

Hawaii Energy Forum Meeting

March 16, 2007 Meeting

Pacific Club – Cleghorn Room

10:30 am – 1:00 pm

Summary Notes

In attendance:

Forum Members:

Robbie Alm, HECO; Bob Arrigoni, HI County, Res. & Development; Catherine Awakuni, DCA; Warren Bollmeier, HREA; Jeff Deren, KIUC; Carl Freedman; Steve Golden, Gas Company; Mike Hamnett, RCUH; Paula Helfrich, EDAH; Bill Kaneko, HIPA; Maurice Kaya, DBEDT; Darren Kimura, Energy Industries; Larry Lau, DOH; Allyn Lee, C&CH; Aaron Leong, Sen Inouye's office; Jeff Mikulina, Sierra Club; Sharon Miyashiro, UH Public Policy Center; Tim O'Connell, USDA; Steve Teves for Melissa Pavlicek, WSPA; Rick Reed, HSEA; Rick Rocheleau, HNEI; Peter Rosegg, HECO; Bill Short, BIAH; Lance Tanaka, Tesoro; Don Thomas, CSAV-UH.

Guests/Visitors:

Mike Kitamura, Sen. Akaka's office; Amy Asselbaye, Cong. Abercrombie's office; Jacqueline Conant, Cong. Hirono's office; Bill Parks, UHDOE; Henry Curtis, Life of the Land.

HEPF: Susan Char.

Presentations & Discussions:

1. Update on Status of 2007 Legislation

Susan Char reported that the two legislative issues the Forum proposed, the Bioenergy aster Plan and the Energy Efficiency Transportation study, are still alive

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and moving through the legislature. Warren Bollmeier reviewed the Forum's bill tracking list and reported the status of the other bills listed.

2. Working Group reports

A) Renewables: Warren Bollmeier reported on the renewables plan being developed and legislation.

1. Larry Lau also stated that the Forum should look into the possibility of covering EIS issues since it is an important piece of bioenergy.
2. Warren Bollmeier suggested that based on Larry Lau's remarks, the Forum should work on permitting procedures during the interim, and should also work on the solar mandate issue. He asked if representatives from BlueEarth would be willing to talk to the Forum; Peter Rosegg offered to follow up with a request to BlueEarth.
3. Mike Hamnett informed the membership about a series of community meetings regarding wave energy that will commence in early May that the Forum will be co-sponsoring (See Attachment 1 –draft proposal).

B) Regulatory Reform: None, but bills re: reorganization are moving forward.

C) Hydrocarbons Future: Steve Golden reported that they were supporting the work of DBEDT with its Hawaii Energy Strategy and Section 355 study.

1. Clarification of Sec 355 study. Maurice Kaya clarified that the Sec. 355 study was tasked to the U.S. Dept. of Energy, who chose to work with the State. The State then appropriated funding to HNEI to conduct the study. As for the Hawaii Energy Strategy (HES), the early draft is ready but DBEDT is in process of its internal reviews. The HES will probably be ready by the end of April or beginning of May.
2. Rick Rocheleau stated that an early draft of the Sec. 355 study should be completed by late spring or early summer. He is expecting everything to be completed and ready to give to Congress by the end of summer.

D) Follow-up Actions: Warren Bollmeier suggested that the 10 Point Plan be updated and that all the working group chairs work together to update the plan. Mike Hamnett asked the working group chairs to update their action plans and send to Sharon. The plans will then be put up on the <hepf.org> website.

3. Presentations from the Congressional Delegation

Representatives of each of the four offices of the Hawaii Congressional Delegation were asked to speak about the status of congressional initiatives and also how the Forum can better work with them on federal projects.

