

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
P. O. Box 3378
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

WRITTEN
TESTIMONY ONLY

**Testimony COMMENTING on SB 2629, SD2, HD1 PROPOSED
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE E. LOWEN, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Hearing Date: 6/22/2020

Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Economic and operational impacts on the sole coal-burning facility in the
2 State of Hawaii and potential effects on Oahu electricity costs.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (Department) offers the following
4 comments on this bill that proposes to prohibit the issuance or renewal of an air pollution control
5 permit to a coal-fired, electricity generating source beyond December 31, 2022.

6 The Department supports the bill's goals to reduce mercury and greenhouse gas (GHG)
7 emissions in striving for clean and renewable energy for Hawaii. The bill aligns with long term
8 power supply improvement plans for Oahu to convert to cleaner/renewable sources of energy such
9 as photovoltaic and wind energy, and supports Hawaii's 100 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard
10 and 2045 carbon neutrality goals. Coal naturally contains mercury, a neurotoxin which can make
11 its way into the soil and water. The GHG emissions from burning coal contribute to climate change
12 and sea level rise. Fugitive dust and particulate matter concerns related to the handling and
13 processing of coal, as well as the transfer of coal ash to the PVT landfill, would also be eliminated
14 with the passage of this bill.

15 The primary goal of the bill is to reduce emissions of mercury and greenhouse gas (GHG)
16 emissions by preventing the use of coal. The single affected facility in Hawaii burns coal with
17 low mercury levels and uses multiple technologies that includes particulate collection air
18 pollution control systems to minimize mercury emissions to the atmosphere, demonstrating
19 compliance with federal and state air quality standards. The level of mercury emissions per

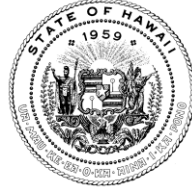
1 MWhr (Megawatt-hour) from this facility is ranked as the fourth highest among the largest
2 power generating plants statewide. The facility also generates GHG emissions at a rate per
3 MWhr of electricity production that is the fourth highest among Hawaii's largest power
4 producers.

5 Clean Air Branch's regulatory review of any air permit application is based on a source
6 meeting state and federal air standards and regulations. The review compares the proposed
7 source emissions to a set of limits or requirements that set an objective standard (e.g., state and
8 federal air quality standards) for approving or denying the permit. All facilities are required to
9 demonstrate compliance with these standards before an air permit is approved. This bill would
10 modify this approach and restrict permitting based on fuel type.

11 The Department supports replacement of Oahu's coal and other fossil fuel generated
12 electrical power with cleaner sources of energy, and the Hawaiian Electric Power Supply
13 Improvement Plan shows numerous additional clean energy sources (e.g., photovoltaic, wind,
14 etc.) will be added to Oahu's power supply in the future. However, the Department cautions that
15 should the energy shortfall from elimination of coal fueled power generation have to be met by
16 other existing power plants on Oahu, there may be little or no reduction realized, as other large
17 electric generating stations may emit comparable or even greater emissions.

18 **Offered Amendments:** None.

19 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN
LT. GOVERNOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310
P.O. BOX 541
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809
Phone Number: 586-2850
Fax Number: 586-2856
cca.hawaii.gov

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

**Before the
Senate Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Monday, June 22, 2020
9:30 a.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**On the following measure:
S.B. 2629, S.D. 2, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

WRITTEN TESTIMONY ONLY

Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dean Nishina, and I am the Executive Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department appreciates the intent of and offers comments on this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to prohibit the: (1) issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022; and (2) approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

This bill may not be necessary because, as recognized in section 1, the term of Hawaiian Electric Company's power purchase agreement with the AES Hawaii Power Plant will conclude in 2022, and Hawaiian Electric Company has publicly stated that it does not intend to extend the contract beyond the 2022 expiration. In support of that, Hawaiian Electric Company has initiated plans to replace that generation capacity

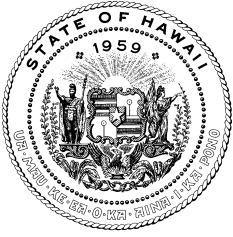
through other cleaner sources, such as the utility-scale combined photovoltaic and storage projects selected and approved by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) as part of phase 1 of Docket No. 2017-0352, as well as the recently selected projects that are part of phase 2 and pending Commission approval of that same docket. In addition, the Commission has continued to ensure that other sources of clean energy, such as distributed energy resources, are being pursued to transition Hawaii away from fossil fuels such as coal. The Commission has made clear that Hawaiian Electric must aggressively seek to pursue Hawaii's renewable portfolio standard goals. This guidance was very explicit in the Commission's guidance for both phases 1 and 2 of Docket No. 2017-0352, such as where the Commission required Hawaiian Electric to seek bids for a larger amount of capacity for Oahu to ensure that the new projects could replace the capacity that is currently provided by the AES Hawaii Power Plant. Thus, it is exceedingly unlikely that Hawaiian Electric Company or any other regulated electric utility company would pursue a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement with a coal facility of which the Consumer Advocate would recommend approval.

If, however, the Legislature wishes to pursue this measure to indicate Hawaii's commitment to clean energy, the Department suggests modifying the language to make clear that the Commission should not approve: (1) any power purchase agreement for a facility that relies entirely or partly on coal as a fuel source; or (2) the construction or purchase of any such facility. If this modification is not adopted, the utility could arguably purchase the existing facility or construct its own coal burning facility. The Legislature should also consider whether any housekeeping measures would be appropriate, such as the provision in Hawaii Revised Statutes section 243.35 that allows an independent power producer to pass on the coal tax to a purchasing utility company, to eliminate other statutory provisions that might facilitate a coal-burning electricity generating facility.

