

325 2:15 PM March 23, 2009
SB1258,SD2, HD1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Chair Herkes, Vice-Chair Wakai and Committee Members:

Introduction: My name is Rick Gilliam, Managing Director of Policy for SunEdison. Thank you in advance for accepting these few comments in support of **SB1258, SD2, HD1**.

SunEdison is the largest solar energy service provider in North America, owning and operating more power plants and delivering more megawatt hours than any other solar energy service provider. We finance, install, operate, monitor and maintain photovoltaic power plants throughout the world. SunEdison have a dozen domestic offices as well as overseas operations, and have developed a number of customer-sited solar projects on commercial properties in Hawaii.

Therefore, SunEdison strongly supports SB1258, SD2, HD1 and proposes the following amendments to strengthen the bill's purpose of accelerating the penetration of renewable energy in Hawaii: In Section 7, HRS 269-110(b) should be amended to read:

If the public utilities commission, at any time, establishes alternative mechanisms for crediting or otherwise compensating eligible customer-generators for exported power, eligible customer-generators ~~with existing net metering contracts~~ shall have the option of maintaining these existing or entering into new net metering contracts rather than being limited to converting to new alternative credits or compensations mechanisms.

The proposed amendment is consistent with Exhibit A of the Hawaii Clean Energy Agreement which allows for the continuation of the net metering program in Hawaii both for existing and future eligible customer-generators.

NEM has a proven track record in Hawaii and, thus, in order to meet the renewable energy goals laid out in the HCEI, we must continue to support net metering. Thus, the proposed amendment ensures that current and future customer-generators will always have NEM as an option.

NEM induces more entities to install renewable energy systems and reduce their demands on the power grid. This is an important step that will help enable the state to reach its ambitious clean energy goals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to submit testimony.

/s/ Rick Gilliam

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SB1258,SD2,HD1 RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

Chair Herkes, Vice-Chair Wakai and Committee Members:

Introduction: My name is Jennifer Stites and I am the Green Development Manager for Dowling Company, Inc. ("DCI"). DCI is a Maui-based real estate development company that is committed to sustainable development. To guide this effort and determine our performance metrics, we have adopted the nationally recognized U.S. Green Building Council's ("USGBC") Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ("LEED") rating system. We are especially proud and excited that DCI's first USGBC LEED certified project was our own office located in Wailuku, Maui. Our office was also the first USGBC LEED certified office on Maui.

It is DCI's understanding that HECO is proposing to eliminate Net Metering if the PUC approves Feed-in Tariffs. DCI strongly opposes the elimination of net metering for existing and future eligible ratepayers because it has been very effective in encouraging ratepayers to use renewable energy. Therefore, DCI strongly supports SB1258, SD2, HD1, but proposes the following amendments to strengthen the bill's purpose of accelerating the penetration of renewable energy in Hawaii: In Section 7, HRS 269-110(b) should be amended to read:

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Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony.