



STATE OF HAWAII | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

NADINE Y. ANDO
DIRECTOR | KA LUNA HO'OKELE

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR | KE KIA'ĀINA
SYLVIA LUKE
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA

DEAN I HAZAMA
DEPUTY DIRECTOR | KA HOPE LUNA HO'OKELE

KA 'OIHANA PILI KĀLEPA
335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: (808) 586-2850
Fax Number: (808) 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Tuesday, February 18, 2025
10:01 a.m.
Conference Room 211**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 1220, S.D. 1, RELATING TO RENEWABLE GAS TARIFF**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Michael Angelo, and I am the Executive Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department offers comments on this bill.

The purpose of this bill is to: (1) require gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) by August 31, 2025; and (2) require the Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff.

The Department appreciates the intent of this bill to serve certain gas customers' demand to procure renewable gas. An appropriately designed tariff that fully considers the costs to procure and deliver renewable gas through Hawaii Gas' transmission and distribution system to customers with demands for renewable gas may help increase the build-out of renewable gas supplies in Hawaii. The Department also especially

appreciates how this bill stipulates that any renewable gas tariff should not increase rates for other gas customers. While the Department acknowledges that Hawaii Gas may be seeking to establish a renewable gas tariff to provide assurance for potential customers of the costs that they would incur from procuring renewable gas, a rate case is the most appropriate mechanism for ensuring that the costs of providing renewable gas are fully recovered from those customers with renewable gas needs. Acknowledging that Hawaii Gas may not be seeking another rate case for several years, there are other potential options to Hawaii Gas to offer renewable gas such as through a pilot program. Such an approach may lower financial risk to Hawaii Gas and its customers while also enabling Hawaii Gas to offer renewable gas to some of its customers.

The Department also offers that the Legislature has heard bills that would have required Renewable Gas Portfolio Standards and the Commission is currently investigating an Integrated Resource Plan for The Gas Company LLC dba Hawaii Gas in Docket No. 2022-0009, which may set some renewable gas targets. Renewable gas targets together with full consideration of the greenhouse gas emissions resulting from obtaining and using different renewable gas feedstocks and producing, delivering, and using renewable gas can help guide some decarbonization of Hawaii's regulated gas market. All of these factors need to be considered as part of establishing a rate for providing renewable gas.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
465 S. KING STREET, #103
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR.
CHAIR

NAOMI U. KUWAYE
COMMISSIONER

COLIN A. YOST
COMMISSIONER

Telephone: (808) 586-2020
Facsimile: (808) 586-2066

Website: puc.hawaii.gov
E-mail: puc@hawaii.gov

Testimony of the Public Utilities Commission

To the
Senate Committee on
Ways and Means

February 18, 2025
10:01 a.m.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee:

Measure: S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1
Title: RELATING TO RENEWABLE GAS TARIFF.

Position:

The Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") offers the following comments for consideration.

Comments:

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to establish a renewable gas tariff.

Although the Commission understands desire to establish a renewable gas tariff to satisfy the immediate demand from customers who chose to receive service under a renewable gas tariff, the Commission believes that S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1 may not be the most efficient way to achieve that objective.

First, if there is immediate demand from numerous customers who wish to receive service under a renewable gas tariff, S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1's requirement that the "renewable gas tariff shall be based on the eligible customer's net therm usage" may prove challenging for the Commission because such a requirement may necessitate a separate tariff for each utility gas customer who wishes to receive service under a renewable gas tariff. Each utility gas customer is going to have their own unique net therm usage. As an example, if a dozen customers elect to receive service under a renewable gas tariff, a dozen different renewable gas tariffs may need to be established.

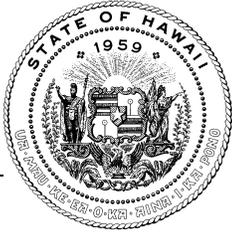
Second, the definition of "Net therm usage" in S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1 creates additional difficulties when the Commission is attempting to establish a renewable gas tariff because the ambiguity of the "designated time period" during which a customer uses gas provides little guidance as to how much of the customer's gas usage the Commission must consider when determining the appropriate rate for a renewable gas tariff.

Third, the Commission is concerned that six months may not be enough time for the Commission to establish an appropriate rate for renewable gas that is just, reasonable, and in the public interest. Ratemaking is a careful and deliberate exercise in balancing the interests of many stakeholders to determine a just and reasonable rate that is in the public interest. Consequently, there are many procedural constraints that affect the Commission's schedule over which the Commission has little or no control. These may include public hearing requirements and the provision of sufficient time for any interested persons or entities to intervene or participate in the proceeding, each of which reduces the amount of time within S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1's six-month window for the Commission to conduct any investigation of its own or to deliberate. While the Commission appreciates the desire for a quick and timely decision, an overly prescriptive deadline for a Commission decision, especially for a novel issue such as a renewable gas tariff, may impair the Commission's ability to effectively perform its statutory duties.