The Department also recommends that the Legislature require Hawaiian Electric Company to provide a report prior to the next legislative session to: (1) outline the progress on the procurement of cost-effective renewable energy for Oahu, such as both

phases from Docket No. 2017-0352 and distributed energy resources; and (2) assess whether sufficient capacity and reliability will be projected to be in place at the time the AES Hawaii Power Plant power purchase agreement is terminated, to ensure that Oahu will continue to have affordable and reliable electric services.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5TH Floor, Honolulu, HI 96813 | energy.hawaii.gov

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 587-3807

Testimony of
SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer

before the
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Monday, June 22, 2020
9:30 AM
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

In SUPPORT of
SB 2629, SD2 Proposed HD1
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and Members of the Committee, the Hawaii State Energy Office (HSEO) supports SB 2629, SD2 Proposed HD1, which prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after December 31, 2022 and prohibits an independent power producer from passing on the environmental response, energy, and food security tax onto a purchasing utility company.

The purpose of the HSEO is to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy. Decarbonizing the electric sector is essential for Hawaii to achieving the zero emissions clean economy target set forth in Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §225P-5 to sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than emitted within the State as quickly as practicable, but no later than 2045. On September 13, 2018 Governor Ige signed onto the Powering Past Coal Alliance, who came to an agreement that phasing out unabated coal power is one of the most important steps governments can take to tackle climate change and meet our commitment to keep global temperature increase well below 2°C, and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. For Hawaii, stationary combustion, which includes fuel combustion emissions from electric power plants and petroleum refineries, represents roughly 40% of greenhouse gas emissions¹ in the State. In addition, the State is actively pursuing the decarbonization of ground transportation through electrification. As ground transportation represents approximately 20% of the State's

¹ https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2019/12/2016-Inventory_Final-Report_December2019-1.pdf

greenhouse gas emissions², reducing the emission factor of electric generation is critical as the State's adoption of electric vehicles grows.

Hawaii is on a trajectory to retire coal fired generation. Adopting this legislation would further ensure that plans and efforts underway continue. The Hawaiian Electric Companies' (HECO) current Power Supply Improvement Plan (PSIP) was filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) on December 23, 2016 in Docket No. 2014-0183. The Commission accepted the PSIP, with conditions, on July 14, 2017 by Decision and Order No. 34696. In the PSIP, HECO state their intention to allow the existing power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal on Oahu to "expire without renewal" when it ends in 2022. HECO issued an RFP in response to Order No. 36474 issued on August 15, 2019 in Docket No. 2017-0352 to acquire dispatchable and renewable generation. In May 2020, HECO announced the selection of 16 projects, nine of which are on Oahu: [eight solar-plus-storage projects](#) and [one standalone storage project](#), totaling approximately 287 MW of generation and 1.8 GWh of storage. These projects in addition to the group of projects referred to as "Phase 1" and additional rooftop solar plus storage and other energy measures indicate that energy supply and contingency is expected to be sufficient for grid stability with the retirement and removal of the coal plant from the grid, however it is not unreasonable that questions remain about this.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.

² https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2019/12/2016-Inventory_Final-Report_December2019-1.pdf

TESTIMONY OF
JAMES P. GRIFFIN, Ph.D.
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

June 22, 2020
9:30 a.m.

Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

MEASURE: S.B. No. 2629 SD2 (Proposed HD1)
TITLE: RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT.

DESCRIPTION: Proposed HD1: Prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022. Prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020. Effective 7/1/2050.

POSITION:

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

COMMENTS:

The HECO Companies have previously stated their intention to allow the existing power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal on Oahu to “expire without renewal” when it ends in 2022 (see Power Supply Improvement Plan (“PSIP”) filed with the Commission on December 23, 2016 in Docket No. 2014-0183 at pages M-6 and M-34).

After the success of the HECO Companies’ Phase 1 request for proposals (RFP) for new renewable energy and storage projects across the HECO Companies’ service territories (Docket No. 2017-0352), the Commission directed the HECO Companies to expand Phase 2 substantially, in order to significantly boost the acquisition of renewable and dispatchable generation and help to enable the retirement of the AES coal-fired plant on schedule.

The HECO Companies announced on May 11, 2020 that they had selected sixteen solar-plus-storage or standalone storage projects through their Phase 2 RFP. The HECO Companies stated that the projects “could produce 460 megawatts of solar energy and nearly 3 gigawatt-hours of energy storage on Oahu, Maui and Hawaii Island. That would increase the total solar megawatts on the Hawaiian Electric system by more than 50 percent.” The Phase 2 RFPs also included an RFP for Grid Services, which will utilize customer-sited distributed energy resources to help to replace the essential grid services currently provided by the AES facility.

