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[EXTERNAL] Agenda Item E regarding TMT relocation (**Testimony in Opposition**)

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From X-RAY X-RAY [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 3:52 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Paleka Hookano, and I am a resident of Hawai'i Island / a Native Hawaiian / a supporter standing in solidarity from Hilo. I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.

Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.  
Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain for future generations.

**'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,  
Paleka Hookano

[EXTERNAL] Protect Mauna Kea

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From Kamala Galletes [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 3:57 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha, I am, Kamala Galletes. I was born and raised on Hawai'i island. I believe in protecting all sacred places, and Mauna Kea is, and forever will be one of them.

I request that MKSOA resist excessive overreach by the governor and follow a process that ensures transparency and accountability in alignment with applicable laws in order to maintain the integrity of Mauna Kea.

Like I've said before, and I will say again, you will never find another Hawai'i on this planet. Therefore, we need to protect the Hawaiian islands, and all sacred places, including Mauna Kea forever. It is the realm of the Gods, why wouldn't we protect it? If the consensus is for protecting this mauna, then it should be that simple; leave it alone. Years of protesting, testimony and repeating ourselves should not be necessary. How much time and money is going to be wasted before you finally get it?

What happens on Mauna Kea affects the aquifer and this islands fresh water supply. Why would we even risk such a contamination with development? Mauna Kea is home to many species of plants and animals only found here on earth, let them thrive. Clean up the mess that has already happened on this mountain, years of mismanagement have contributed to many of these problems.

We are not afraid to make a stand, and dismantle any system in place to protect what needs to be protected in this fake-state.

Mahalo,

Kamala Galletes

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**[EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)**

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From Mikaela Pratt [REDACTED]

Date Wed 11/12/2025 4:25 PM

To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Mikaela Pratt and I am a resident of Boston Massachusetts . I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT anywhere on Mauna Kea.

Prioritize the protection and restoration of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.

Uphold the principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.

Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain for future generations.

'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Mikaela Pratt

Boston Massachusetts

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[EXTERNAL] **Testimony in Opposition to the 30m Telescope**

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From AMBER BONNICI [REDACTED]

Date Wed 11/12/2025 4:30 PM

To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

**TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION TO THE THIRTY METER TELESCOPE —  
RELOCATION TO A “DISTURBED” SITE**

Aloha. My name is Amber Kuileimailani Bonnici, and I am submitting testimony in **firm** opposition to the continued development of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Hawai‘i Island, including the proposed “relocation” to what has been labeled a “disturbed site.”

I want to be very clear:

Calling any part of Mauna Kea “disturbed” does not give permission to cause more harm.

It is not a blank check to continue ignoring the voices of Kānaka Maoli and the wider community who have already said no—for years.

For over a decade, people from this land—local families, cultural practitioners, protectors, students, kūpuna—have stood in peaceful protest. They have been arrested. Criminalized. Spoken over. And yet they continue to show up because Mauna Kea is not simply a location for a project. It is a sacred mountain. It holds ecological, cultural, spiritual, and ancestral significance that cannot be measured in financial value or scientific prestige.

We have said no.

We are still saying no.

And the reason we have to keep saying no is because those in power have not been listening.

The existing telescopes on Mauna Kea were built under promises that have not been kept.

- They have not been properly decommissioned.

- There has been pollution.
- There has been environmental harm.
- There has been mismanagement and a failure of stewardship.

The land has already carried more than its share of burden.

To now propose placing the TMT on a “disturbed site” continues a harmful pattern:

1. Disturb,
2. Call it justification for further disturbance,
3. Ignore the will of the people in the process.

This is not pono.

The truth is, the driving force behind the TMT is not the will of the people of Hawai‘i.

It is money, institutional power, and external interests.

If community voice and environmental responsibility were truly at the center, we would see decommissioning completed first, pollution cleaned up, and a pause long enough to actually listen—not just hold scripted discussions.

Science is not the enemy. But science without consent, without accountability, without respect for ‘āina, and without regard for Indigenous sovereignty is not progress. It is another version of colonization dressed as innovation.

I urge you to stop this project, in any location on the mauna.

Honor the years of community testimony.

