

**Subject: Agenda Item D-14, Support for Kaheawa Wind Power I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Jason Boteilho on behalf and I am submitting this testimony in **support** of the acceptance of the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaheawa Wind Power I.

By granting this EIS acceptance, the wind farm can continue operating as it is today and will continue to deliver a lower cost of electricity and a more reliable electric grid for Maui residents and businesses for the next 20 years.

Maui's businesses and residents continue to experience high electricity costs and uncertainty about the island's energy future. Kaheawa Wind Power I has been a longstanding and essential contributor to Maui's clean energy goals. If the project were taken offline, the island would be forced to rely on additional fossil-fuel generation, resulting in greater environmental impacts. With a significant amount of Maui's existing fossil-fueled generation expected to retire in the coming years, the island cannot afford to lose any of its current renewable energy resources.

Moreover, a significant benefit of the project is a \$300,000-per-year program that will reinvest in Maui for the next 20 years, providing direct support for community-driven priorities and allowing the community to determine what initiatives matter most to them.

I urge the BLNR to approve the EIS and allow Kaheawa Wind Power 1 to continue to produce clean energy without interruption. Without this existing resource, Maui will face increased electricity costs, further worsening the cost of living.

Sincerely,

Jason Ikaika Boteilho

**Subject: Support for Kaheawa Wind Power I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Jane Burns, a resident of Makawao, and I am submitting this testimony in strong support of your approval of the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaheawa Wind Power I.

For 20 years, Kaheawa Wind Power has been a reliable renewable energy project for Maui, serving approximately 17,000 households since 2006 and saving residents millions a year compared to fossil-fuel generation. With the high cost of living here, these savings are not minor—they are life-changing for families.

Today, Maui's energy system is at a fragile point of transition. Two major fossil fuel plants are scheduled for retirement by 2030. Kaheawa Wind is one of only two utility-scale projects still moving forward and is essential for reducing emissions and protecting our air and water. Without it, Maui is at risk of blackouts or higher temporary diesel use.

Maui needs reliable, affordable, locally produced energy and Kaheawa Wind has a proven track record.

I respectfully urge the BLNR to approve the revised EIS so this project may receive a new PPA with MECO and continue producing clean energy for another 20 years.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony.

Sincerely,

Jane Burns

**Subject: Agenda Item D-14, Support for Kaheawa Wind Power I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

My name is Cedric Cabero and I am submitting this testimony in **support** of the acceptance of the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaheawa Wind Power I.

By granting this EIS acceptance, the wind farm can continue operating as it is today and will continue to deliver a lower cost of electricity and a more reliable electric grid for Maui residents and businesses for the next 20 years.

Maui's businesses and residents continue to experience high electricity costs and uncertainty about the island's energy future. Kaheawa Wind Power I has been a longstanding and essential contributor to Maui's clean energy goals. If the project were taken offline, the island would be forced to rely on additional fossil-fuel generation, resulting in greater environmental impacts. With a significant amount of Maui's existing fossil-fueled generation expected to retire in the coming years, the island cannot afford to lose any of its current renewable energy resources.

Moreover, a significant benefit of the project is a \$300,000-per-year program that will reinvest in Maui for the next 20 years, providing direct support for community-driven priorities and allowing the community to determine what initiatives matter most to them.

I urge the BLNR to approve the EIS and allow Kaheawa Wind Power 1 to continue to produce clean energy without interruption. Without this existing resource, Maui will face increased electricity costs, further worsening the cost of living.

Sincerely,

Cedric Cabero

**Subject: Agenda Item D-14, Support for Kaheawa Wind Power I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

[My name is Blane Camanse on behalf of myself] I am submitting this testimony in **support** of the acceptance of the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaheawa Wind Power I.

By granting this EIS acceptance, the wind farm can continue operating as it is today and will continue to deliver a lower cost of electricity and a more reliable electric grid for Maui residents and businesses for the next 20 years.

