynary organization and the Board's Minimum rent policy for such organizations. We greatly appreciate the Board's approval of the proposal to amend Paragraph C to allow for this, as this amendment will allow HiCare to plan to devote its resources to provide quality care to the island in a sustainable way.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony and for your consideration of this request. Your approval will allow HiCare to serve the community at the Pohai facility to a fuller extent and to maintain all of its operations in a financially sustainable way.

Respectfully,

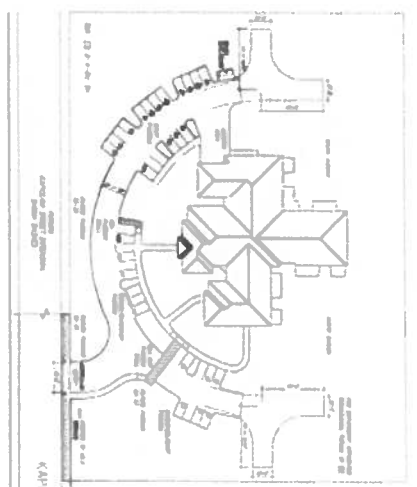


Thomas Yeh

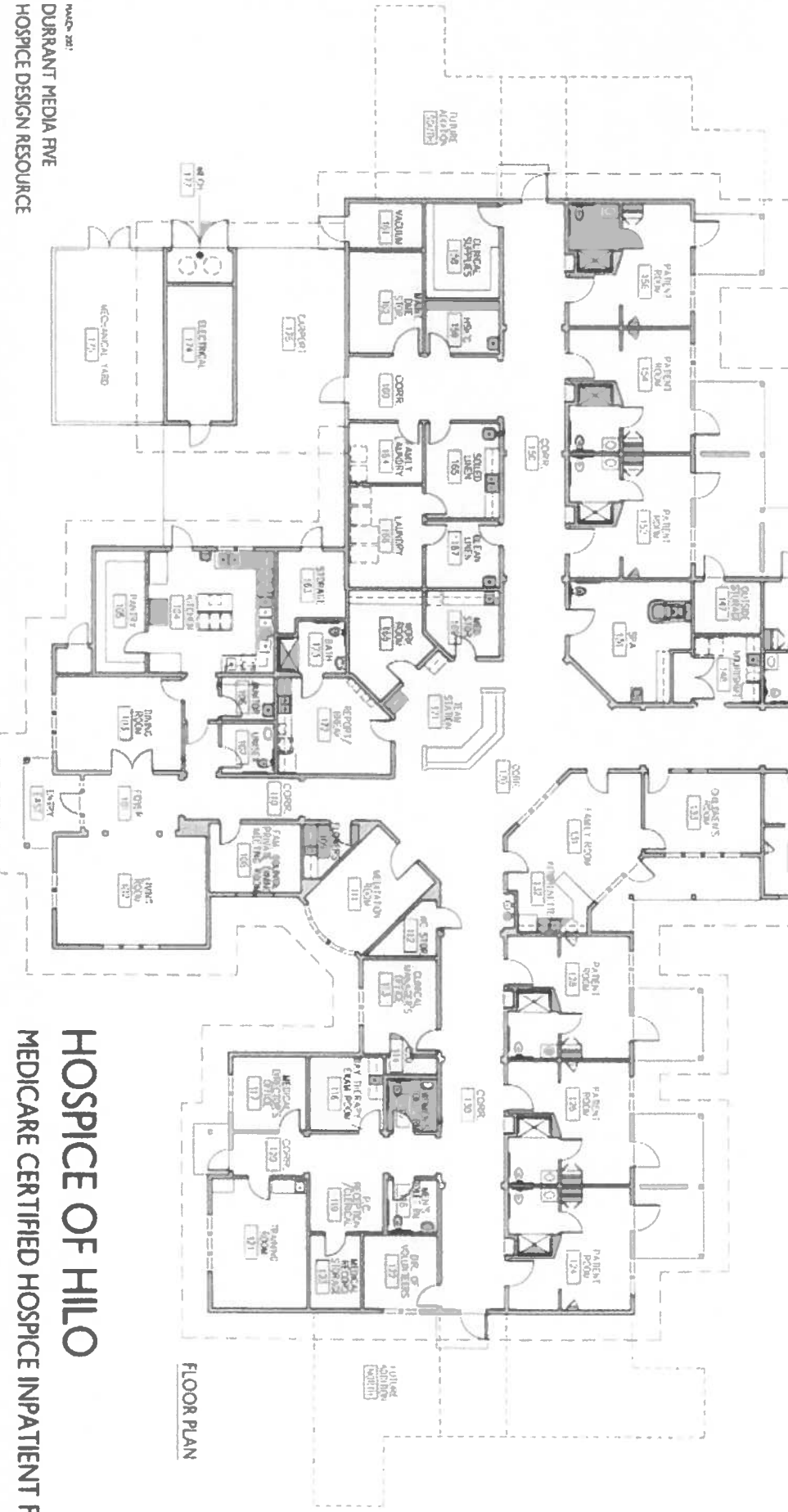
Member of the Board of Hospice of Hilo (dba Hawaii Care Choices)

