



COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
HAWAII ENERGY POLICY FORUM
UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MĀNOA

Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

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Ms. Amy Asselbaye, Ofc of US Rep.
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Ms. Catherine Awakuni, Div. of
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Mr. Warren Bollmeier
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Mr. Carlito Caliboso, PUC (Observer)
Mr. Albert Chee, Chevron
Mr. Kyle Datta, U.S. Biofuels
Sen. Kalani English, Hi State Senate
Mr. Mitch Ewan, UH HNEI
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Haiku Design and Analysis
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Mr. Lance Tanaka, Tesoro HI Corp
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Mr. Murray Towill, Hawai'i
Hotel Assn
Ms. Joan White, Hon Community
Action Program

Testimony of
Sharon Miyashiro
Co-Chair - Hawai'i Energy Policy Forum

House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection
Thursday, January 24, 2008
8:30 am
Conference Room 312

IN SUPPORT OF H.B. 2003, Relating to the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum

I am Sharon Miyashiro, Co-Chair of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum ("Forum"). The Forum is comprised of 46 representatives from the electric utilities, oil and natural gas suppliers, environmental and community groups, renewable energy industry, and federal, state and local government, including representatives from the neighbor islands. We have been meeting since 2002 and have adopted a common vision and mission.

The Forum in 2007 revised its comprehensive "10 Point Action Plan" which serves as a framework for meeting our preferred energy vision and goals. The Forum, through its seven working groups have developed more specific action plans covering all ten goals of the Plan. The revised Plan has been instrumental in guiding the Forum's accomplishments to date. Through the specific action plans, it will continue to guide us in the work that remains to be completed to achieve a strong and secure energy future for Hawaii. During 2007, accomplishments of the Forum included the following:

- Study of Biofuel crop development in response to HCR 195 (2006) led to Hawaii Bioenergy Master Plan (2007)
- Study of opportunities and barriers for renewable energy and energy efficiency development in the state and county laws and regulations
- Study of energy efficient transportation strategies in response to Act 254
- Study of natural gas import options for Hawaii in response to USDOE under contract to address Section 355 of the National Energy Policy Act
- Assessment of energy efficiency in four buildings through its "Energy by Example" program

The Forum also sponsored numerous outreach and educational events:

- Briefing of the Congressional Delegation staff on renewable energy developments (March 2007)
- Briefing on federal opportunities in "ag-energy" by U.S. House Agriculture Committee Chairman Colin Peterson (April 2007)
- Briefing on commercialization of new renewable energy technologies by U.S. Departments of Commerce & Energy and local representatives of High Technology Development Corporation, Sopogy & ClearFuels Technology
- Briefing on work by BlueEarth Biofuels (June 2007)

- Facilitated working group that created guidelines for ocean energy development (July 2007)
- Briefing on the work of the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, University of Hawaii (September 2007)
- Briefing on greenhouse gas emissions by the Technical Working Group of the State Greenhouse Gas Emissions Task Force & the Voluntary GHG Reporting Program of the Climate Registry (November 2007)
- Co-sponsored TV Documentary: "Hawaii's Climate Crisis" (January 2008)
- Have been asked by the USDOE to convene a briefing of the USDOE-State partnership on the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative on January 28

The Forum has adopted actions and benchmarks to address the goals of the Plan; and during the coming year, it hopes to implement and test these actions.

H.B. 2003, which appropriates funds to the Forum to continue its work to meet our preferred energy vision and goals, will support our continuing efforts toward achieving our preferred energy future. The Forum has estimated that funding in the amount of \$185,000 for FY 2008-2009 will enable the Forum to begin implementation of its action plans and development and testing of benchmarks. This amount will fund not only the action plans, but also the needed administrative support and outreach activities as well as enable us to assess overall progress in meeting the goals of the Plan.

Based on the foregoing the Forum fully supports H.B. 2003 and asks for this Committee's favorable action.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.