Honor the arrests and sacrifices of local families.

Honor the cultural and environmental significance of Mauna Kea.

Honor the repeated “no” that has been spoken loud and clear.

Hawai‘i deserves better than decisions made for profit under the language of “disturbed.”

Our 'āina deserves better.

Our people deserve better.

Mahalo for receiving this testimony. I hope it is finally heard.

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[EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)

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From Barry Hills [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 4:43 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

November 11, 2025

**TO: Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,**

My name is Barry Hills, and I am a resident of Mt Shasta, California and an ardent supporter standing in solidarity with the effort to protect Mauna Kea.

I have been to Hawai'i more than seven times in the past decade as have dozens of my friends and have experienced the unique beauty and spirituality of Hawai'i first hand.

I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition to any proposal** or action to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea. This is unacceptable.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain, it is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and minimal consultation with Native Hawaiians.

These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I strongly urge the MKSOA to do the right thing:

1. Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.
2. Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.
3. Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.

Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain for future generations.

**'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere on Mauna Kea.**

Mahalo for your time and consideration, and providing my contact information below if discussing this with you directly would be helpful in understanding how important this is.

Barry Hills



Mt Shasta, California



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**[EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)**

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From Zoë Callahan [REDACTED]

Date Wed 11/12/2025 4:45 PM

To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

My name is Zoe Callahan, and I am a supporter standing in solidarity from Hilo, HI. I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

- Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT anywhere on Mauna Kea.
- Prioritize the protection and restoration of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.
- Uphold the principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.
- Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.
- Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain for future generations.

'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,  
Zoe Callahan  
Hilo, Hawai'i

**To:** mka.testimony@hawaii.gov

**Subject:** Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any “Relocation” on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Kari , and I am a resident of Keaau, Hawai‘i. I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called “disturbed site” on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai‘i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of “relocation,” continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the ‘āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai‘i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

1. Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.
2. Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea’s summit and ecosystems.
3. Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.

Please stand with the people of Hawai‘i and protect this mountain for future generations.

**‘A‘ole TMT. No TMT anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Kari Smith

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[EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)

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From 2 Devious [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 5:03 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Dear Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Jamie Rogers, and I am a supporter standing in solidarity from Henderson, Nevada. I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

1. Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.
2. Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.
3. Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.  
Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain for future generations.

**'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

Jamie Rogers  
Henderson, Nevada  
[REDACTED]

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Jennifer Kehaunani Eng, and I am a Native Hawaiian and resident of Hilo. I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called “disturbed site” on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai‘i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of “relocation,” continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the ‘āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai‘i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

1. Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.
2. Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea’s summit and ecosystems.
3. Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.  
Please stand with the people of Hawai‘i and protect this mountain for future generations.

**‘A‘ole TMT. No TMT anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Jennifer Kehaunani Eng  
Hilo Hawaii

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[EXTERNAL] **Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)**

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From Angus Huang-Gould [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 5:10 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Angus Huang-Gould, and I am a settler of Hilo on Moku O Keawe and member of lāhui. I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

1. **Reject** any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.
2. Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.
3. Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation.  
Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain **for** future generations.

**'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,  
Angus Huang-Gould  
Hilo, Hawai'i



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**[EXTERNAL] Support for TMT on decommissioned site**

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From Marrack, Keith G [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 5:19 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha MKSOA Board,  
As we all know, astronomy on Maunakea is a critical part of our economy and a clean industry that puts Hawaii at the forefront of scientific discovery across the globe. In order to keep this critical industry healthy and moving forward, I am asking that MKSOA work quickly to help the current leases get renewed as well as support the construction of TMT on a decommissioned site. This solution is supported by the governor, legislature, and the majority of people across the state and on the Island of Hawaii. Fenchuan Liu and his team have been working hand in hand with the Hawaiian community to find a path forward that works for everyone. As Doug Adams has noted on multiple occasions, time is of the essence and my hope is that MKSOA can set astronomy up to continue to flourish on the mauna.  
Mahalo for what you do,  
Keith Marrack

**Keith G Marrack, AAMS**  
Financial Advisor



**Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors**

Named to the 2024-2025 Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors in Hawaii

(Source: Forbes Best-in-State Wealth Advisors in Hawaii in 2024-2025, published 1<sup>st</sup> trimester each year, research by SHOOK® Research LLC, data as of June of prior year. Compensation provided for using, not obtaining, the rating. The rating is not based on quality of investment advice, investment performance or client feedback.)