Consequently, the Commission believes that implementing a renewable gas tariff via a general rate case is preferable than through S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1. A general rate case is a well-understood process that would afford the Commission with the opportunity to comprehensively consider a gas utility's operations and allocate the cost of renewable gas service to a renewable gas tariff and the impact of non-renewable gas service on other appropriate tariffs. The Commission would also be able to examine the net therm usages both for customers who desire renewable gas service and customers who do not wish such renewable gas service during a general rate case, and design rates for both of these customer classes that align with their relative cost contribution. While the Commission appreciates that S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1 instructs the Commission to not increase rates for other customers as a consequence of establishing a renewable gas tariff, the Commission notes that it may be necessary to reduce revenues collected from non-renewable gas customers to compensate for the additional revenue that a renewable gas tariff would generate, particularly if renewable gas service is provided utilizing the same assets and infrastructure as those used to provide non-renewable gas service. Implementing a renewable gas tariff via a general rate case would also preserve S.B. No. 1220, S.D. 1's desire for a timely Commission decision as the Commission is statutorily bound by HRS § 269-16(d) to issue an interim decision in a general rate case within ten months of the filing of a completed rate application.

Should the Committee decide to move forward with this bill, the Commission respectfully requests that amendments be made to: (1) clarify whether each gas customer seeking renewable gas service would require their own renewable gas tariff or if the Commission can establish a general renewable gas tariff; (2) specify the "designated time period" used in the definition of the term "Net therm usage"; (3) specify that the Commission's review period starts after the filing of a completed application for a proposed renewable gas tariff; and (4) change the six month deadline to a nine month deadline, which would comport with the statutory deadline found in HRS § 269-16(d).

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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

Telephone: (808) 451-6648
Web: energy.hawaii.gov

JOSH GREEN, M.D.
GOVERNOR

SYLVIA LUKE
LT. GOVERNOR

MARK B. GLICK
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

Testimony of
MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer

before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

Tuesday, February 18, 2025
10:01 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 and Videoconference

In Support of
SB 1220, SD1

RELATING TO RENEWABLE GAS TARIFF.

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 1220, SD1, which requires gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025, and the Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff.

This measure is consistent with renewable energy, economic diversification, and climate change objectives. It recognizes the potential for increased amounts of renewable energy to be incorporated into Hawaii's utility gas supplies in a manner that will enable investment in locally-sourced feedstocks and sources, encourage the development of local markets, and protect other customers from rate increases.

The gas utility in Hawai'i, Hawaii Gas, has long led the nation in hydrogen and renewable natural gas (RNG) integration, laudable achievements. Remaining a leader requires continued progress in this sector for which a renewable gas tariff is a natural step to reasonably pursue HRS §225P State decarbonization goals and provide customer choice to participate in renewable energy that has long been afforded to electric utility customers. A renewable gas tariff has been a topic of discussion in the Hawaii Gas Integrated Resource Plan (IRP) and is a concept that HSEO supports.

LATE

HSEO offers the following comment that the language starting on page 3, line 2 "...the proposed tariff does not increase rates for other customers,..." be revised. The purpose of 225P is to address climate change, and §225P-5 (b) states that "After January 1, 2020, agency plans, decisions, and strategies shall give consideration to the impact of those plans, decisions, and strategies on the State's ability to achieve the goals in this section,...". The costs from the "...impacts of global warming and climate change, including rising sea levels, temperatures, and other risk factors..." may not show up in gas rates; however, they could still impact the costs to gas customers due to those risk factors. The language could unnecessarily restrict the consideration of those issues in the development of a tariff, in conflict with §225P-5 (b) which provides direction to State agencies that "After January 1, 2020, agency plans, decisions, and strategies shall give consideration to the impact of those plans, decisions, and strategies on the State's ability to achieve the goals in this section...".

Acknowledging that there is value in establishing a voluntary, pilot-scale tariff in the near term that could simplify the initial stages of the increased production and use of new sources of renewable gas, and that later rate cases or tariffs may benefit from flexibility to incorporate a more comprehensive, holistic approach, HSEO suggests the following revision to the language that starts on page 3, line 14:

initial [~~or revised~~] renewable gas tariff or tariffs no later than six months after the filing of a proposed initial renewable gas tariff; provided that the initial renewable gas tariff shall not increase rates for other customers...