Encl.

- CORRIDOR
- PUBLIC AREA
- PATIENT ROOM
- PATIENT CARE
- STAFF AREA



SITE PLAN



FLOOR PLAN

PLANS 201
 DURANT MEDIA FIVE
 HOSPICE DESIGN RESOURCE

HOSPICE OF HILO
 MEDICARE CERTIFIED HOSPICE INPATIENT FACILITY



Ke Ao Hāli'i
Save Hāna Coast

P O Box 115
Hāna, HI 96713
contact@savehanacoast.org

Testimony in Support of Agenda Item D-7:

**REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF DIRECT NON-PROFIT LEASE TO NA MOKU
AUPUNI O KOOLAU HUI; RETROACTIVE OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT
FROM DECEMBER 11, 2021, TO DECEMBER 10, 2024, FOR
RECREATIONAL CAMPSITE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY-BASED
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, KEANAE-WAILUA, HANA, MAUI,
TAX MAP KEYS: (2) 1-1-002: 008 & 009 AND (2) 1-1-004: 005**

Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources
February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132 and via Teleconference

Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,

My name is John "Irish" O'Hara, I reside in Maui Hikina moku of Hāna, and I am Chairman of the Board of the 501(c)(3) Ke Ao Hāli'i.

My testimony is in **strong support** of Nā Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui acquiring the long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka (TMK#(2)1-1-002: 008 & 009), and Na Moku Lo'i Kalo Project Site (TMK#1-1-004:005).

Nā Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui (Nā Moku) was created in 1996 as a non-profit organization to educate, perpetuate, serve, and protect the historical, traditional, spiritual, and environmental well-being of Ke'anae/Wailuanui. Members are the lineal descendants and current residents of the area.

Nā Moku and Ke Ao Hāli'i are both Alaka'i Members of the Maui Nui Makai Network and have collaborated on many community outreach efforts and are committed to community managed resources in our respective areas. Some important things to consider when considering Nā Moku's long-term lease application:

- Nā Moku received the right of entry 4 years ago, in 2020, as a year-to-year agreement with the Department of Land and Natural Resources. With no guarantee of how long they would have the property to manage, they did not hesitate to bring the facility up to par, saving the State a substantial amount of money.
- In the past three years, Ke'anae Uka (previously called Ke'anae YMCA) has been refreshed and strengthened under the care of Nā Moku. The facility has hosted groups from across the world for cultural exchanges, community meetings, celebrations, family reunions, weddings, keiki groups, church group services, men's group retreats, Camp Imua, visits to the lo'i, and regularly hosts camping for the public. The facility provides a much needed gathering place in Maui Hikina.
- Nā Moku was founded in 1996, and though its original founders have passed on, the current board/officers/members of Na Moku are 2nd and 3rd generation kanaka maoli who consider it a privilege to maintaining 4.82 acres of lo'i kalo in the Wailuanui ahupua'a and Ke'anae Uka. They are committed to educate and share the cultural heritage of their place through practice and understanding the importance of connectivity of mauka to makai, water ways, and the lo'i. Schools, organizations, and many individual visitors have benefitted from huaka'i to their moku.
- Ke'anae Uka and the lo'i work hand in hand. The lo'i kalo will one day provide produce for Ke'anae Uka's needs, through a farm to table model, strengthening the food security and sustainability for their community and the island of Maui.

The long-term lease would allow Nā Moku to continue sharing space with our community and offering these services to the public and organizations across the world. Please allow Nā Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui to realize this long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka and the Lo'i Kalo Project Site.

Mahalo nui loa for considering my testimony.

