

Hawaii Energy Policy Forum: All Aboard! Getting the Passengers on the Bus



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2002 – ROADBLOCKS

- **Adversarial climate between utilities and community**
- **No coordinated effort to implement Hawaii Energy Strategy**
- **Knowledge and policy gaps**
- **Under-resourced regulators and State Energy Office**
- **“Business as Usual” attitudes**

Forum ... willing to drive

- Neutral convener – University of Hawaii
- Committed stakeholders/champions
- Non-adversarial & collegial
- Knowledge-based
- Action-driven
 - Set objectives & developed a strategy
 - Committed to take action

Phase 1 – Developing the Strategy

❖ **Analysis and Consensus Building**

- Identified issues & values
- Fact-based: Commissioned critical studies on:
 - ❖ Environmental requirements of energy producers
 - ❖ Hydrocarbons outlook
 - ❖ Regulation, taxation & incentives
 - ❖ Renewable & conventional energy
 - ❖ Reduction of Hawaii's energy demand through increased efficiency
 - ❖ Social, economic & cultural issues
- Convened Energy Policy Summit to engage the broader community
- Consensus-based: Adopted an energy vision and a long-term energy strategy

Phase 2 – Making it Happen

❖ **Acted on the strategy**

- Committed to implement the strategy
- Educated the public & policymakers on energy issues
- Obtained funding and support
- Adopted a specific & comprehensive *Ten Point Action Plan*

10-Point Plan

1.	Expand Renewable Energy Opportunities - REWG
2.	Promote Conservation & Energy Efficiency - EEWG
3.	Reduce Local Greenhouse Gas Emissions - GHGWG
4.	Foster Civic Action & Participation - COWG
5.	Enhance Regulatory Goals & Protections -RRWG
6.	Encourage Culturally Appropriate & Sustainable Energy Planning -SC
7.	Improve Transportation Energy Efficiency & Options – EEWG ??
8.	Support R&D of Alternative Energy Sources - RE
9.	Support Sustainable Development & Use of Biofuels – REWG??
10	Ensure the Security & Reliability of Energy Supply & Distribution - HF

Some Results

➤ Renewable Energy Policies

- Permanent & increased tax credits
- Funding for PV in schools
- Special fund for renewable hydrogen investment
- “Pay as You Save” program for installing solar water heaters
- State Bioenergy Master Plan
- Strengthened the Renewable Portfolio Standards

Some Results

➤ Energy Efficiency Policies

- Energy efficiency design standards in state buildings
- Strategy for energy efficiency in transportation
- “Energy by Example” audits

Some Results

➤ **Regulatory Reform**

- ❑ Successfully focused regulatory agency attention to policy issues
- ❑ Successfully supported reorganization and staffing of regulatory agencies
- ❑ Commissioned comprehensive policy study on barriers & opportunities for renewable energy development

Some Results

➤ On Hydrocarbon Future

- ❑ Commissioned study on LNG and CNG for Hawaii
- ❑ Recommended Hawaii not join the Chicago Climate Exchange
- ❑ Commissioned study on impact of increasing renewables on the petroleum industry

How we did it – The Forum Organization

- **General Membership (N = 44)**
- **Working Groups (N=6)**
 - Renewable Energy**
 - Energy Conservation & Efficiency**
 - Hydrocarbon Future & Security**
 - Regulatory Reform**
 - Social & Cultural Impacts**
 - Communication & Outreach**
- **Steering Committee**
- **Forum Co-Chairs**

Lessons Learned - “Keys” to Our Success

➤ **COMPELLING CAUSE/VISION**

➤ **PEOPLE**

- COMMITTED LEADERSHIP**
- CHAMPIONS**
- DIVERSE & STRONG MEMBERSHIP**

➤ **ORGANIZATION**

- CREDIBLE – COMMITMENT TO VISION/MISSION**
- KNOWLEDGE-DRIVEN**
- CONSENSUS-BASED**
- SELF EVALUATION**
- ADMINISTRATION/GOVERNANCE**

➤ **FUNDING**

We Continue to Evolve: Ongoing Challenges

- **Issues and goals are complex and long-term**
- Maintaining effective communication & participation
- Getting to consensus is not always easy
- Measuring impact of actions on the community
- Heavy workload for volunteers

...AND WE'RE STILL COMMITTED TO THE
PREFERRED ENERGY VISION

WE'RE STILL ON THE BUS!