In addition, HSEO suggests that language be added to the preamble of SB1220, SD1, referencing Hawai'i's decarbonization and clean energy goals, to provide important context to the measure. HSEO stands ready to work with the legislature to craft such language.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



TESTIMONY TO THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
10:01 AM, FEBRUARY 18, 2025
Conference Room 211 & Via Videoconference

SB1220 SD1

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Moriwaki, and Members of the Committee,

Hawaii Gas appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in strong support of SB1220 SD1, which requires gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff.

Environmentally conscious customers are seeking the option to purchase renewable gas through a renewable gas tariff. However, current regulations require a general rate case to create a renewable gas tariff, a process costing \$2–3 million and taking an average of two years—even when there is unanimous support and agreement. Because these costs ultimately fall to customers, gas utilities try to maintain stable rates by filing rate cases only every 4–6 years. As the gas utility is already in a rate case, the next filing would not occur until around 2030, delaying access to renewable gas options.

This legislation provides a faster, more cost-effective way to establish a renewable gas tariff, using existing Hawaii statutes and administrative rules. It does not bypass any existing requirements but accelerates the process for timely approval:

- 1. Prompt Utility Filing**
Gas utilities must file a proposed renewable gas tariff with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by August 31, 2025, for customers who choose to opt-in based on monthly consumption tiers usage.
- 2. Prompt PUC Review**
The PUC must review and rule on the proposed tariff within **six months**.
- 3. Protect Other Ratepayers**
The streamlined process can only be used if the new tariff is a) **voluntary** and b) **does not** raise rates for other customers.
- 4. Maintain Existing Standards**
The proposal must still meet the established “just, reasonable, and in the public interest” standard under **Hawaii Administrative Rules Section 16-601-111**. The PUC retains authority to approve or deny.
- 5. Advance Renewable Energy Goals**
Faster approval of renewable gas tariffs supports Hawaii’s broader environmental and climate objectives.



Hawaii Gas stands ready to submit a voluntary renewable gas tariff by August 31, 2025, ensuring no rate impact on other customers and allowing the PUC to complete its review within six months. We look forward to collaborating with the PUC and other stakeholders to achieve our shared sustainability goals.

We urge the Committee to pass this important legislation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS
Tuesday, February 18, 2025 — 10:01 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative supports SB 1220 SD 1, Relating to Renewable Gas Tariff.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Mariah Yoshizu, and I am the Government Affairs Associate at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food, renewable energy and clean transportation choices, and better management of freshwater resources.

Ulupono supports SB 1220 SD 1, which requires gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by August 31, 2025, and requires the PUC to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff.

A renewable gas tariff will enable customers to choose a cleaner energy option, supporting consumer demand for sustainable alternatives while providing a regulatory framework that ensures just and reasonable rates. By setting a clear timeline for PUC review and approval, SB 1220 helps prevent unnecessary delays in implementing a critical component of Hawai'i's decarbonization strategy.

Importantly, the bill ensures that renewable gas tariffs do not lead to increased costs for non-participating ratepayers, maintaining equity in the energy transition.

Hawai'i has long been a leader in renewable energy, and the establishment of a renewable gas tariff aligns with the State's broader efforts to achieve carbon neutrality and energy resilience. This measure not only supports local renewable gas development but also enhances energy security by diversifying our fuel sources.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Mariah Yoshizu
Government Affairs Associate

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



LATE

February 17, 2025

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Comments in Support of SB 1220, SD1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE GAS TARIFFS (Requires gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025. Requires the Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff. Effective 7/1/2050. [SD1])

**Tuesday, February 18, 2025, 10:01 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference**

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, and utility companies. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational, and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth, housing, and renewable energy, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural, cultural, and agricultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support for SB 1220, SD1.**

SB 1220, SD1. This bill proposes to require gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") by August 31, 2025; and requires the Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff.

The stated purpose of this measure is to require gas utility companies to promptly file renewable gas tariffs with the public utilities commission for review and approval; provided that the public utilities commission completes its review within six months of the filing of a proposed renewable gas tariff, the proposed tariff does not increase rates for other customers, and the public utilities commission finds the tariff to be just, reasonable, and in the public interest.

LURF's Position. LURF and its members support all forms of renewable energy and over the past century, our members have led the state, and in some cases, the nation, in renewable energy research, development, installation, generation, and transmission of renewable energy, including hydrogen and Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) integration.

Gas has long been Hawaii's lifeline during storms, hurricanes, inclement weather, wildfires, and power outages. The definition of "Renewable Energy" in §269-91, Hawaii Revised Statutes, includes biogas, biomass, biofuels and hydrogen, and over the past decade, Hawaii has recognized that renewable gas is part of the renewable energy "toolbox" that will help Hawaii achieve its decarbonization goals and provide customer choices to participate in renewable energy.