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Aloha Chair Komeji, Vice Chairs Wong-Wilson, and members of the Maunakea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Lauren Taijeron. My connection to Maunakea is as a non-Hawaiian resident of these islands who stands with the Hawaiian people and their calls for the protection of their lands.

The October 24th letter from Governor Green and the Hawai'i Congressional delegation is highly disappointing and disturbing. The letter, addressed to the TMT International Observatory, not to the people they are elected to represent, states that they will work with the MKSOA and UH to "promptly establish a clear and transparent procedure to obtain the necessary permits associated with a decommissioned site".

While the proposed construction site may have changed, no other conditions have. The summit remains a conservation district, and the source waters of all life that depends on it from below. The refrain of thousands across the pae 'āina remains Kū Kī'a i Mauna.

During previous contested case hearings, UH/ TMT previously stated the TMT could not be put on decommissioned sites because it is too big for the summit. If TMT is going to be redesigned to make it small enough to move - then all the permits need to be redone - conservation district, sublease, EIS, management plan, etc. - and all of the public processes associated with them.

The letter is in disturbing alignment with so much we are seeing across U.S.-occupied territories, where politicians and corporations talk behind closed doors, bump fists, and attempt to roll over the will and peace of the community.

I urge the Maunakea Stewardship and Oversight Authority to resist this excessive overreach by the Governor and congressional delegates to consolidate power and clear a path for the Thirty Meter Telescope on Maunakea.

I remind the Authority that the summit of Maunakea is not just sacred; these are Hawaiian national lands that the Hawaiian Kingdom government or people never relinquished. I personally commit to standing again, if necessary, and for as long as it takes, to protect our mountain, our water, and the dignity of our people.

Thank you for your time,

Lauren Taijeron

[EXTERNAL] Written Testimony

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From Malia [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 6:11 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Hello,

My name is Mālia and I'm a descendent of Mauna Kea. I reach out not to implore but to make my position understood to the occupying settler-"state". Audra Simpson, a Mohawk scholar, describes "the politics of action and deferral" where settler colonial governance manages Indigenous demands through a pattern of symbolic gestures coupled with ongoing postponement of real change.

I will no longer accept the erratic piecemeal of recognition politics, where our claims of identity need to be negotiated through the whims of election cycles. I do not accept the *possibility* of justice in the context of your ongoing and continuous dispossession of my people, my ancestral home, and my birthright that is the stewardship not only of Mauna Kea but the entirety of our pae 'āina.

I refuse your appearance of governmental action that frames kanaka 'ōiwi as the "problem" without disrupting the actual power of the ongoing colonial "state". There will be no land-swaps, no deals, no acceptance of "what we can get". I will surrender no lands. Lāhui will surrender nothing.

The irony is that you, your children and generations to come will be the beneficiary of our refusal here and everywhere on pae 'āina.

'A'ole.  
Mālia Kainoa

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[EXTERNAL] Agenda item IX "REVIEW OF LETTER TO PRINCIPALS OF TIO FROM GOVERNOR AND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION"

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From Yeshua Aquino [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 6:15 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair Komeji, Vice Chairs Wong-Wilson, and members of the Maunakea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is **Yeshua Keanolani Aquino**, I am Kanaka Maoli, and Mauna a Wākea is my ancestor.

The October 24th letter from Governor Green and the Hawai'i Congressional delegation is highly disappointing and disturbing. The letter, addressed to the TMT International Observatory, not to the people they are elected to represent, states that they will work with the MKSOA and UH to "promptly establish a clear and transparent procedure to obtain the necessary permits associated with a decommissioned site".

While the proposed construction site may have changed, no other conditions have. The summit remains a conservation district, and the source waters of **all life** that depend on it from below. The refrain of thousands across the pae 'āina remains Kū Ki'ai Mauna.