Although the HECO Companies did not procure the full solicitation amount of 1,300 GWh of energy for Oahu, preliminary analysis suggests that the combination of the completed Phase 1 and Phase 2 RFPs will likely be sufficient to make up for the current output of the AES facility. In addition, the Commission has significantly expanded additional programs, including the community-based renewable energy (CBRE) program (which will be expanded to a 235 MW maximum), and intends to expand other distributed energy resources (DER) and energy efficiency efforts. These expansions will help to cover any potential energy shortfall.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Hawaiian
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

S.B. 2629, SD2, PROPOSED HD1

Relating to the Environment

COMMENTS AND PROPOSED AMENDMENTS

Monday, June 22, 2020
9:30 a.m., Agenda Item #3
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Rebecca Dayhuff Matsushima
Director, Renewable Acquisition
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and Members of the Committee,

My name is Rebecca Dayhuff Matsushima and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (Hawaiian Electric), **offering proposed amendments and comments on S.B. 2629, SD2, Proposed HD1**, Relating to the Environment.

Hawaiian Electric currently has one contract for an independent power producer (AES Hawaii) to provide coal-fired generation and the contract for this facility is set to expire in September 2022. The Company has no plans to extend or renew the contract for this facility.

However, the Company does oppose the prohibition on the State of Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (“PUC”) from **modifying** any existing power purchase agreement after June 30, 2020. As noted above Hawaiian Electric has an existing contract with AES Hawaii to provide coal-fired generation. From time to time the Company may have a need to amend that contract as is normal in the course of a contract that spans decades.

The Company proposes that the PUC should be able to approve modifications to existing contracts for coal-fired generation on the condition that the modification not extend the term of the agreement or increase the amount of generation that is allowed to be produced under the contract. Such amendments would have a neutral effect or possibly could even lower the amount of coal burned between now and December 31, 2022. The Companies proposed modifying the S.B. 2629, SD2, Proposed HD1 in part to read (proposed language underline):

“269- Coal power purchase agreements; prohibited. Beginning after June 30, 2020, the public utilities commission shall not approve any new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement that proposes to burn or consume coal to generate electricity, except that the public utilities commission shall have the ability to modify existing power purchase agreements that propose to burn or consume coal to generate electricity as long as such modifications to not extend the term or increase the amount of generation that is allowed to be produced under the existing agreement.”

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**Written Statement of Elemental Excelerator
before the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection**

**In consideration of SB 2629 Proposed HD 1
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT**

June 22, 2020

**Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice-Chair Wildberger, and Members of the House Committee on
Energy and Environmental Protection:**

Elemental Excelerator respectfully submits our **support** of SB 2629 Proposed HD 1

1. Prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022.
2. Prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

Elemental Excelerator is a Honolulu-based non-profit organization that supports climate positive startup companies that are helping solve Hawai'i's most urgent environmental problems. Each year, we select 15-20 companies annually that best fit our mission and fund each company up to \$1 million. To date, we have awarded \$36 million to 99 companies resulting in 36 demonstration projects in Hawai'i & the Asia Pacific.

In April 2018, Elemental Excelerator commissioned a study entitled *Transcending Oil: Hawai'i's Path to a Clean Energy Economy*. The study found that in Hawai'i, transitioning to renewable energy is cheaper than sticking with fossil fuels like oil and coal. The faster we go, the cheaper it will be.

We support SB 2629 Proposed HD 1 for the following reasons:

1. **It aligns with Hawai'i's commitment to the Paris Climate Accord:** While Hawai'i is on track to meet its share of America's 2025 target under the Paris Agreement, the state needs to accelerate its clean energy transition and phase off its use of fossil fuels like coal and oil in order to maintain progress towards the Paris Agreement's long-term goals.
2. **It will increase investments in clean energy:** Transitioning off fossil fuels like coal can bring an additional \$2.9 billion in new investments for our state.¹

¹Larsen, J., Mohan, S., Herndon, W., Marsters, P., & Pitt, H. (2018, May 01). *Transcending Oil: Hawai'i's Path to a Clean Energy Economy*, p.22, Retrieved from <https://rhg.com/research/transcending-oil-hawaiis-path-to-a-clean-energy-economy/>

3. **It will provide thousands of new good-paying jobs:** By transitioning to clean energy and off of fossil fuels like coal, Hawai'i can create as many as 3,500 additional jobs that pay \$3-7 more per hour than Hawai'i's \$20 median wage.²
4. **It provides an opportunity for economic diversification through clean innovation:** Robust policy alignment with clean energy attracts innovation and positions Hawai'i to compete globally for talent and investment. To date, we've deployed over \$30 million in project based funding to support the deployment of 28 clean technology projects in Hawai'i.³

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this legislation.

Sincerely,

Tiffany Huynh

Tiffany Huynh
Director of External Affairs

² Transcending Oil, p. 1

³ Elemental Excelerator 2019 Impact Report



SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

June 22, 2020

9:30 AM

Room 325

In SUPPORT of SB2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **supports SB2629 Proposed HD1**, which prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022 and prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020. Mahalo nui to Chair Lowen for proposing this House amendment.