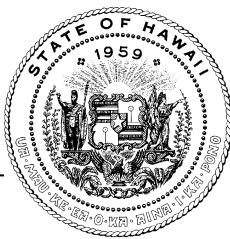
Maui's businesses and residents continue to experience high electricity costs and uncertainty about the island's energy future. Kaheawa Wind Power I has been a longstanding and essential contributor to Maui's clean energy goals. If the project were taken offline, the island would be forced to rely on additional fossil-fuel generation, resulting in greater environmental impacts. With a significant amount of Maui's existing fossil-fueled generation expected to retire in the coming years, the island cannot afford to lose any of its current renewable energy resources.

Moreover, a significant benefit of the project is a \$300,000-per-year program that will reinvest in Maui for the next 20 years, providing direct support for community-driven priorities and allowing the community to determine what initiatives matter most to them.

I urge the BLNR to approve the EIS and allow Kaheawa Wind Power 1 to continue to produce clean energy without interruption. Without this existing resource, Maui will face increased electricity costs, further worsening the cost of living.

Sincerely,

*Blane Camanse*



# HAWAI'I STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAI'I

235 South Beretania Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96804

JOSH GREEN, M.D.  
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE  
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

Telephone: (808) 587-3807  
Web: [energy.hawaii.gov](http://energy.hawaii.gov)

## Testimony of **MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

December 12, 2025  
9 a.m. DLNR Boardroom  
1151 Punchbowl Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Kalanimoku Bldg.

Subject: Agenda Item #14, Acceptance or Non-Acceptance of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Kaheawa Wind 1 (KWP1) Continued Use Project.

Dear Chair Chang:

The Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on the importance of the Kaheawa Wind Project and encourages your acceptance of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). HSEO's comments are guided by HSEO's statutory purpose under H.R.S. §196-71. Hawai'i is uniquely exposed to fuel supply risks and price volatility, impacting electricity costs and energy affordability throughout the state. Local renewable energy resources directly mitigate these risks, as these renewable projects are secured through long-term (e.g., 20-year) power purchase agreements that provide fixed electricity pricing. These PPAs not only stabilize customer costs but also reduce overall energy expenditures over time by avoiding dependence on imported fuel.

HSEO testifies to the critical importance of the KWP project for Maui's overall electric grid stability and resilience, as well as the energy costs. In 2024, wind comprised about 16% of Maui's total energy generation; KWP-1 produced 79,792 MWh, enough power to supply around seven thousand households.<sup>1</sup>

HSEO is particularly concerned about maintaining resource adequacy on Maui and elsewhere in Hawaiian Electric's service territory due to the current reliance on aging infrastructure and generation assets that are beyond their useful life. On Maui, generation concerns are substantial and escalating as the system approaches critical resource conditions; the 2025 Adequacy of Supply Report shows that Maui's Energy Reserve Margin will fall below required levels as early as 2029 due to the required retirement of Kahului units, the end-of-service for multiple Mā'alaea units (due to legacy equipment and unavailability of replacement parts), and the expiration of existing resources like Kaheawa Wind. These findings underscore the importance of timely repowering of existing

<sup>1</sup> Energy Information Administration. Form 923. (2025)

generation assets and advancing replacement projects to avoid significant reliability risks. Further, as planned projects are delayed or are cancelled due to tariffs or increased project costs, maintaining existing system resources becomes more critical. Concerns are further exacerbated by delays to the 40-MW ‘Ūkiu firm energy project—the power purchase agreement application docket has been suspended after the Commission found the application incomplete and required additional environmental review, creating uncertainty around one of the key replacement generation resources.<sup>2</sup>

From 2025 to 2028, the margins should be sufficient if the anticipated additions from projects come online on schedule and if some of the current generation, such as KWP 1, remain. The Kahului power plant will be retiring at the end of 2027. There is expected to be some new generation, but continued generation, such as KWP 1, is essential to fill in for this lost power. Māalaea units are expected to function until 2029, although they may come offline sooner if maintenance is necessary and parts are unavailable.

Hawaiian Electric has indicated that if planned projects do not come online, the utility may need to issue voluntary calls for conservation. In the worst case scenario, the utility would need to deploy costly diesel generators as an emergency measure to maintain resource adequacy—an action that would negatively affect both public health, greenhouse gas contribution, and the cost of electricity.