During previous contested case hearings, UH/TMT had previously stated that the TMT could not be placed on decommissioned sites because it is too large for the summit. If TMT is going to be redesigned to make it small enough to move - then all the permits need to be redone - conservation district, sublease, EIS, management plan, etc. - and all of the public processes associated with them.

The letter is in disturbing alignment with so much we are seeing across U.S.-occupied territories, where politicians and corporations talk behind closed doors, bump fists, and attempt to roll over the will and peace of the community.

I urge the Maunakea Stewardship and Oversight Authority to resist this excessive overreach by the Governor and congressional delegates to consolidate power and clear a path for the Thirty Meter Telescope on Maunakea.

I remind the Authority that the summit of Maunakea is not just sacred; these are Hawaiian national lands that the Hawaiian Kingdom government or people never relinquished. I personally commit to standing again, if necessary, and for as long as it takes, to protect our mountain, our water, and the dignity of our people.

Thank you for your time,

Yeshua Keanolani Aquino

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**[EXTERNAL] Mauna Kea Testimony**

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**From** Erin Lau [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 11/12/2025 6:16 PM  
**To** Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha,

My name is Erin Lau, and I am Kanaka Maoli from O'ahu, with deep family connections to not only my moku, but also to Maui and Hawai'i Island. I was on Mauna Kea during the frontline actions in 2015 and 2019, working with the media hui to film and document the many ways our community came together in unity and resistance.

My time on the mauna deeply affected me. It was the first time I truly understood what it means to be Hawaiian. In the simplest words, it is about aloha 'āina, knowing that our kuleana is to love and protect the land as we love our families and each other. That love means protecting Mauna Kea from harm.

Mauna Kea is our kūpuna, and there is no acceptable location upon her that would be appropriate for construction. I strongly urge that no construction take place anywhere on our sacred mauna, and I request the MKSOA to resist excessive overreach by the Governor. Please uphold a process grounded in transparency and accountability in alignment with all applicable laws, to ensure that the integrity of Mauna Kea is truly protected.

After the 2019 stand, I helped produce a documentary titled **STANDING ABOVE THE CLOUDS**, a feature film that highlights the movement to protect Mauna Kea through the intergenerational stories of women in three Native Hawaiian families. Since completing the film last year, our team has hosted over 80 screenings across several countries, reaching more than 5,000 students. Time and again, I've witnessed how the fight to protect Mauna Kea resonates with people around the world. I am also often reminded that there are many similar frontlines happening globally, fighting to protect sacred places, clean water, and the right to self-determination. For me, this continues to be part of that larger movement.

Mahalo piha for your time and consideration,

Erin Lau

**[EXTERNAL] Opposition to TMT and relocation of telescopes**

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From Rod Gould [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 6:19 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Dear Authority officials,

I am not a resident but my son is of your lovely islands. I have learned of plans to relocate telescopes on culturally sacred lands and of deep concerns by local Hawaiians.

While I respect and support research and astronomy, I believe there must be a way to pursue new knowledge of the heavens in a culturally sensitive manner.

I urge you to work to find a way to accomplish both goals. Take the time and show the leadership.

Thank you.

Rod Gould  
Santa Fe

Sent from my iPhone

[EXTERNAL]

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**From** Kamalei Stovall [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 11/12/2025 6:23 PM  
**To** Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha,

I am a resident of Waimea, a Native Hawaiian, and a kia'i of Mauna Kea since 2015. My connection to the Mauna goes back to the origin story of all Hawaiian people. I have gathered flowers on her slopes for hula and celebrations. I have participated in ceremonies and enjoyed time with family and friends there. I experienced true community there during the stand of kia'i in 2019. The importance of Mauna Kea to me, and to all other kia'i can't really be explained through words.

I am requesting that MKSOA resist excessive overreach by the governor. I also request that MKSOA follow a process that ensures transparency and accountability in alignment with all applicable laws in order to maintain the integrity of Mauna Kea. The kia'i will not abide shady backdoor deals.

The TMT should not be built anywhere on Mauna Kea. It is an extremely environmentally sensitive place that has already been abused for far too long. We will not tolerate any further desecration, PERIOD.