LURF understands that the Commission's existing regulatory process requires gas utility companies to file an application for a renewable gas tariff with the Commission, which then makes a decision on the application through the process of a general rate case, which could take as long as two years to complete and could cost customers between two and three million dollars.

SB 1220, SD1 represents a thoughtful and balanced approach to accelerating renewable energy deployment while upholding a regulatory framework of rigorous regulatory standards and consumer protections. By retaining the Commission's robust review and making the process more efficient, this measure could support Hawaii's leadership in transitioning to a sustainable, carbon-free future.

For the above reasons, LURF **supports SB 1220, SD1**, and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this measure.

TESTIMONY ON SB1220, RELATING TO
A RENEWABLE GAS TARIFF

Position: **Support**

To the Honorable Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair; Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair; and Members of the Committee:

Please accept this testimony in **support** of the proposed measure

We support this measure, to direct and facilitate the speedy establishment of a tariff for renewable gas sold by the regulated gas utility in Hawai'i. It's prudent measure to help ratepayers who want to voluntarily pay more for renewable fuel, be able to do so from the gas utility, and do it more quickly and transparently. It is important to note that **passing this measure does not increase cost for either ratepayers or taxpayers**. In fact, **it reduces cost for ratepayers**, when compared to the traditional multi-year, multi-million dollar in recoverable costs of the rate-making process at the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

We appreciate the opportunity to testify on this measure, and urge your support for this bill.

Mahalo,



Joelle Simonpietri
President

About Simonpietri Enterprises LLC

Simonpietri Enterprises is a Kailua, Hawaii-based woman- and veteran-owned small business with ten employees, focused on technical innovation and first-of-kind project development of emerging clean and renewable technologies since 2006. Simonpietri Enterprises has helped industrial companies in Hawaii, the continental U.S., Australia, and Canada clean up their act by reducing waste, increasing recycling, switching from fossil to renewable fuel manufacturing and use, and replacing traditional high-pollution processes with newer and more efficient ones for nearly 20 years. Since launching the Aloha Carbon waste-to-fuel technical development process in August 2020, Simonpietri Enterprises is now developing renewable fuel production facilities in its own right, starting with the Aloha Sustainable Materials Recycling and Fertilizer Facility (SMRFF) in Kapolei, Hawaii to divert wastes generated in Honolulu from landfilling and transform the waste to renewable fuel, organic fertilizer, and recycled-material building products. The SMRFF is a small pilot plant, intended to facilitate scaling up to the Aloha Carbon renewable fuel production facility. Aloha Carbon is designed to divert 500 tons per day of waste from landfilling, and convert it to renewable fuels, starting with green hydrogen and renewable natural gas, then expanding to sustainable aviation fuel. To properly develop the SMRFF and Aloha Carbon projects, we embarked on four years of community engagement and input from the West O'ahu community to inform

the project's siting, scale, scope, and products. We asked for and received hundreds of survey responses, conducted several dozen stakeholder interviews, and provided over half a dozen Neighborhood Board and Environmental Justice committee briefings, for two-way information flow to inform the community and also have the community inform our projects. We made the Aloha SMRFF's Environmental Assessment available for public input for a full year, in order to ensure transparency to, and solicit input from, the community. This effort concluded with 100% public comments in support of the project, a unanimous vote of support from the Makakilo-Kapolei Neighborhood Board at their September 2024 meeting to site the plant in their jurisdiction, and acceptance of the Environmental Assessment by the City and County of Honolulu with a Finding of No Significant Impact in January 2025.



LATE

Hawaii Resource Strategy Group, LLC supports SB 1220 SD 1, Relating to Renewable Gas Tariff

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki and Members of the Committee:

My name is George Morvis, and I am the CEO of Hawaii Resource Strategy Group, LLC (HIRSG). HIRSG is a provider of management consulting and strategic advisory services in Hawaii focused on the clean energy, infrastructure and land stewardship submarkets. Additional information on HIRSG and its principals is available at www.hirsg.com.

Over the past 15 years, commencing with work on behalf of a large Hawaii landowner, through my tenure with Hawaii Gas' prior parent company (which ended in late 2018), and continuing through HIRSG's experience advising clients throughout the US on renewable energy and infrastructure issues, I have examined the potential for the production and utilization of renewable gas in the Hawaii market, and believe it can play an important role in achieving the State's energy and decarbonization goals. To be clear, while I have served on the Hawaii Gas board in the past, I have not served in such a capacity in the prior five years and HIRSG does not provide consulting services to Hawaii Gas nor its owners.