Not only is burning coal responsible for one third of US carbon emissions, but it is also leading to as many as 13,000 premature deaths every year and more than \$100 billion in annual health costs.¹ Several principal emissions result from coal combustion, including²:

- Sulfur dioxide (SO₂), which contributes to acid rain and respiratory illnesses
- Nitrogen oxides (NO_x), which contribute to smog and respiratory illnesses
- Particulates, which contribute to smog, haze, and respiratory illnesses and lung disease
- Carbon dioxide (CO₂), which is the primary greenhouse gas produced from burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas)
- Mercury and other heavy metals, which have been linked to both neurological and developmental damage in humans and other animals
- Fly ash and bottom ash, which are residues created when power plants burn coal

Hawai'i has only one coal-fired power plant remaining in service, it is the AES plant on O'ahu which has a power purchase agreement that is already set to expire in 2022. Passage of this bill ensures that Hawai'i will be "coal-free by 2023", solidifying plans to transition Hawai'i from dirty energy and encouraging AES and Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) to redirect its focus to clean energy and battery storage projects. We know that both AES and HECO are capable and pursuing large-scale clean energy projects throughout the state. Recently in April 2019, HECO solicited 900 megawatts of clean energy RFP's, including solar and wind generation and

¹ <https://content.sierraclub.org/coal/about-the-campaign>

² https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.php?page=coal_environment

renewables plus storage, in anticipation of the AES coal plant closure in 2022. Pending approval from the Public Utilities Commission, the first projects would come online by 2022.³

The closure of the coal plant is also an environmental justice and equity issue. Toxic coal ash produced for all O‘ahu ratepayers is currently being dumped at the PVT Landfill in Nānākuli, exposing workers and nearby communities to a wide range of health risks. Public health needs to be a priority and no single community should suffer the burden of our energy or waste management facilities. It is time to end the use of coal in Hawai‘i to address this burden on our westside neighbors.

SB2629 Proposed HD1 furthers Hawai‘i’s commitment to 100% clean energy by 2045 and sets another example of the legislature’s leadership to mitigate the harmful effects of climate change in a way that is equitable and just.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in **support of SB2629 Proposed HD1**.



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

June 22, 2020, 9:30 A.M.

Room 325

(Testimony is 2 pages long)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 2629 SD2 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the Committee:

Blue Planet Foundation **strongly supports the Proposed HD1 to SB 2629**, committing Hawai'i to a future free of climate-changing coal burning by prohibiting the permitting of coal power plants after 2022. This measure ensures that Hawai'i stays on track to achieve a 100% clean energy future while signaling to the globe that Hawai'i is serious about its carbon pollution.

COAL IS A CLIMATE AND HEALTH DISASTER

Coal is the single largest contributor to the human-made increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Coal, which is primarily carbon, remains a major fuel in global energy systems, accounting for almost 40% of electricity generation and more than 40% of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions.¹ In Hawai'i, the coal-fired power plant on O'ahu (the only coal power plant in the state) is the second largest point source of the state's carbon dioxide emissions. **In 2018, the coal power plant released nearly 3.1 billion pounds of carbon pollution into the atmosphere.**²

According to the International Energy Agency, to have a 50% chance of staying within 2 degrees Celsius of global warming (the high end of the temperature target set by the Paris Climate Agreement), only zero carbon utilities and infrastructure should be developed going forward, and coal should be completely eliminated. The burning of coal is simply incompatible with a stable climate and continued civilization.

When coal is burned it releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants. These include mercury, lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulates, and various other heavy metals. Although limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have helped prevent some of these toxic emissions, the future of these protections remains unclear under the current White House administration. Health impacts from coal emissions include asthma and breathing difficulties, brain damage, heart problems, cancer, neurological disorders, and premature death. **Globally, coal is estimated to cause 800,000 premature deaths every year.**

¹ International Energy Agency, *Coal 2019*, <https://www.iea.org/reports/coal-2019>.

² EPA, *Emissions & Generation Resource Integrated Database (eGRID)*, <https://www.epa.gov/energy/emissions-generation-resource-integrated-database-egrid>.

THE GLOBE IS WAKING UP TO THE DANGERS OF COAL

Given the extreme dangers of coal to climate and health, other nations are taking action.

Twenty countries have pledged to phase out coal power before 2030, including Angola, Austria, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niue, Portugal, and Switzerland. In 2013, the head of the UN climate agency advised that most of the world's coal reserves should be left in the ground to avoid catastrophic global warming.

COAL PLAYS NO ROLE IN HAWAI'I'S CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

Carbon-intensive coal power is antithetical to Hawai'i's 100% clean energy future. Burning coal is at odds with Hawai'i's pledge to achieve the Paris Climate Agreement objectives and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. None of the current utility plans to achieve Hawai'i's 100% renewable portfolio standard include coal-fired electricity. Further, the large coal-burning power plant is slow to start and difficult to ramp its electricity production up and down, making it challenging to pair with a small and increasingly variable island electricity grid.

The current power purchase agreement between the coal power plant's owner, AES, and Hawaiian Electric is set to expire in 2022. The utility currently has no plans to extend or renew the contract. What's more, AES has committed to transitioning to low-carbon sources, pledging to reduce the carbon intensity of its power plants 70% by 2030.

Hawai'i's renewable energy transition is happening at lower costs than previously anticipated. Last year, Hawaiian Electric submitted power purchase contracts to the Public Utilities Commission for solar plus storage projects that will provide electricity at nearly half the cost of traditional fossil fuel power plants. **The two lowest cost energy projects—both providing stored solar energy at 8 cents per kilowatt-hour—are owned by coal-plant owner AES.**

OTHERS ARE FOLLOWING HAWAI'I'S LEAD ON CLEAN ENERGY

Hawai'i has emerged as a leader on clean energy policy, adopting a number of bold, first-in-the-nation targets that have helped inspire other states to take similar action. Hawai'i was the first state in the country to adopt a 100% renewable energy requirement for electricity by 2045 (Act 97 of 2015), and California adopted a similar law in 2018. Hawai'i has also pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 (Act 15 of 2018), another first in the nation. **Hawai'i has the opportunity to be a national leader by setting an expiration date on coal in Hawai'i.**

We respectfully request that the Committee forward the Proposed HD1 to SB 2629, amended to take effect upon approval.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



183 Pinana St., Kailua, HI 96734 • 808-262-1285 • info@350Hawaii.org

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
From: Sherry Pollack, Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org
Date: June 22, 2020, 9:30am

In strong support of SB2629 HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the EEP Committee:

I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org **strongly supports** putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **strong support** of this very important bill.