Sincerely,

Lauren Kamalei Stovall

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[EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)

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From Mamie Lawrence Gallagher [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 6:44 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Mary 'Amaikalani Beckley Lawrence Gallagher, and I am a Native Hawaiian of this 'āina; this means that I am Mauna Kea and Mauna Kea is me. Therefore, I am submitting this testimony in **strong opposition** to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawai'i, holding immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawai'i and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

I urge the MKSOA to:

1. Reject any proposal to construct or relocate TMT **anywhere** on Mauna Kea.
2. Prioritize the **protection** and **restoration** of Mauna Kea's summit and ecosystems.
3. Uphold the **principle of Kānaka Maoli stewardship** and ensure full community participation in all decision-making processes.

Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves respect, not continued exploitation and extraction. Please stand with the people of Hawai'i and protect this mountain for future generations.

**'A'ole TMT. No TMT anywhere** on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for your time and consideration,

Mary 'Amaikalani Beckley Lawrence Gallagher

Mānoa, Hawai'i



[EXTERNAL] Testimony in opposition of TMT

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From Logan Lovely [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 7:09 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship Oversight Authority,

I am writing to express my strong opposition to the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) on Mauna Kea. I respectfully urge the MKSOA to resist any excessive overreach by the Governor or other political forces that would compromise your independent authority. The decisions made by this body must reflect transparency, accountability, and adherence to the laws and values that protect Mauna Kea as a sacred and irreplaceable place.

Mauna Kea holds profound cultural, spiritual, and ancestral significance to the Native Hawaiian people. It is not simply land — it is a sacred mountain, a temple that connects us to our ancestors, to our gods, and to the heavens. Continued development, especially on this scale, represents not only environmental degradation but also deep cultural trauma for Native Hawaiians who have long struggled to have their voices and rights respected on their own ancestral lands.

The history of disregard for Native Hawaiian perspectives regarding Mauna Kea has already caused pain and division in our community. The push to advance the TMT project without true consent or transparency only deepens that wound. I ask that the MKSOA uphold the principles of *kuleana* and *aloha 'āina* — to protect Mauna Kea, to ensure that all decisions are made openly and in alignment with applicable laws, and to center Indigenous voices in all proceedings.

My opposition to TMT comes not from a lack of respect for science, but from a commitment to justice, healing, and balance. Science can and must coexist with culture and ethics. Building yet another massive telescope on Mauna Kea, despite the clear opposition and ongoing harm to Native Hawaiians, does not represent balance — it represents a continuation of historical injustices.

Please stand firm in your responsibility to steward Mauna Kea with integrity and transparency. Protect this sacred mountain from further desecration, and ensure that the voices of the Hawaiian community are not just heard but truly honored.

Mahalo for your time, your consideration, and your dedication to doing what is *pono*.

With deep respect,  
Logan Smith

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[EXTERNAL] Testimony from Luana Keakealani, LCSW

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From Luana Keakealani [REDACTED]  
Date: Wed 11/12/2025 7:15 PM  
To: Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding the recent actions and communications between the State of Hawai'i and the United States government concerning Mauna Kea. My name is Luana Keakealani and I am writing out of deep concern that the Governor's involvement in these discussions appears to extend beyond the scope of his constitutional and statutory authority, and that such actions risk undermining the public trust responsibilities vested in this Authority.

The Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority was created to ensure that the management of Mauna Kea is conducted transparently, lawfully, and with accountability to the people of Hawai'i. The Legislature clearly intended that decisions affecting Mauna Kea lands follow established state processes for land use, stewardship, and consultation with the community. Any negotiation or agreement involving Mauna Kea—particularly those that implicate land ownership, management, or federal involvement—must adhere to those legal frameworks and cannot be unilaterally undertaken by the executive branch.

The Governor's recent actions appear to bypass these processes, potentially setting a dangerous precedent that weakens state oversight and public participation. It is therefore incumbent upon this Authority to assert itself and reaffirm its statutory duties. Doing so will demonstrate to the people of Hawai'i that the Authority stands as a guardian of the public trust, committed to transparency, lawful process, and respect for the unique cultural and natural significance of Mauna Kea.