HIRSG supports SB 1220 SD 1, which requires gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by August 31, 2025, and requires the PUC to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff. HIRSG believes that a renewable gas tariff will enable customers to choose a cleaner energy option, supporting consumer demand for sustainable alternatives while providing a regulatory framework that ensures just and reasonable rates and facilitating the development of renewable gas resources in our State. By setting a clear timeline for PUC review and approval, SB 1220 will also facilitate faster implementation of a critical component of Hawai'i's decarbonization strategy.

HIRSG thanks the Committee for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this measure and respectfully requests your favorable consideration.



LATE

CLIMATE FUTURE FORUM

Date: February 17th 2025
To: Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Moriwaki, Vice Chair
Members of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means (WAM)
From: Climate Future Forum
Re: **SUPPORT for SB1220 SD1**
Hearing: **2/18/25 10:01A**

On behalf of the Climate Future Forum, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of SB1220 SD1, which represents a critical step toward accelerating Hawaii's transition to a clean energy future by requiring gas utility companies to establish a renewable gas tariff. This legislation ensures that customers who wish to purchase renewable gas have a viable and regulated option while maintaining just and reasonable rates for all consumers.

Transitioning away from imported fossil fuels is essential to meeting Hawaii's ambitious climate goals and strengthening the state's energy resilience. SB1220 directly supports this transition by requiring gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by August 31, 2025, and by mandating that the PUC complete its review within six months. This structured approach ensures that renewable gas options become available in a timely manner, reducing uncertainty and delays that have historically slowed clean energy adoption.

The importance of establishing a renewable gas tariff cannot be overstated. Customers, including businesses and households, are increasingly seeking sustainable energy solutions that align with their environmental values. By enabling access to renewable gas, SB1220 empowers consumers to make climate-conscious choices. Moreover, this bill ensures that the transition to renewable gas does not impose additional financial burdens on ratepayers, thereby maintaining equity and affordability in the energy market.

At the Climate Future Forum, many youth participants, and community members have expressed concerns about the state's reliance on fossil fuels and the slow pace of transition to cleaner alternatives. Through our discussions, it is evident that there is strong public demand for policies that promote renewable gas options. SB1220 addresses these concerns by mandating a clear timeline for action and holding utilities accountable for integrating renewable gas into their offerings.

As a young person advocating for Hawaii's sustainable future, I urge the legislature to pass SB1220 to ensure that our state continues to lead in climate action. This bill is a necessary step toward decarbonizing Hawaii's energy sector, supporting economic investment in renewable technologies, and providing consumers with the choice to opt for cleaner energy sources.

Hawaii has long been at the forefront of climate leadership, and SB1220 reaffirms our commitment to a sustainable, resilient, and equitable energy future. By passing this bill, the state can take a meaningful step toward reducing its carbon footprint and ensuring that all residents have access to renewable energy options.

Thank you very much for your support of youth engagement in climate policy. We respectfully request that you pass SB1220 to accelerate Hawaii's transition to renewable energy.

Sincerely,
Tahan Bapna
Youth Leader of the Hawai'i Climate Future Forum

February 18, 2025

Senate Committee on Ways and Means
Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair
Senator Sharon Y. Morioka, Vice Chair



Working together for Kapolei

Tuesday, February 18, 2025
10:01 a.m. Conference Room #221 and via videoconference



RE: SB1220 SD1 – Relating to Renewable Gas Tarriff

Dear Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Morioka, members of the Committees,

My name is Kiran Polk, and I am the Executive Director & CEO of the Kapolei Chamber of Commerce. The Kapolei Chamber of Commerce is an advocate for businesses in the Kapolei region including Waipahu, Kapolei, 'Ewa Beach, Nānakūli, Wai'anae and Mākaha. The Chamber works on behalf of its members and the business community to improve the regional and State economic climate and help West O'ahu businesses thrive. We are a member-driven, member-supported organization representing the interests of all types of business: small, medium or large, for profit or non-profit businesses or sole proprietorship.

The Kapolei Chamber of Commerce **supports SB1220 SD1** that requires gas utility companies to submit proposed renewable gas tariffs to the Public Utilities Commission by August 31, 2025 and the Public Utilities Commission to establish a renewable gas tariff within six months of receiving a proposed renewable gas tariff.

This measure takes a strategic and balanced approach to advancing renewable energy while maintaining strong regulatory oversight and consumer protections. By streamlining processes and eliminating unnecessary delays, this measure reinforces Hawaii's commitment to a sustainable, carbon-free future.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide testimony.

Respectfully,

Kiran Polk
Executive Director & CEO