

**From:** [samuel ako](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Agenda Item D8  
**Date:** Saturday, December 14, 2024 6:03:31 AM

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I OPPOSE Agenda D8. Act 16 protects our sandy shorelines by banning seawalls and revetments which threatens our public beaches and violates Act 16.

Sharon Ako

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [lucienne denaie](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] D-8 Testimony from Sierra Club Maui  
**Date:** Friday, December 13, 2024 12:17:52 AM

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Testimony from Sierra Club Maui Group Re. Item D-8 BLNR DEcember 13, 2024 agenda

Subject: Opposition to proposed Right of Entry and Revocacable Permit for Hololani Resort Rock Revetment

## **DEAR CHAIR CHANG AND BLNR MEMBERS**

It is the policy of Sierra Club, Hawai'i Chapter, to support actions that will protect the land, water, and ocean resources of Hawai'i from environmentally damaging and other inappropriate uses, and actions that will preserve those resources for future generations. We stand in opposition to the right of Entry and Revocable Permit being requested by the Association of Apartment Owners of Hololani. You are being urged today to grant the landowner /investors of a two 50 year old eight story vacation rentals crammed onto lot a little under 1.5 acres the right to construct a 400 ft long rock revetment along the shoreline of Kahana bay, Maui.

Kahana Bay is a beloved public resource. The construction of the Hololani resort building in 1974 had little environmental review and the property owners were allowed to replace a dynamic shoreline ecosystem of sandy beaches with two towering buildings, a swimming pool and cement deck and a lawn. Naturally, when the sandy beach along Kahana bay tried to follow its natural processes of sand depletion and sand accretion, there were two large concrete structures in the way.

The Hololani has been fighting against nature for many years. Even its guests frequently comment that they are surprised to see only sandbags, and not beach in front of the resort. There does not appear to be any education given to guests about the trade offs of having their nice place to stay with lovely views of playful whales come at the price of the longterm disruption of a natural coastal ecosystem and the rights the public enjoys to access public beach lands and waters in our state of Hawaii.

We already see the damage the tempoary sandbags that have fronted the property for more than 15 years have done -contributing to the degradation of coastal ecosystems and erosion along the shoreline. There also seems to be no clear assurance that the shoreline will be restored or the revetment eventually removed- even though the county permit condition requires that action to be taken.

Act 16 offers important protections for our fragile coastal ecosystems by prohibiting the construction of private shoreline hardening structures, such as seawalls and revetments, on sandy beaches. The proposed RoE and permit would allow activities that directly contradict Act 16. The Honolani revetment might be great for the Apartment owners, but it comes with longer term impacts, since it would harden the shoreline, further accelerating erosion and permanently diminishing public beach access. Decades of scientific research demonstrate that

shoreline armoring causes “flanking” erosion, undermining adjacent properties and accelerating the loss of public beaches. Public access to our shoreline has been greatly diminished along the coast of west Maui. Public beach access is a right, and we urge the Land Board members to deny this proposed RofE and permit and stand to protect that access for current and future generations.

Act 16 was a landmark achievement in coastal preservation, reflecting a collective commitment to safeguarding Hawaii’s beaches for future generations. Allowing this project to move forward would erode the very foundation of that commitment. Please deny this request and follow the intent of our State Constitution and our state laws.

Mahalo nui loa

Lucienne de Naie

Chair, Sierra Club Maui Group

**From:** [Jessica Freeman](#)  
**To:** [DLNR.BLNR.Testimony](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Item D8 Testimony  
**Date:** Friday, December 13, 2024 4:56:19 PM

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Aloha,

I am writing testimony to oppose Item D8, the building of the Hololani seawall. This project, if allowed, would destroy precious marine resources along the West Maui coast line. Sea walls contribute to erosion and degradation of the near shore environment, with far reaching consequences. In addition to environmental damages, beaches in Hawai'i are a public trust resource. Prioritizing private interests over local community access sets a dangerous precedent, which could allow further destruction of Hawaiian lands for offshore investors. Oppose the construction of the Hololani seawall and instead focus on restoring and preserving Maui's vital marine ecosystems and the local community that utilizes them. Say NO to Item D8!

Mahalo nui loa,  
Jess Freeman  
Marine biologist and concerned Maui resident