I respectfully urge the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority to:

1. **Affirm its authority and independence** in all matters related to the governance and management of Mauna Kea.
2. **Ensure full transparency** regarding any communications or negotiations involving the U.S. government or other entities concerning Mauna Kea lands.
3. **Reinforce adherence to Hawai'i's established legal processes**, including public notice, consultation, and environmental review requirements.
4. **Protect the integrity of the public trust**, as required under the Hawai'i Constitution and state law.

The people of Hawai'i have placed their trust in this Authority to ensure that Mauna Kea is managed with respect, fairness, and accountability. I urge you to uphold that responsibility and resist any efforts that compromise transparency or due process.

Furthermore, I must strongly express my opposition to the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) or any similar large-scale development anywhere on Mauna Kea. Beyond the significant cultural and spiritual harm such a project would cause, the environmental consequences are severe. The proposed site and its supporting infrastructure threaten the integrity of Mauna Kea's fragile ecosystem, including the aquifer that provides fresh water to surrounding communities and the native habitats that exist only at these high elevations.

Mauna Kea is not just a site for observation—it is a living, sacred mountain that sustains life. Its protection is both a legal and moral obligation. Allowing further industrial construction on its slopes would irreparably damage the land, the water, and the delicate balance of its natural systems.

Mahalo for your time, service, and dedication to the people and to Mauna Kea.

Respectfully,  
Luana Keakealani, LCSW

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**[EXTERNAL] Testimony against TMT on Mauna Kea**

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From Melanie Bobbitt [REDACTED]

Date Wed 11/12/2025 7:41 PM

To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha, members of the board and esteemed listeners,

My name is Melanie Bobbitt, and I am offering testimony in opposition to the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) on Mauna Kea. I urge that this project be relocated to its alternative site on La Palma, Spain.

Mauna Kea is not merely a mountain; it is a sacred site, a place of profound cultural, spiritual, and genealogical significance to the Native Hawaiian people. It is recognized as wao akua—the realm of the gods—and is one of the most sacred spaces in the Hawaiian archipelago. Building another industrial structure on this land, already burdened with multiple observatories, perpetuates a long pattern of desecration, environmental harm, and disregard for Indigenous rights and beliefs.

This issue is not a rejection of science. Hawaiians have a deep legacy of navigation, astronomy, and environmental knowledge rooted in observation of the stars. The conflict is not between culture and science—it is between exploitation and respect. When we choose to build on sacred ground despite community opposition, we send a message that technological progress is more important than cultural survival and spiritual integrity.

Furthermore, the TMT has a fully viable alternative site: La Palma in the Canary Islands of Spain. La Palma already hosts astronomical observatories, has established infrastructure, and does not require desecrating a sacred Indigenous site. The environmental impact is far less severe, and the astronomical conditions there remain world-class. Choosing La Palma demonstrates a commitment to ethical science—progress that does not come at the expense of a people's heritage or a fragile ecosystem.

Building the TMT on Mauna Kea would continue a legacy of colonial disregard for Native voices. Relocating to La Palma would show the world that science and respect for Indigenous rights can coexist—that humanity can reach for the stars without trampling what is sacred on Earth.

For these reasons, I stand firmly against the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea and in full support of its relocation to La Palma, Spain.

Mahalo for your time and for considering the cultural, ethical, and environmental responsibilities we all share.

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**[EXTERNAL] Testimony on Agenda item IX. REVIEW OF LETTER TO PRINCIPALS OF TIO FROM GOVERNOR AND CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION**

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From Kylie Akiona [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 7:44 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>  
Cc HAA Honolulu [REDACTED]

‘Ano‘ai ke aloha e Chair Komeiji, Vice Chairs Wong-Wilson, Matsuda, and members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Noelani Akiona. I am a Kanaka Maoli whose mo‘okū‘auhau is grounded in Moku o Keawe and Waimea; Mauna a Wākea is my kupuna, relative, and piko.

I’d like to start by naming and honoring the thousands of people who have stood to protect Maunakea from becoming a place for industrial development for decades; and to remember the 2015 standoff on Maunakea that led to the arrest of nearly a dozen kia‘i out of the hundreds who stood across the road, arms locked to prevent that day’s attempted construction.