The reliability and cost-effectiveness of wind energy, coupled with its ability to complement increasing energy demand and support the clean energy transition, underscore why immediate action is needed to sustain continued production of this critical renewable energy resource. Accordingly, HSEO strongly supports KWP and urges DLNR to accept the FEIS given current resource adequacy concerns.

Finally, TerraForm has consistently demonstrated its role as a responsible and committed partner in advancing renewable energy in Hawai‘i. The company has made significant efforts to address the requirements of the Habitat Conservation Plan, showcasing its commitment to prioritizing environmental impact mitigation and its ability to follow through on projects, thus underlining its capacity to deliver on the next steps as the project moves forward. The willingness demonstrated to remain a constructive partner with the state speaks volumes about their ability to meet project obligations.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,



Mark B. Glick  
Chief Energy Officer

---

<sup>2</sup> Hawai‘i Public Utilities Commission. (2025, November 12). *Order No. 42090: Suspending the docket and addressing HRS Chapter 343 compliance (Docket No. 2025-0356)*. Hawai‘i Public Utilities Commission Decision and Order.



**Maui Cultural Lands, Inc.**  
P.O. Box 11142  
Lahaina, HI 96761

December 10, 2025

**Board of Land and Natural Resources**  
State of Hawai‘i  
1151 Punchbowl Street  
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96813

**Re: Agenda Item D-14; Support for Kaheawa Wind Power 1 – Long-Term Lease Extension**

Aloha e Chair and Members of the Board,

Maui Cultural Lands, Inc. (MCL) submits this letter in strong support of the proposed long-term lease extension for the continued operation of **Kaheawa Wind Power 1 (KWP1)** above Mā‘alaea. Our organization has served as a cultural and ecological steward in this area for two decades, and our connection to this landscape predates the construction of the turbines.

My father, **Edwin Lindsey Jr.**, recognized early on—in the early 2000s when First Wind initiated this project—that wind energy at Kaheawa had the potential to demonstrate how renewable energy development can coexist with cultural landscapes when it is done thoughtfully and responsibly. Maui Cultural Lands has carried this belief forward. Today, we continue to mālama the area surrounding the upper three turbines, where we remove invasive species, tend to native plants, replant where needed, and guide hundreds of volunteers and students each year in cultural education tied directly to place.

---

## **1. Continued Stewardship & Cultural Coexistence**

For twenty years, KWP1 has allowed Maui Cultural Lands access to the upper slopes for on-the-ground stewardship. We work most closely around the top three turbines, where we maintain the native dryland vegetation, reduce fire risk through invasive removal, and teach volunteers how traditional Hawaiian land management aligns with today’s climate and energy challenges.



In this way, the project has become an outdoor learning landscape—one where volunteers witness firsthand that renewable energy production can occur within a culturally and environmentally sensitive area when cared for by community hands.

We appreciate that the company has committed, in its current operational planning, to continue supporting cultural stewardship, including protection and monitoring of the upland heiau and other significant cultural features. These commitments are meaningful and should be required and upheld throughout the extended lease period.

---

## 2. Transparency & Accountability for Wildlife Impacts

We also want to acknowledge the importance of transparency regarding wildlife “takes.” As an organization rooted in cultural responsibility and environmental protection, Maui Cultural Lands believes that any renewable project—especially one in conservation lands—must be forthright and accessible in reporting its impacts.

KWP1 has historically reported take levels as required through its Habitat Conservation Plan and federal/state permits, and we strongly encourage continued *and improved* public-facing transparency throughout the next 20 years. The public should be able to find and understand data, mitigation activities, and wildlife outcomes easily and without barriers.

We also recognize that the FEIS proposes continued mitigation resulting in **net conservation benefits** for species such as ‘ō‘ape‘ape‘a, nēnē, seabirds, and native pollinators.

These measures must remain central to the project’s operation and reviewed regularly with community and cultural input.

Transparency strengthens trust. Trust strengthens community support.

---

## 3. Community Benefit & Maui’s Energy Future

KWP1 has reliably delivered 30 MW of clean energy to Maui since 2006 and remains one of the island’s most productive and lowest-cost renewables. The facility has powered approximately 17,000 households for two decades, providing consistent generation that balances Maui’s grid—especially at night or in cloudy conditions when solar production drops.



As Maui faces the scheduled retirement of aging fossil-fuel plants at Kahului and portions of Mā‘alaea, we are entering a period of significant energy vulnerability. Maintaining existing renewable energy resources that are already built, proven, and culturally integrated is a much wiser environmental choice than replacing them with temporary diesel units or waiting for uncertain future projects.

Beyond energy stability, we want to acknowledge KWP1’s commitment to support the community through a proposed **\$300,000 per year community benefits package**, the highest level offered among Maui’s recent renewable projects.

These funds, if guided by a community advisory structure, can support restoration, cultural education, watershed health, fire mitigation, and youth engagement—areas deeply aligned with Maui Cultural Lands’ mission.

---

## Conclusion

The Kaheawa ridgeline is a place of deep cultural importance, ecological sensitivity, and tremendous educational value. Maui Cultural Lands has been honored to steward this landscape for many years, and our experience demonstrates that **renewable energy and cultural preservation can coexist** when approached with humility, transparency, and long-term commitment.

For these reasons, and with the understanding that wildlife transparency and cultural stewardship remain ongoing obligations, Maui Cultural Lands supports the extension of Kaheawa Wind Power 1’s land lease and continued operation.

Mahalo nui for your consideration and for your service to the people and lands of Hawai‘i.

Me ka ‘oia’i’o,

*Edwin “Ekolu” Lindsey*

President

Maui Cultural Lands, Inc  
Mobile (808) 276-5593

# MAUI OCEAN CENTER

*Our Mission: To foster understanding, wonder and respect for Hawaii's marine life.*

December 10, 2025

State of Hawai'i  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 621, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96809

RE: Agenda Item 14, Board meeting 12/12/25 Kaheawa Wind 1 (KW1) Testimony in Support of EIS-20 year lease extension for Kaheawa Wind Power I

Aloha Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

**My name is Tapani Vuori and I strongly SUPPORT the approval of the EIS-20 year lease extension KW1 in Agenda Item 14.**

Back on 12/11/24 I wrote a letter of support, attached to this email, for KW1 for the approval of the holdover lease. The fundamental reasons are still the same as to why I strongly support distributed renewable energy solutions for our community and in general. The bottom line is that I believe they are still a net positive hence I urge BLNR to support KW1. I also urge you to ensure financial continuity of KW1 with agreed upon rate of return.

One complaint I hear from community members with regards to KW1, a probably more relevant complaint to renewable energy sector, is that they have not seen their electric bills go down. Therefore, I would urge you to engage PUC and HEKO for a "hybrid decoupling" agreement to loosen the fixed pricing model to allow a portion of savings to flow to end users. If this were to happen, I would expect much more community support and higher adoption rates of renewable energy solutions statewide.

Full disclosure: I am the founder and the president of MOC Marine Institute  
<https://www.mocmarineinstitute.org/> which can potentially benefit from the mandated community benefit package.

Mahalo for your consideration,



Tapani Vuori  
c.808.561.2022  
tvuori@mauioceancenter.com



192 Ma'alaea Road Wailuku, Hawai'i 96793 • [mauioceancenter.com](http://mauioceancenter.com) • 808.270.7000

**Subject: Agenda Item D-14, Support for Kaheawa Wind Power I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

[My name is Nadia on behalf of SQLF (business name)] and I am submitting this testimony in support of the acceptance of the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaheawa Wind Power I.

By granting this EIS acceptance, the wind farm can continue operating as it is today and will continue to deliver a lower cost of electricity and a more reliable electric grid for Maui residents and businesses for the next 20 years.

Maui's businesses and residents continue to experience high electricity costs and uncertainty about the island's energy future. Kaheawa Wind Power I has been a longstanding and essential contributor to Maui's clean energy goals. If the project were taken offline, the island would be forced to rely on additional fossil-fuel generation, resulting in greater environmental impacts. With a significant amount of Maui's existing fossil-fueled generation expected to retire in the coming years, the island cannot afford to lose any of its current renewable energy resources.

