

Hawaii Energy Forum Meeting

Minutes

Hawai'i Energy Forum

March 12, 2003

Attendance

Forum members:

Bruce Anderson, Raymond Carr, John Crouch, Steve Golden, Maurice Kaya, Kal Kobayashi, Hideto Kono, Matt Matsunaga, Bruce Miller, Hermina Morita, Brenner Munger, Karen Nakamura, Gayle Ohashi, Richard Paglinawan, Rick Reed, Glenn Sato, Scott Seu, Don Thomas, Murray Towill, David Waller, Fred Weyand, Mike Yamane, Eileen Yoshinaka, Michael Hamnett, Sharon Miyashiro, Sam Pintz, Regina Gregory, Christy Alarcon, Irene Takata, Robbie Alm, Faye Hirono, Catherine Awakuni

Guests:

Charles Feinstein, Kat Brady, Henry Curtis, Carl Freedman, Warren Bollmeier, Jeff Brown

I. Announcements

Mike Hamnett introduced the new Forum members who were in attendance: Ray Carr, Energy Coordinator for the Big Island; Kal Kobayashi, Energy Coordinator for Maui; and Bruce Miller, Director of the UH Center for Sustainability. (New members not present are Senator Kalani English, Chair of the Senate Energy and Environment Committee; Steve Holmes, Energy Coordinator for the City and County of Honolulu; and Susan Kusunoki of Tesoro.)

II. Legislative Update

Rep. Mina Morita, Chair of the House Energy & Environmental Protection Committee, briefed the Forum on bills that are making their way through the Legislature. Measures include:

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- *HB 288, Majority Package Omnibus Energy Bill, which includes bonds for renewable energy in state facilities, a statewide energy audit, extension of the solar tax credit, funding for hydrogen research
- *HB 196, geothermal to hydrogen tax credit
- *HB 475/SB 489, management audit of the PUC
- *HB 473/SB 498, requiring a PUC website
- *HB 1492, increasing net metering
- *HB 10, requiring utilities to disclose fuel mix
- *HB 1328, asking the Consumer Advocate to consider the long-term benefits of renewable energy
- *HB 604/SB 527, permitting solar installations on agricultural land
- *SB 848, alternative energy for Kaho'olawe
- *HB 1405, public preference for biofuels
- *SB 1239, biodiesel preference for state fleets
- *HB 1127, extending the time for DBEDT to study the gas price cap

III. Charles Feinstein Report: Environmental Requirements on Energy Producers

Charles Feinstein presented his report on environmental considerations and options. The report was distributed to Energy Forum members and will be posted on our website (<http://hawaiienergypolicy.hawaii.edu>). Please call Irene at 956-3738 if you would like a hard copy.

IV. Forum Business

Mike Hamnett mentioned that liquified natural gas (LNG) is being studied by a work group, and the Forum may be asked to participate in the deliberations.

We have formed a subcommittee to study social, economic and cultural issues. Anyone interested should contact Mike Hamnett (hamnett@hawaii.edu or 956-7469).

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Sharon Miyashiro said that our Summit is now scheduled for November. Anyone willing to work on the subcommittee should contact her (sharonmi@hawaii.edu or 956-7070).

Sharon also mentioned the Public Policy Center's upcoming conference on sustainability and invited Forum members to attend the session on energy. The conference will be April 24 and 25. Anyone interested should contact her.

Bruce Miller noted that UH Earth Day (April 22) celebrations would include a "teach-in" where exhibits or lectures by Forum members are possible.

The next meeting is set for May 9, 2003 from 10am - 1pm, at the Cleghorn Room, Pacific Club.