Sherry Pollack
350Hawaii.org

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/20/2020 12:45:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lucy Fagan	Hawaii Youth Climate Coalition	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair and Committee,

My name is Lucy Fagan and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaii Youth Climate Coalition. I am a 16 year old currently living in Kaimuki and am a part of a group of students concerned about the environment and focused on youth advocacy called Hawaii Youth Climate Coalition (HYCC). HYCC would like to voice its support for SB 2629, specifically the HD1 version that doesn't allow the state to extend Hawaii's Coal plant contracts past 2023.

Hawaii has proved over and over again it is committed to help create a safe eco-friendly future for its inhabitants. For instance Hawaii committed to 100% renewable energy by 2045, an important goal if we want to see our islands prosper well into the future. SB 2629 HD1 will help us continue down this path. Coal hurts our island from the beginning of its production to its end. Coal must first be sent here building an unhealthy reliance on imports and further polluting our oceans. We must be able to rely on ourselves and renewables ensure that. Coal is then burned which creates pollution that not only warms our earth but also puts Hawaii's already underrepresented and disadvantaged populations at risk even further. We must not support coal any longer and take a stand against those systems that year after year harm Hawaii's communities. In the past weeks we have seen a continued rise from the public to end those systems that oppress and harm and we must carry that same energy towards every aspect of policy and ending our coal consumption is a part of that. Coal's detrimental journey doesn't just end at burning either but continues even further. Coal ash is dumped in our landfills and contributes to polluting the Waiane coast, hurting the land and those who live near it. Due to the vast amount of harm coal brings to our island it seems clear that we must allow it to come to an end.

We urge that you allow Hawaii the opportunity to convert its electrical use to a way that helps us stand stronger on our own. That our future reflects the values the people of Hawaii hold close to our hearts. Our environment and our people must come first and this bill is an important step in that direction. Thank you for considering this bill and bettering our island home.



SB 2629, SD 2, HD1, RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT (PROPOSED)

JUNE 22, 2020 · HOUSE ENERGY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE ·
CHAIR REP. NICOLE E. LOWEN

POSITION: Support.

RATIONALE: IMUA Alliance supports the proposed draft of SB 2629, SD 2, HD 1, relating to the environment, which prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022 and prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding. Additionally, an estimated \$19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring, like seawalls.

Furthermore, according to research conducted by Michael B. Gerrard from Columbia Law School, modern-day slavery tends to increase after natural disasters or conflicts where large numbers of people are displaced from their homes. In the decades to come, says Gerrard, **climate change**

will very likely lead to a significant increase in the number of people who are displaced and, thus vulnerable, to human trafficking. While the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015 established objectives to limit global temperature increases and several international agreements are aimed at combating modern-day slavery, it is highly uncertain whether they will be adequate to cope with the scale of the problem that is likely to occur as a result of climate change.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area—one-third of which is designated for urban use—without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Accordingly, our state must stop using coal to generate energy. There is no such thing as clean coal. Coal-fired power generation continues to be the single largest source of carbon emissions, accounting for 30 percent of all energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, according to the International Energy Agency. Coal is also the single largest source of global temperature increase, according to the IEA.

Moreover, the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's "Special Report on 1.5 Degrees Celsius," released in 2018, found that limiting the Earth's warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, believed to be a threshold to avert the most devastating effects of climate change by many scientists, would entail completely eliminating the use of coal for electricity on a global scale.

Coal is currently used to generate electricity on the island of O'ahu at the AES Hawai'i Power Plant in Kapolei. Yet, the power purchase agreement between AES and the Hawaiian Electric Company is set to expire in 2022. HECO has already declared that it does not intend to extend the contract because the 180-megawatt power plant is inflexible and ill-suited for a small island electricity grid that increasingly relies on renewable energy.

Hawai'i is a national and global leader in clean energy policy and generation. To maintain that status and advance our community's efforts to combat climate change, we must abolish coal from our state's energy supply and electrical grids.

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/19/2020 7:17:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Emma Reed	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/19/2020 7:22:41 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Amaya Hirata	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Amaya Hirata from Big Island. I am 17 years old.

I support the HD1 Amendment. I believe making Hawaii coal free will better our community. Often the ash from burning coal ends up in our citizens homes. As a citizen of Hawaii, I believe we should have clean air for our keiki. Cleaner air, to me equals happier communities and happier environments! Hawaii is paradise and we should not take for granted our beautiful land and clean air. Make Hawaii coal free before it is too late!

Mahalo,

Amaya Hirata

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/19/2020 7:23:21 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Echo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

My name is Echo Hirata, a 17 year old living on Big Island Hawaii. I am in support of the HD1 Amendment. HD1 will help with plans of reducing carbon emissions and helping Hawaii's environment and community. With current plans and actions of burning coal, we are poisoning our homes and land and if we don't do anything about it, it will get worst. For the betterment of our community and environment, I am in strong support of HD1 Amendment.