Moreover, a significant benefit of the project is a \$300,000-per-year program that will reinvest in Maui for the next 20 years, providing direct support for community-driven priorities and allowing the community to determine what initiatives matter most to them.

I urge the BLNR to approve the EIS and allow Kaheawa Wind Power 1 to continue to produce clean energy without interruption. Without this existing resource, Maui will face increased electricity costs, further worsening the cost of living.

Sincerely,



[Name]

[Business Name]

**Subject: Agenda Item D-14, Support for Kaheawa Wind Power I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Members of the Board of Land and Natural Resources,

[My name is JEAN MOKIPEK on behalf of SELF (business name)] and I am submitting this testimony in **support** of the acceptance of the Environmental Impact Statement for Kaheawa Wind Power I.

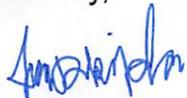
By granting this EIS acceptance, the wind farm can continue operating as it is today and will continue to deliver a lower cost of electricity and a more reliable electric grid for Maui residents and businesses for the next 20 years.

Maui's businesses and residents continue to experience high electricity costs and uncertainty about the island's energy future. Kaheawa Wind Power I has been a longstanding and essential contributor to Maui's clean energy goals. If the project were taken offline, the island would be forced to rely on additional fossil-fuel generation, resulting in greater environmental impacts. With a significant amount of Maui's existing fossil-fueled generation expected to retire in the coming years, the island cannot afford to lose any of its current renewable energy resources.

Moreover, a significant benefit of the project is a \$300,000-per-year program that will reinvest in Maui for the next 20 years, providing direct support for community-driven priorities and allowing the community to determine what initiatives matter most to them.

I urge the BLNR to approve the EIS and allow Kaheawa Wind Power 1 to continue to produce clean energy without interruption. Without this existing resource, Maui will face increased electricity costs, further worsening the cost of living.

Sincerely,



[Name]

[Business Name]



**The Senate**  
**Ka 'Aha Kenekoa**

STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

December 11, 2025

Chair Dawn Chang and Members  
Board of Land and Natural Resources  
Department of Land and Natural Resources  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 130  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

**RE: KAHEAWA WIND FARM I EIS**

Dear Chair Chang and Board Members:

As the State Senator for District 6, which includes Lahaina, I am writing to request your favorable consideration of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Kaheawa Wind Farm during your December 12, 2025, meeting. Kaheawa Wind Farm has a long record of safe and responsible operation, and the EIS offers a transparent assessment of potential effects, possible options, and measures to reduce impacts so that agencies can make well-informed decisions. This effort simply continues the operation of an existing wind facility.

Maui's energy landscape is becoming increasingly strained. Several of the island's fossil-fuel generators are set to retire, and the slowdown in rooftop solar installations has further reduced the range of options available to keep the grid reliable. Additionally, Hawaiian Electric has publicly warned that Maui could face blackout risks soon as older resources leave the system faster than new ones can be brought online. At the same time, many renewable projects have been canceled or put on hold due to the utility's financial challenges and the loss of federal tax incentives.

Being in operation for nearly two decades, the Kaheawa Wind Farm has a track record of grid stability, lower electrical cost to consumers and community investment. In this environment, Kaheawa Wind Farm remains an essential part of Maui's energy mix. Its wind generation helps balance solar production and diversifies the island's renewable resources, reducing dependence on any single technology. Preserving this proven facility is one of the few immediate steps available to help maintain grid stability during a period of limited alternatives.

Senator Angus L. K. McKelvey  
Senate District 6 – West Maui, Mā'alaea, Waikapū, South Maui  
415 South Beretania St., Room 221  
Honolulu, Hawai'i • 96813  
Phone: (808) 586-6070 • Email: [senmckelvey@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:senmckelvey@capitol.hawaii.gov)

December 11, 2025

Page 2 of 2

For these reasons, I respectfully urge the Board to act promptly on the EIS and to recognize the vital role this facility continues to play in supporting Maui's energy needs. Please feel free to contact my office with any questions or concerns at (808) 586-6070 or via email at [SenMcKelvey@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:SenMcKelvey@capitol.hawaii.gov).

Sincerely,



Angus L.K. McKelvey  
Hawai'i State Senator