This prepared the lāhui for the historic 2019 standoff off where 30 kupuna were arrested to protect the Mauna from new construction, along with the tens of thousands who supported them in holding down an eight-month occupation that to this day has prevented the desecration of our Mauna. And that stand-off prepared it for the next attempt to construct, if there is any, to come.

The October 24th letter from Governor Green and the Hawai‘i Congressional delegation is highly disappointing and disturbing. The letter, addressed to the TMT International Observatory, not to the people they are elected to represent, states that they will work with the MKSOA and UH to “promptly establish a clear and transparent procedure to obtain the necessary permits associated with a decommissioned site”.

While the proposed construction site may have changed, no other conditions have. The summit remains a conservation district, and the source waters of all life that depend on it from below. The refrain of thousands across the pae ‘āina remains Kū Kia‘i Mauna.

During previous contested case hearings, UH/ TMT previously stated the TMT could not be put on decommissioned sites because it is too big for the summit. If TMT is going to be redesigned to make it small enough to move, then all the permits need to be redone: conservation district, sublease, EIS, management plan, etc.; and all of the public processes associated with them.

The letter is in disturbing alignment with so much we are seeing across U.S.-occupied territories, where politicians and corporations talk behind closed doors, bump fists, and attempt to roll over the will and peace of the community.

I urge the Maunakea Stewardship and Oversight Authority to resist this excessive overreach by the Governor and congressional delegates to consolidate power and clear a path for the Thirty Meter Telescope on Maunakea.

I remind the Authority that the summit of Maunakea is not just sacred; these are Hawaiian national lands that the Hawaiian Kingdom government or people never relinquished. I personally commit to standing again, if necessary, and for as long as it takes, to protect our mountain, our water, and the dignity of our people.

Thank you for your time,

Noelani Akiona

Kākau 'Ōlelo & Organizing Vice-Chair, Hui Aloha Aina o Honolulu

[EXTERNAL] NO MORE TELESCOPES ON MAUNA KEA PLEASE!!!!

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**From** Patricia Konecny [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 11/12/2025 8:05 PM  
**To** Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Science is important, but it should never come at the cost of cultural respect or environmental balance. The world can study stars without building more telescopes on sacred land. Mauna Kea should be allowed to heal, to rest, and to remain a place of peace and connection. In the end, saying no to more telescopes on Mauna Kea is a way to say yes to respect, yes to culture, and yes to the land that has given so much.

Please respect our land, because each new construction removes more of the mountains and the natural beauty .. more than 12 telescopes .. don't you think that is enough...???



[EXTERNAL] NO MORE TELESCOPES ON MAUNA KEA

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From Patricia Santana [REDACTED]

Date Wed 11/12/2025 8:08 PM

To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Science is important, but it should never come at the cost of cultural respect or environmental balance. The world can study stars without building more telescopes on sacred land. Mauna Kea should be allowed to heal to rest and to remain a place of peace and connection. In the end say no to more telescopes on Mauna Kea is a way to say yes to respect, yes to culture and yes to the land that has given so much.

Please respect our land, because each new construction removes more of the mountains and the natural beauty .. more than 12 telescopes .. don't you think that is enough..???



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**[EXTERNAL] Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any "Relocation" on Mauna Kea**

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**From** Avyanna Mcpeek-Batlin (2031) [REDACTED]  
**Date** Wed 11/12/2025 8:40 PM  
**To** Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is **Avyanna Kamelealohaho'opomaika'i McPeek-Batlin**, and I am a 7th grader from Hālau Kū Māna Public Charter School. **I am from Mo'ili'ili**, and I am writing to say that I strongly **oppose** building or moving the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to any place on Mauna Kea.