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/19/2020 7:24:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Samantha Steenhuis	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

My name is Samantha and I am from Hawaii Kai.

I am in support of the HD1 amendment because of the detriment that coal does to the environment and whom it affects. Coal is an unsustainable resource and releases more toxic gas into the atmosphere than any other energy source. Furthermore, the ash is duped in Nanakuli, which harms local islander communities. Please make our island coal free!

Mahalo

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/20/2020 5:29:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 9:14:50 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
laurel brier	Kauai women's caucus	Support	No

Comments:

We must end the use of coal immediately if we are serious about reducing our GHG and addressing the Climate Crisis.

Thank you for taking action



Young Progressives Demanding Action
P.O. Box 11105
Honolulu, HI 96828

June 22, 2020
9:30 AM

TO: House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
RE: Testimony in Support of SB2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a Junior at the University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa, and I serve as the Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair for the Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA). YPDA advocates for public policies that reflect the values of young people throughout the State of Hawai‘i. One of those values is that in order to meaningfully deal with the climate crisis, we need to divest our society completely from fossil fuels, including coal. YPDA is in **Support of SB2629 Proposed HD1**, Relating to the Environment. We appreciate the committee’s willingness to keep the discussion going on this important issue for the future of our planet.

Burning coal is harmful to the environment. It contributes heavily to greenhouse gas emissions and as the Union of Concerned Scientists have pointed out, “When coal is burned it releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants. They include mercury, lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulates, and various other heavy metals. Health impacts can range from asthma and breathing difficulties, to brain damage, heart problems, cancer, neurological disorders, and premature death.”¹ This is not only an environmental issue, but a public health issue as well. In the face of a climate crisis, the current model of doing business is simply not sustainable.

The power purchase agreement between AES Hawaii Power Plant (Our last coal power plant) and Hawaiian Electric Company is set to expire in 2022. AES had come out in May and agreed to [reduce its carbon-emissions](#), let's hold them to this statement by passing this measure and putting us on the right track. We need to let that agreement naturally come to an end as originally intended and begin 2023 right. Hawai‘i is already setting an example with its goal of being powered by 100% renewable energy by 2045. AES can help make a meaningful

¹ <https://www.ucsusa.org/clean-energy/coal-impacts>

contribution to our future by following through on their commitment to scale down their coal-burning, and turn to clean energy projects that will actually work with and not circumvent communities. If we are to take on climate change and its catastrophic effects on our society, economy, and natural resources, clean and renewable energy will be very important.

While talking about clean energy and the environment, we simply cannot forget the social and economic justice components involved in this permit application. Toxic coal ash is being sent to the PVT Landfill in Nānākuli, joining a stockpile of other materials burned by the AES Hawaii Power Plant. This creates a public health crisis for both the plant workers and residents, which becomes even more concerning as the PVT Landfill is only 750ft from residential areas and schools where people raise families and go to learn. The West Side cannot continue to be unfairly burdened and we need to support removing these polluters. These communities must not be left behind, and their concerns for their surrounding environment should not be ignored. A green future is one in which disenfranchised communities are able to fully participate in and prosper in a transition to a clean and green economy.

Young Progressives Demanding Action is in **Support** of **SB2629 Proposed HD1**. Please pass it out of your committee.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,
Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair
Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA)
Cell: 808-255-6663
Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com
CC: action@ypdahawaii.org

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 6:04:35 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sylvia Dolena	Pele Lani Farm LLC	Support	No

Comments:

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Sylvia Dolena

Pele Lani Farm LLC

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 3:03:46 PM
Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
De Austin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the EEP Committee,

I strongly support SB2629 Proposed HD1 to end the use of coal in Hawai'i by 2023.

Passing this bill brings Hawai'i closer towards our clean energy goals and helps to address environmental justice issues, as the burning coal and dumping of toxic coal ash unfairly burdens O'ahu's westside communities.

The last coal fired power plant has a contract that is already set to expire in 2022.

Please support SB2629 Proposed HD1 and make Hawai'i coal-free by 2023.

Thank you,

Dezireen Austin

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 4:37:20 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jesse Palmer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Mahalo, Jesse Palmer

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 4:42:06 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
tlaloc tokuda	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: **Tlaloc Tokuda**

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020, 9:30 am

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

I am your constituent and one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii. 350 urges all to keep fossil fuels in the ground.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here. HECO seems to have embraced renewables by their many large PV installations on all islands

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
From: Brodie Lockard
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020, 9:30 AM

LATE

In strongest support of SB 2629 SD2, Proposed HD1

Dear Chair Lowen, and members:

My support for SB 2629 SD2, Proposed HD1 could not be stronger.

Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel and the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the world. It's hideous that it's still being used to make electricity anywhere, especially in Hawaii.

The United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2018 "Special Report on 1.5 Degrees Celsius" found that we must stop burning coal for electricity generation globally. Burning it also emits mercury, a leading cause of preventable birth defects like brain damage and cerebral palsy.

Hawaii's lone coal plant needs to go away forever. It's great that HECO says it won't extend its contract, but HECO could change its mind. AES could swing a deal with another power utility. AES, or someone else, could even open another coal plant in the state.