E ola,



John "Irish" O'Hara - Chairman
Ke Ao Hāli'i

**Testimony in Support of Agenda Item D-7:
REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF DIRECT NON-PROFIT LEASE TO NA MOKU
AUPUNI O KOOLAU HUI; RETROACTIVE OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT
FROM DECEMBER 11, 2021, TO DECEMBER 10, 2024, FOR RECREATIONAL
CAMPSITE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, KEANAE-WAILUA, HANA, MAUI, TAX MAP
KEYS: (2) 1-1-002: 008 & 009 AND (2) 1-1-004: 005**

Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources
February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132 and via Teleconference

Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,

My name is Jhalani Aweau and I am from Ke'anae and Wailuanui.

I submit this testimony in **strong support** of Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui acquiring the long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka (TMK#(2)1-1-002: 008 & 009), and Na Moku Lo'i Kalo Project Site (TMK#1-1-004:005).

Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui (Na Moku) was created in 1996 as a non-profit organization to educate, perpetuate, serve, and protect the historical, traditional, spiritual, and environmental well being of Ke'anae/Wailuanui. Members are the lineal descendants and current residents of the Ke'anae and Wailuanui ahupua'a.

I am a lineal descendant of both Ke'anae and Wailuanui, a current resident, and have been involved with Na Moku for over 8 years. Na Moku has allowed my community to continue farming kalo and living our unique lifestyle while perpetuating our culture.

- In December of 2020, Na Moku received the right of entry for a year-year agreement with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, progressing through stages of cleaning, safety, renovations, and setting up a reservation system. Na Moku never hesitated to take on the kuleana of cleaning, bringing the property up to par, saving the State a substantial amount of money.
- In the past three years, Ke'anae Uka has been revitalized under the care of Na Moku, hosting groups from across the world for cultural exchanges, community meetings and celebrations, family reunions, weddings, kids groups, church group services, men's group retreats, Camp Imua, visits to the lo'i, and regularly hosting camping for the general public. We have been able to have more community involvement and events at Ke'anae Uka that strengthens our community since Na Moku has been caretaking this sacred 'aina.
- Since their organization was founded in 1996, Na Moku has also had the privilege of maintaining 4.82 acres of lo'i kalo in the Wailuanui ahupua'a. They've had the chance to educate and share the cultural heritage of their place through understanding the importance of the connectivity of mauka to makai, water ways, and the lo'i. Schools, organizations, and many individual visitors

have benefitted from this experience. I've witnessed first hand the joy brought to visitors' souls while in the lo'i working alongside Na Moku.

- Ke'anae Uka and the lo'i work hand in hand. The lo'i kalo will one day provide produce for Ke'anae Uka's needs, through a farm to table model, strengthening the food security and sustainability for their community and the island of Maui.

Acquiring the long-term lease would allow Na Moku to continue sharing space with their community and offering these services to the public and other organizations across the world. Please allow Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui to acquire this long term lease for Ke'anae Uka and the Lo'i Kalo Project Site.

Mahalo nui loa for considering my testimony.

'O ke aloha nō,
Jhalani Aweau

February 7, 2024

ELECTRONIC MAIL

blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson
State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

**SUBJECT: LAND DIVISION AGENDA ITEM D6: AMEND GENERAL LEASE NO. S-5976
Hospice of Hilo, Lessee
Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii / Tax Map Key (3) 2-4-001:179
Land Board Meeting Date: February 9, 2024**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed amendment of General Lease No. S-5976 to allow the Lessee, Hospice of Hilo, dba Hawai'i Care Choices (HiCare) to expand services offered on the premises leased at 590 Kapiolani Street, Hilo to include a Type II Adult Residential Care Home (ARCH).

State reason for your support: *Talking Point Examples:*

- Former/current caregiver for a senior who is physically infirm, have mental disabilities such as dementia
- Understands the value and need for short-term respite for caregivers and care home operators
- Was someone or knows someone who had to relocate a loved one from the Big Island to another county or state to a facility providing 24-hour living accommodations and assistance with personal care
- Recognizes the demand and need for more bed capacity as a great number of care home operators are retiring and have no successor in place
- Have first-hand experience of receiving quality compassionate hospice care at Pohai Malama – describe the care, environment, etc.
- Ensure the intent and purpose of this community asset is preserved for generations to come
- Other personal reason for supporting the amendment

Closing Suggestions:

- Thank you for your consideration and support of amending General Lease No. S-5976.
- Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in SUPPORT of this measure.

