

5. Enhance Regulatory Goals and Protections

- Focus of the Regulatory Reform Working Group

Actions to be taken:

1. Monitor the implementation of recently adopted laws and actions regarding energy utility regulation and actions to be implemented by the PUC and Division of Consumer Advocacy (DCA) (July 2006 – July 2008):
 1. Implementation of Renewable Portfolio Standards
 2. Implementation of a Public Benefits Fund and “Third Party” DSM administrator by the PUC
 3. Greenhouse gas emission limits
 4. Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative including proposed broad revisions to the utility regulation incentives framework.
2. Ensure that the PUC and DCA have the necessary resources to timely and fairly address regulatory issues. (July 2006 – July 2008)
 1. Monitor reorganization plans and support the agencies’ plans and funding in the 2009 legislature
 2. Ensure that the Administration and the 2009 Legislature follow through with funding and staff positions consistent with the previously approved restructuring of the PUC.

Actions taken:

1. Supported adoption of Act 183 (HB 1004) and Act 177 (HB 1005), providing funding and staffing to restructure the DCA and PUC (2007)
2. Commissioned a comprehensive study examining existing policies and regulations and recommending amendments to promote efficiency and renewable resource implementation (“Opportunities and Obstacles in Hawaii’s Laws to Implementing Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Resources”) (2007)

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3. Supported 2008 legislation (Act 118), clarifying provisions of Chapter 269, Part VII, HRS, relating to the administration and use of moneys supporting energy-efficiency and demand-side management programs and services and the status of the public benefits fee administrator