TMT should not be built on any land, even on existing telescope sites, because further construction would continue to damage the 'āina and disrupt the fragile ecosystem that surrounds it. There are already thirteen existing telescopes that is more than enough. We do not need another one. I have been standing in opposition to the TMT since I was a young keiki. Even then, I knew in my heart that it was wrong to build on land that is sacred to the people. Would anyone build a giant telescope in a graveyard? Of course not, because it would be extremely disrespectful to disturb the resting places of our kūpuna. The same is true for Mauna Kea. There are iwi kūpuna on the mountain, and likely more in areas that have already been disturbed by telescope construction. Building more would mean risking further damage of our ancestors and the land that carries their mana and stories. Telescopes may be seen as tools of discovery, but there is no discovery greater than learning to respect and protect what is sacred. Science should not come at the cost of culture, the environment, or our spiritual connection to the 'āina. We have already been blessed with eyes to see the beauty and wonder of the universe. We do not need a thirty-meter telescope if it means destroying the very land that nourishes us. **Mauna Kea is very special.** It is one of the most sacred places in Hawai'i and is important to Native Hawaiians for cultural, spiritual, and environmental reasons. Building more telescopes there, even if they say it's on a "different" or "already used" site, would still harm the mountain and show disrespect to the 'āina and to Kānaka Maoli.

There are already thirteen telescopes on the mountain, and they have caused damage to the land and to the trust between the government and the Hawaiian community. Many promises to clean up or remove old telescopes have not been kept.

I ask the MKSOA to please:

1. **Say no** to any plans to build or move TMT on Mauna Kea.
2. **Protect and restore** the mountain and its environment.
3. **Respect Native Hawaiian leadership** and include the community in all decisions about Mauna Kea. Mauna Kea is sacred. It deserves to be cared for, not built on again. Please protect it for

future generations.

'A'ole TMT. No TMT on Mauna Kea.

Mahalo for listening,  
Avyanna Kamelealohaho'opomaika'i McPeek-Batlin

Mo'ili'ili

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**[EXTERNAL] Subject: Testimony in Opposition to TMT and Any**

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From Ada May [REDACTED]

Date Wed 11/12/2025 8:54 PM

To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

"Relocation" on Mauna Kea (Agenda Item E)

Aloha Chair and Members of the Mauna Kea Stewardship and Oversight Authority,

My name is Ada Marilyn May, and I am a Native American / a supporter standing in solidarity from SLC. I am submitting this testimony in strong opposition to any proposal or discussion to relocate the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) to a so-called "disturbed site" on Mauna Kea.

Mauna Kea, or Mauna a Wākea, is not just a mountain. It is the most sacred summit in Hawaii, and for generations, it has held immense cultural, spiritual, and ecological importance. Allowing further industrial expansion, even under the guise of "relocation," continues a long legacy of disrespect toward Kānaka Maoli stewardship and the 'āina itself.

The existing thirteen telescopes on the summit were built under decades of mismanagement by the University of Hawaii and the Department of Land and Natural Resources, with minimal accountability and poor consultation with Native Hawaiians. These projects have already caused significant ecological damage and cultural desecration, and have not fulfilled promises of proper decommissioning or restoration.

[EXTERNAL] Mauna Kea

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From Thomas Teraoka [REDACTED]  
Date Wed 11/12/2025 9:06 PM  
To Maunakea Authority Testimony <mka.testimony@hawaii.gov>

To whom it may concern,

Hi, my name is Thomas.

Mauna Kea has already been desecrated. Those telescopes, both existing and planned, are the "disturbance". Moving on to a shiny new site to build is like not eating your vegetables but trying to sneak another plate. Eat your vegetables. Clean up your mess. I understand praise without responsibility is a goal --and who doesn't want that?-- however, there are consequences to your actions today. Save yourself the headache and be better. Better than the short-sighted decision makers 65 years ago. Better than the bought-out politicians across this 'country'. Better than being "fool me twice, shame on me".

Mauna Kea, as well as all land and surrounding ocean should be under the stewardship of the Hawaiian peoples. I see the outcome of a build like the one proposed. And I see what has not been done to remedy it. Please act like the community that surrounds you know **actions speak louder than words**. I'm sure a lot of careful thought patrol will dog walk the meeting but I believe strongly that Hawaii needs no adornment such as a new telescope (ew). It is not progressive, it is slutty. It is not value-driven, it is hoarder junkyard trash. It is not for the community, it is an imposition on the community that demands unearned utility and respect.

Sincerely, Thomas.