Respectfully,

Gail Uejo
Gail Uejo
Member of the Board/Advisory Council

Testimony in Support of Agenda Item D-7

Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources
February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132 and via Teleconference

'Ano'ai ke aloha a kākou,

'O Lillie Makaila ko'u inoa. No Ko'olau, O'ahu mai au, a noho au i Keana, Ko'olauloa, O'ahu i kēia mau manawa. I am kākaka Hawai'i by birth, a professional planner by trade, and once visited Ke'anae Uka and Wailuanui as a malihini to those lands. Mahalo for your time and consideration of this written testimony, I will try to be brief and direct with my comments.

It is an honor and a privilege to speak on my personal experience with Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui and to ask that this Board vote in support of the request for their hui to acquire a long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka (TMK# (2)1-1-002: 008 & 009), and the Na Moku Lo'i Kalo Project Site (TMK# (2)1-1-004:005). I urge this Board and each of its members to choose Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui to steward the 'āina in Ke'anae Uka and Wailuanui because there is no better entity to manage these lands.

Professionally, in my review it is clear that this lease should not require an EA or any other environmental disclosure document as the proposed uses are existing, do not pose a threat to people or places, and are on the Exemption List for the Department of Land and Natural Resources reviewed and concurred on by the Environmental Council. Additionally, I fully support the staff recommendation to ask for the minimum lease rent and believe it will aid in the hui's ability to focus on their programs and stewardship.

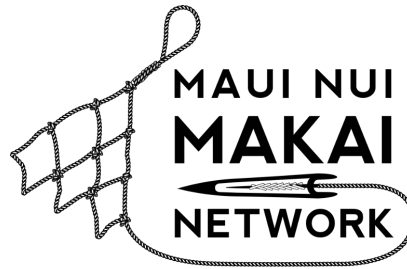
Furthermore, I had the opportunity to stay at Ke'anae Uka, to visit lo'i kalo in Wailuanui, to go makai at Ke'anae, and to follow the kahawai in Wailuanui to the sea. I swam in the muliwai. I walked the kuāuna and traced the path of the 'auwai. Every place I visited I saw lands that were bursting with health and vitality. Spaces filled with community and keiki learning from the elder generations. I can describe it as nothing less than mālama 'āina at its finest.

I sat in the gathering space at Ke'anae Uka as it was filled with the leadership of Na Moku Aupuni o Ko'olau Hui, cultural and lineal descendants of that 'āina, and the extended Ko'olau community. I listened to their stories, and I heard their insights on resource management, and I was just grateful to be there and share space with them. My time there was transformative. To be immersed in a living, vibrant community of aloha 'āina, kupa of those lands, was an honor. I saw a hui that is grounded in 'ike kūpuna and actively works to provide spaces and opportunities for their community, a role model truly. The restoration of the Ke'anae Uka facilities in the few short years since they took it over, years that have been heavily impacted by a global pandemic, clearly demonstrates their capacity to accept a long-term lease. Voting to grant this long-term lease is a safe, and easy decision for this Board. They deserve unanimous support, and I ask each of you to lend your support at the upcoming meeting.

No'u iho,



Lillie Makaila



**Testimony in Support of Agenda Item D-7:
REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF DIRECT NON-PROFIT LEASE TO NA MOKU
AUPUNI O KOOLAU HUI; RETROACTIVE OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT
FROM DECEMBER 11, 2021, TO DECEMBER 10, 2024, FOR RECREATIONAL
CAMPSITE, AGRICULTURE AND COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, KEANAE-WAILUA, HANA, MAUI, TAX MAP
KEYS: (2) 1-1-002: 008 & 009 AND (2) 1-1-004: 005**

Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources
February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132 and via Teleconference

Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,

My name is Tiani Cook, and I am the Po'o (Chair) representing Maui Nui Makai Network.

I submit this testimony in **strong support** of Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui acquiring the long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka (TMK#(2)1-1-002: 008 & 009), and Na Moku Lo'i Kalo Project Site (TMK#1-1-004:005).

Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui (Na Moku) was created in 1996 as a non-profit organization to educate, perpetuate, serve, and protect the historical, traditional, spiritual, and environmental well being of Ke'anae/Wailuanui. Members are the lineal descendants and current residents of the Ke'anae and Wailuanui ahupua'a.