1. **Aaron Leong – Sen. Daniel Inouye’s Office.** Suggested that the Forum request an appropriation and have a fund available for energy projects in Hawaii. A technical advisory committee could be formed to review and suggest those projects that would be best suited for Hawaii and aligned with energy goals for the state. The congressional delegation welcomes hearing what energy projects are good or bad for the community; they need to know what the community wants and the Forum would be a good place for that to happen.
2. **Mike Kitamura – Sen. Daniel Akaka’s Office.** Sen. Akaka is a senior member of the Energy and Natural Resources Committee. The Committee has identified three priority items in terms of energy: 1) energy efficiency; 2) renewable energy resources development; and 3) biofuels diversity development. This focus is a shift from previous years, which focused on coal, oil and nuclear sources. M. Kitamura wanted to know how they can better collaborate with the Forum. They will share energy issues and projects that come up in Congress and will have the DC staff meet with the Forum when they are in Hawaii.
3. **Amy Asselbaye – Congressman Neil Abercrombie’s Office.** Part of the focus on the Farm Bill may be on biofuels. Congressman Collin Peterson, Chair of the House Agriculture Committee, is interested in

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Abercrombie's idea of an Energy Independence pilot program in Hawaii.

4. **Note:** As a followup to the Forum's efforts in bioenergy development and the potential for federal support, the Forum is working with Abercrombie's office to invite the Chairman to visit Hawaii and to explore the potential projects; and to speak at its outreach energy briefing in April.
5. **Jacqueline Conant – Congresswoman Mazie Hirono's Office.** Cong. Hirono is the "new kid on the block" but is very supportive of renewable energy development

4. HCR 195 Report to the Legislature

Sharon Miyashiro reported that the final draft HCR 195 report had been circulated and DBEDT had made comments. Maurice Kaya clarified that DBEDT doesn't mind doing the bioenergy master plan, but that funding is needed to develop the plan as he is concerned about unfunded mandates counts as well as funding is needed.

Robbie Alm stated that HECO cannot wait on the bioenergy master plan to be completed to act on biofuels. The new generating unit at Campbell Industrial Park will proceed using biofuels. Because HECO is a private company, they can require locally produced biofuels, but the public has to be aware that they may pay a premium for it. Their project will put this issue before the PUC before the end of this year. The National Resources Defense Council's scientists are coming up with a sourcing policy for biofuels and greenhouse gases.

Bill Parks, USDOE, commented that Hawaii should pursue biofuels but he has serious concerns about DBEDT's funding to do it. The bioenergy master plan should prioritize and look long term. We also need to make sure that our biofuel source is more secure than our oil source.

Action:

The Forum general membership approved the final draft of the HCR 195 report with the understanding that the renewable energy working group co-chairs will work with DBEDT on incorporating its comments into the final draft.

5. Chicago Climate Exchange Report to the Legislature

Steve Golden, co-chair of the hydrocarbons working group, introduced the report. He also suggested that the report be revised so that the recommendations tasked to DBEDT instead be tasked to the Department of Health. Larry Lau suggested that instead of doing the California approach, the previous study just be updated.

Action:

The Forum general membership approved the final draft of the CCX report with the understanding that the hydrocarbons working group work co-chairs work with DBEDT and DOH on the final draft language relating to their concerns.

Other Business

1. The Forum has been invited to present at a conference in Puerto Rico titled "Sustainability in an Island State". The conference will pay for one or two representatives of the Forum to present at the conference about the genesis of HEPF and its role in an island state that is dependent on imported fuel sources and lessons that can assist Puerto Rico in its efforts in sustainable energy. The Legislature and Forum will be requested to assist in funding one of the panel presenters.
2. County Developments—Hawaii County: Bob Arrigoni reported that Hawaii County is using information from the 2007 Hawaii Energy Strategy, DBEDT's inventory for renewable energy, the HNEI & GE

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report and the HELCO IRP to develop the county plan. He also mentioned that so much funding goes into research on energy projects but that they need actual projects to be funded.

3. County Developments—Honolulu City & County: Allyn Lee reported on Mayor Hannemann's 21st Century Ahupua`a program and his 10 year plan for recycling, energy conservation, etc.

Next Meeting:

April 11, 10:30 – 1:00 p.m in HEI Training Room #2 – 8th Floor, American Savings Bank Tower, 1001 Bishop Street.

May meeting of the Forum: May 9, 10:30am – 1:00 pm, at HEI Training Room – 8th Flr, Amercian Savings Bank Tower. On the agenda will be a presenation by BlueEarth and outcome of the 2007 Legislature.

NOTE;

*CHANGE OF MEETING DATE DUE TO VISIT BY CONGRESSMAN COLLIN PETERSON,
CHAIR OF THE U.S. HOUSE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE.*

The Forum will meet on Monday April 9 at 8:00am – 11am instead.