We need a state law that kills off coal in Hawaii for good.

Brodie Lockard

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 5:28:53 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Leake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: David Leake

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020, 9:30 am

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 6:22:03 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger and members of the committee,

I support SB2629 proposed HD1. We cannot afford to burn coal for electricity anymore. The climate crisis gets worse every day. Climate scientists predict that 2020 will be the hottest year in the last 3,000,000 years. Burn coal, put greenhouse gases in atmosphere, raise temperature.

No more fossil fuel burning. Please pass the proposed House draft. Mahalo.

Randy Ching

Honolulu

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 6:41:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
sharon Levine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Sharon Louis

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 7:42:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Proposed HD1: Prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022. Prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

YOUR NAME

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 7:48:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Judith A Mick	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is time to stop burning coal on Oahu which puts harmful toxins in the air we breathe. Please stop this practice. Mahalo.

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 7:53:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kelsey Nichols	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawai'i.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on O'ahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawai'i is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawai'i has to worry about. The longer we accumulate the consequences of living unsustainability, the more expensive, and inflexible, it will be to adjust to the Climate Crisis when we no longer have the privilege of turning our heads away.

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 8:00:26 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lois Crozer	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 8:08:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Cory Harden	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha legislators,

No more coal! No more global warming, with toxins polluting our air and oceans!

Mahalo,

Cory Harden

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 10:59:40 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
muhtadia rice	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

SAMPLE TESTIMONY

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Muhtadia Rice

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020, 9:30 am

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Muhtadia Rice

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/21/2020 11:17:00 PM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Wendy Bernier	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Wendy Bernier

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities where I reside. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Wendy Bernier

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 12:32:41 AM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Legislators,

I strongly support SB2629 SD2 to prohibit burning coal for energy after HECO's permit expires in 2022. Coal is the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the world and it is killing our planet. Having to transport coal from the Mainland or elsewhere to Hawaii is another strike against it. We now have clean, renewable, locally-available options to choose from and we have no time to waste.

Ban coal from our precious islands this session.

Our grandchildren will thank you.

Sincerely,

Jan Pappas

Aiea, Hawaii

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 3:34:17 AM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Justin Salisbury	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: YOUR NAME

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020, 9:30 am

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Justin Mark Hideaki Salisbury

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 3:54:05 AM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Nanea Lo

LATE

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 7:55:13 AM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ava Fedorov	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Sincerely,

Ava Fedorov

LATE

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 8:28:10 AM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

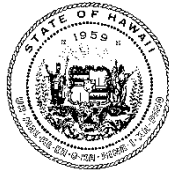
Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Tam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

LATE

DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR



SARAH ALLEN
ADMINISTRATOR

BONNIE KAHAKUI
ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATOR

**STATE OF HAWAII
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE**

P.O. Box 119
Honolulu, Hawaii 96810-0119
Tel: (808) 586-0554
email: state.procurement.office@hawaii.gov
<http://spo.hawaii.gov>
Twitter: [@hawaiispo](https://twitter.com/hawaiispo)

TESTIMONY
OF
SARAH ALLEN, ADMINISTRATOR
STATE PROCUREMENT OFFICE

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE
ON
ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

June 22, 2020, 9:30AM

SB 2629, SD2
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 2629, SD2. The State Procurement Office (SPO) appreciates the intent of the bill and offers the following concerns and comments.

1. Comment: Section 1, Page 2, Lines 13-21, and Page 3, Lines 1-3 requires the employee's agency to pay a fee for a carbon offset undertaken by an employee of an agency in performance of the employee's official duties.

Concern: Without a statewide financial system or central automated travel system there is no efficient way to track or capture employee travel. Each agency would need to be responsible for manually tracking their employee travel and determining the offset owed. Currently, travel approval is a manual process and labor intensive. This would put an additional responsibility on agencies on an already burdensome process.

2. Comment: On page 3, Lines 7-14 the department of land and natural resources will be required to establish a procedure for determining the amount of carbon dioxide emissions in metric tons that result from air travel by a single airline passenger, based on the average fuel consumption and corresponding carbon dioxide emission per kilometer traveled for the aircraft in which the single airline passenger traveled, passenger capacity of the aircraft, and distance traveled.

Concern: Calculating emissions per passenger requires employees to keep track of the type of aircraft they traveled on, the capacity of the plane, and the distance travelled. Then there are modifications to this formula for changes in itinerary or multiple plane changes. Once again demonstrating the additional burdens placed on agency and employees.

3. Comment: Based on a recent SPO survey, there doesn't appear to be any statewide carbon offset program. There are a few universities, but those organizations have central online travel booking programs or a central travel office.

Concern: Without a central travel agency or an automated travel expense program, this imposed offset program will be an excessive burden on all state agencies and employees.

4. Comment: The University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), one of the first universities in the country to establish a program to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG), did a study in 2015, culminating in a two-year flat fee (\$9.00 for domestic round trip or \$25.00 for international flight) pilot program; 2018 to 2020. UCLA's study found that computing greenhouse gas emissions by miles traveled had slowed and sometimes stalled similar programs at other universities. The flat fee program was found to be easier to implement. Arizona State University also established a flat fee (\$10 per round trip) program in FY 2019. The University of Utah has a voluntary carbon offset program that travelers can check a box to deduct \$10.00 from their travel reimbursement.