Founded in 2013, the Maui Nui Makai Network is a group of nine community organizations across Maui Nui (Maui, Lāna'i, Moloka'i, and Kaho'olawe) who are exerting our kuleana (responsibility) to care for the ocean in a way that honors our kūpuna (ancestors), and the traditional and cultural practices of our places. Na Moku has been a member of this organization since 2022.

The Networks support for Na Moku acquiring this lease is based on the following:

- Since December of 2020, when Na Moku received the right of entry for a year-year agreement with the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Na Moku never hesitated to take on the kuleana of cleaning, bringing the property up to par, saving the State a substantial amount of money.
- Ke'anae Uka and the lo'i work hand in hand. The lo'i kalo will one day provide produce for Ke'anae Uka's needs, through a farm to table model, strengthening the food security and sustainability for their community and the island of Maui.

- In the past three years, Ke‘anae Uka has been revitalized under the care of Na Moku, hosting groups from across the world for cultural exchanges, community meetings and celebrations, family reunions, weddings, kids groups, church group services, men’s group retreats, Camp Imua, visits to the lo‘i, and regularly hosting camping for the general public. Na Moku has hosted multiple community planning meetings regarding marine management planning that encompassed all East Maui communities (Ko‘olau to Kaupō). The Network was also able to host a “Canoe Peoples Exchange” in 2023 with indigenous communities of the Northern Chumash Tribal Council, We Are Oceania, a Micronesian community from Oahu along with other Native Hawaiian led organizations across Hawai‘i. These gatherings allowed the Network to grow individually and create relationships for the betterment of our culture, identity, environment, health and wellness of our people.

Acquiring the long-term lease would allow Na Moku to continue sharing space with their community and offering these services to the public and other organizations across the world. Please allow Na Moku Aupuni O Ko‘olau Hui to acquire this long term lease for Ke‘anae Uka and the Lo‘i Kalo Project Site.

Mahalo nui loa for considering my testimony.

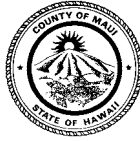
‘O ke aloha nō,
Tiani Cook,
MNMN Chair

Council Chair
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Presiding Officer Pro Tempore
Tasha Kama

Councilmembers
Tom Cook
Gabe Johnson
Tamara Paltin
Keani N.W. Rawlins-Fernandez
Shane M. Sinenci
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

COUNTY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 S. HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
www.MauiCounty.us

February 7, 2024

Dawn Chang, Chair
State of Hawaii
Board of Land & Natural Resources
Blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,

SUBJECT: Item D-7

I would like to support the issuance of the Direct Non-profit lease to Na Moku Aupuni O Koolau Hui for the purposes listed in this item.

Na Moku Aupuni O Koolau hui has maintained and cared for this property and facility. They have assisted in hosting and facilitating many community meetings and workshops which is of great benefit to the community.

I highly recommend the issuance of this lease to Na Moku Aupuni O Koolau Hui.

Mahalo for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shane M. Sinenci".

SHANE M. SINENCI
Councilmember
East Maui District



MARINE RESOURCE COUNCIL

**Testimony in Support of Agenda Item D-7:
REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF DIRECT NON-PROFIT LEASE TO NA MOKU
AUPUNI O KOOLAU HUI; RETROACTIVE OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT
FROM DECEMBER 11, 2021, TO DECEMBER 10, 2024, FOR RECREATIONAL
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DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, KEANAE-WAILUA, HANA, MAUI, TAX MAP
KEYS: (2) 1-1-002: 008 & 009 AND (2) 1-1-004: 005**

Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources
February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132 and via Teleconference

Aloha Chair Chang and Board Members,

My name is Amy Hodges, Executive Director of Maui Nui Marine Resource Council (MNMRC). On behalf of MNMRC, I submit this testimony in **strong support** of Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui acquiring the long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka (TMK#(2)1-1-002: 008 & 009), and Na Moku Lo'i Kalo Project Site (TMK#1-1-004:005).

MNMRC has worked with Na Moku Aupuni O Ko'olau Hui (Na Moku) through its involvement with the Maui Nui Makai Network and Maui Hikina Huliamaahi. As an ocean-minded organization, we recognize the inherent connection between the land and sea on Maui and invest in partnerships that support pono land practices led by the community. We highly respect Na Moku as they have demonstrated their ability to steward, and have deep connection to, these lands.

MNMRC partnered with Na Moku in 2020 during COVID via the Maui CARES Act, where Na Moku members performed stream water quality and volume monitoring and clear water pathways of invasive vegetation. The project not only provided employment during the pandemic but afforded the opportunity for community members to learn scientific skill sets, understand the water flow reaching their lo'i, and deepen their connection to place. [Ko'olau Watershed Project short video](#)

A long-term lease allows Na Moku the breadth to plan stewardship and service projects into the future, ensuring the security and health of these land parcels, the community, and our island home. Thank you for your consideration and support of this important issue.

Sincerely,

Amy Hodges, Executive Director
Maui Nui Marine Resource Council
amy@mauireefs.org
www.mauireefs.org

**Testimony in Support of Agenda Item D-7:
REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF DIRECT NON-PROFIT LEASE TO NA MOKU AUPUNI O
KOOLAU HUI; RETROACTIVE OF RIGHT-OF-ENTRY PERMIT FROM DECEMBER 11, 2021,
TO DECEMBER 10, 2024, FOR RECREATIONAL CAMPSITE, AGRICULTURE AND
COMMUNITY-BASED ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PURPOSES, KEANAE-WAILUA, HANA,
MAUI, TAX MAP KEYS: (2) 1-1-002: 008 & 009 AND (2) 1-1-004: 005**

Hawai'i Board of Land and Natural Resources
February 9, 2024, 9:00 AM
Kalanimoku Building, 1151 Punchbowl St., Room 132 and via Teleconference

Aloha mai kākou Chair Chang and Board Members,

The Nature Conservancy, Hawai'i and Palmyra (TNC) supports Nā Moku 'Aupuni 'o Ko'olau Hui ("Nā Moku") acquiring the long-term lease for Ke'anae Uka (TMK#(2)1-1-002: 008 & 009), and Nā Moku Lo'i Kalo Project Site (TMK#1-1-004:005).

With a mission to protect the lands and waters on which all life depends, TNC has been working with communities in East Maui for over a decade to support community- and place-based nearshore fisheries and resource management.

During this time, we have had the good fortune to work with Nā Moku and get to know their mission, their leadership, and the many important projects they undertake. Nā Moku is a well-respected organization with a long history of fighting for water rights for the kalo farmers, protecting nearshore fisheries, involving the community, educating the keiki, and more recently upgrading and maintaining the grounds and buildings of Ke'anae Uka. As a membership-based organization, they hold open elections and meetings, thus they are truly representative of the Ke'anae-Wailuanui community.

Nā Moku is a member of the Maui Nui Makai Network, of which TNC is a Kako'o (supporting) member, and their board and members have been actively involved and important contributors in the Maui Hikina Huliāmahi initiative in developing a regional fisheries management plan proposal, which is now being considered as a model for the Maui Pilot Project under DAR's Holomua initiative.

Having a long-term lease to Ke'anae Uka and the Lo'i Kalo Project Site will support Nā Moku in continuing to pursue and achieve their objectives for place-based management and community empowerment. If requested, TNC is committed to continuing to provide technical support and other assistance for their efforts in the years ahead.

Mahalo for your consideration,



Scott Crawford
Maui Marine Director

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February 7, 2024

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blnr.testimony@hawaii.gov

Dawn N.S. Chang, Chairperson
State of Hawaii
Board of Land and Natural Resources
P.O. Box 621
Honolulu, Hawaii 96809

**SUBJECT: LAND DIVISION AGENDA ITEM D6: AMEND GENERAL LEASE NO. S-5976
Hospice of Hilo, Lessee
Waiakea, South Hilo, Hawaii / Tax Map Key (3) 2-4-001:179
Land Board Meeting Date: February 9, 2024**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my support for the proposed amendment of General Lease No. S-5976 to allow the Lessee, Hospice of Hilo, dba Hawai'i Care Choices (HiCare) to expand services offered on the premises leased at 590 Kapiolani Street, Hilo to include a Type II Adult Residential Care Home (ARCH).

There is a demand and need for more bed capacity on Hawaii Island as many care home operators are retiring and have no successor in place.

I have witnessed the outstanding care HiCare has provided to our community. HiCare has provided high quality, compassionate hospice care at Pohai Malama to many families in our community.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in SUPPORT of this measure.

Respectfully,
Kerri Okamura, R.Ph.
Member of the Board/Advisory Council