Concern: No research or studies have been made to determine what process would be in the best interest of the state, nor any cost/benefit effect or resource drain has been considered with the logistical requirements or manually tracking all travel by state employees.

5. Comment: Based on the website, <https://www.cooleffect.org/content/travel-offset>, provided by the department of land and natural resources (DLNR), the SPO would have paid approximately \$277.00 in fees for 15 employee trips in 2019.

Concern: The carbon offset fee paid by the SPO is miniscule compared to the travel by other departments. The carbon offset amounts could be substantial over a long period and there is no sunset date in the bill. According to a paper published by Richard Kim and Benjamin Pierce, purchasing carbon offsets is a good short-term strategy for mitigating climate effects. It should not replace a more comprehensive plan to reduce carbon emissions. Employees don't have an alternative option when travelling intra-state or out-of-state for business; air travel is the ONLY means of transportation. A carbon offset would do nothing to curtail air travel. Also, SPO cautions Department Heads choosing to have contract management personnel not travel for regular site visits of the areas they are responsible for conducting government oversight. Successful contract management very rarely works from the desk of the contract administrator.

Recommendation:

The Office of the Comptroller, Enterprise Technology Services (ETS), and SPO are researching automated travel expenditure programs that would ultimately tie into the State's financial system. SPO recommends waiting until there is an automated travel expenditure program and a central travel agency when it would be easier to capture flight information.

In addition, SPO cautions making any overly-complex policy, requiring expensive contractor monitoring and additional resources. Instead, an easy flat rate to be added to all travelers, should appease those who feel this program is appropriate, and it ensures government employees are not having to collect voluminous information every time they travel. However, SPO reminds the reader of our Point 5, when considering if this 'expense' is really a disincentive to travel.

Other options: Appropriate funds to the DLNR to fund a carbon offset program or apply a one-time flat rate to each department as part of their travel budget.

Thank you.

LATE

LATE

LATE

SB-2629-SD-2

Submitted on: 6/22/2020 10:08:34 AM

Testimony for EEP on 6/22/2020 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Jeffrey the Barak	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: **Jeffrey the Barak**

Date: Monday, June 22, 2020, 9:30 am

In strong support of SB 2629 Proposed HD1

Aloha Chair Lowen, and members:

As one of 350Hawaii's 6,000 members, I strongly support SB 2629 HD1 and putting an end to the use of coal in Hawaii.

Coal has led the planet to the brink of climate catastrophe. We now know it has been the primary contributor to our current climate crisis. Furthermore, burning coal on Oahu releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants that are plaguing the health of our westside communities. This must end and the sooner the better. With so many local sources of zero-emission energy, Hawaii is long overdue to be rid of this dirty, dangerous fuel.

Stopping coal use will be a sizable, welcome step toward our 100% zero-emissions energy goals, as will eliminating the emissions caused by shipping it here.

Please support this bill and take coal off the list of dirty, fossil fuel emission sources Hawaii has to worry about.

Jeffrey the Barak

LATE

From: [Anna Chua](#)
To: [EEPTestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB2629 Proposed HD1- Coal free hawaii
Date: Sunday, June 21, 2020 10:55:21 PM

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the EEP Committee,

I strongly support SB2629 Proposed HD1 to end the use of coal in Hawai'i by 2023. Passing this bill brings Hawai'i closer towards our clean energy goals and helps to address environmental justice issues, as the burning coal and dumping of toxic coal ash unfairly burdens O'ahu's westside communities. The last coal fired power plant has a contract that is already set to expire in 2022. Please support SB2629 Proposed HD1 and make Hawai'i coal-free by 2023.

Thank you,
Anna Chua

From: [mdeycaza](#)
To: [EEPtestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB2629 Proposed HD1- Coal free hawaii
Date: Sunday, June 21, 2020 12:14:21 AM

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the EEP Committee,

I strongly support SB2629 Proposed HD1 to end the use of coal in Hawai'i by 2023. Passing this bill brings Hawai'i closer towards our clean energy goals and helps to address environmental justice issues, as the burning coal and dumping of toxic coal ash unfairly burdens O'ahu's westside communities. The last coal fired power plant has a contract that is already set to expire in 2022. Please support SB2629 Proposed HD1 and make Hawai'i coal-free by 2023.

Thank you, Michael deYcaza

From: rosemarykarlsson@gmail.com
To: [EEPttestimony](#)
Subject: SB2717 Support
Date: Saturday, June 20, 2020 2:11:50 PM

I ask you to support SB2717. Sharks are a very important part of the balance of nature in the ocean. It is their ocean, we have no right to disrupt it. Leave the sharks alone!

Rosemary Karlsson
16-1885 Uilani Drive
PO Box 492266
Keaau, HI 96749
808-966-6589

LATE

From: [Debbie Ward](#)
To: [EEPtestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in Support of SB2629 Proposed HD1- Coal free hawaii
Date: Monday, June 22, 2020 3:37:08 AM

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the EEP Committee,

I strongly support SB2629 Proposed HD1 to end the use of coal in Hawai'i by 2023. Passing this bill brings Hawai'i closer towards our clean energy goals and helps to address environmental justice issues, as the burning coal and dumping of toxic coal ash unfairly burdens O'ahu's westside communities. The last coal fired power plant has a contract that is already set to expire in 2022. Please support SB2629 Proposed HD1 and make Hawai'i coal-free by 2023.

Thank you,
Deborah Ward