

WRITTEN TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY BY KALBERT K. YOUNG
DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
ON
HOUSE BILL NO. 2191
FEBRUARY 13, 2014

RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO
ASSIST ANAERGIA INC.

House Bill No. 2191 authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds (SPRB) to assist Anaergia Inc. with the development of facilities for renewable non-fossil fuel energy production in Maui pursuant to Part V, Chapter 39A, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

The Department has no position on the issuance of SPRBs as contemplated in this bill. The Department would like to advise the Legislature and prospective issuers that should the legislation be approved, approval of SPRB issuance will still require further discussion and satisfactory review of the financing components involved in the transaction.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony on this measure.

MEMORANDUM

TO: HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
REP. CHRIS LEE, CHAIR
REP. CYNTHIA THIELEN, VICE CHAIR

FROM: KARL BOSSERT, DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT - PACIFIC

SUBJECT: HB 2191 RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF SPECIAL PURPOSE REVENUE BONDS TO ASSIST ANAERGIA INC.

POSITION: SUPPORT

DATE: JANUARY 11, 2014

Anaergia Services, LLC (Anaergia) would like to thank Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen, and the House of Representatives Committee on Energy and Environmental Projection as a whole, for taking the time to discuss HB 2191.

This bill relates to the potential issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to assist Anaergia in the development of renewable fuels and/or energy projects on Maui. Anaergia is a worldwide expert in resource recovery, most notably through anaerobic digestion. The company has a 20 year track record and proven technology with a number of in-house patents and over 1,600 projects to date. Because of Hawaii's physical isolation and high cost of energy, Anaergia feels Hawaii is an excellent candidate for anaerobic digestion, and is currently engaged in developing two projects on Maui using this technology.

Maui Resource Recovery Facility

The first project is called the Maui Resource Recovery Facility (MRRF). Under a 20 year contract from the County of Maui, the facility will take municipal waste, currently going into the Maui County landfill, and extract as much as 75% of the recyclable materials from that waste. The remaining materials will be processed to create renewable natural biogas, through anaerobic digestion. The materials that are not digestible will be converted into an engineered solid fuel. The gas and solid fuels can be used for power generation, household and commercial (heating/cooling) and transportation. Only about 15% of the incoming municipal waste will end up in the landfill at the end of the process, lengthening the life of the landfill up to five times.

Anaergia's vision for this project is to set a model benchmark for how municipal waste is dealt with in Hawaii and the rest of the world. The future of waste management is to

increase recyclable recovery, produce a mix of sustainable, renewable fuels from the balance, and reduce the amount of landfilled materials to the maximum extent possible.

Maui Energy Park

The second project is called the Maui Energy Park (MEP). This project is located in West Maui, where the plan is to grow an energy crop and process it into renewable natural biogas through anaerobic digestion. This project will revitalize almost 2,000 acres of high quality agricultural lands left fallow after the demise of sugar cane and pineapple in West Maui. MEP will use recycled water for the majority of its irrigation needs, allowing the nutrients in this water to be returned to the soil. The renewable natural biogas can be used for power generation, household and commercial (heating/cooling) and transportation. Anaergia is in discussions with MECO to take a portion of this gas and generate electrical power onsite. This has the potential to increase grid stability and reliability in West Maui.

Anaergia sees the MEP as a model approach for putting agricultural lands back into productive use across the state. The anaerobic digestion process is an efficient way to make renewable biogas with energy recovery several times higher than other processes (e.g. ethanol distillation or biodiesel production).

Both projects provide a number of environmental and socio-economic benefits to the state, county and residents of the state of Hawaii. These include reduced materials going in the landfill, putting fallow Ag lands back into production, and creating competitive renewable fuels which will provide energy cost stability and security for the state. These projects will create hundreds of short-term construction and long-term farming and operational jobs, thereby keeping millions of dollars a year in the economy here in Hawaii.

Anaergia is seeking up to \$150 million in special purpose revenue bonds to support these two projects. These bonds will provide low-cost financing to offset the high cost of shipping materials and constructing these facilities in Maui. Anaergia has a long-term vision for Hawaii and believes that these projects can be duplicated on other islands to benefit the environment, the economy and Hawaii's residents. Subsequent projects will enjoy learning curves and possible economies of scale, making those projects less reliant on special purpose revenue bonds in the future.

The following page shows a summary of environmental as well as socio-economic benefits for both projects.

Anaergia would again like to thank the Committee for its time on this matter and stands ready to address any questions you may have during the hearing.

Environmental and Socio-Economic Benefits from Proposed Projects

Project Benefits	Project
Increase recyclable material recovery from a current level of <5% to >75%	MRRF
Increase landfill diversion from a current level 43% to >75%	MRRF
Increase municipal solid waste diversion from a current level 0% to 85%	MRRF
Increase existing landfill life up to five times	MRRF
Revitalize almost 2,000 acres of ag land, reducing soil erosion and dust problems	MEP
Help in the user of recycled water in W. Maui	MEP
Create approximately 200 construction jobs	MRRF and MEP combined
Create approximately 60 permanent jobs	MRRF and MEP combined
Reduce up to 30,000 ton of coal importation per year by creating engineering solid fuels	MRRF
Replace the equivalent of almost 3,000,000 of gasoline per year by creating renewable natural biogas	MRRF and MEP combined
Increase energy cost stability and security	MRRF and MEP combined
Preserve open space through reduced need to expand the landfill and by keeping ag land in production	MRRF and MEP combined
Provide \$150 million of capital investment into the state	MRRF and MEP combined
Provide approximately \$12 million per year of ongoing expenditures in Maui	MRRF and MEP combined



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
Thursday, February 13, 2014 – 9:30 a.m. – Room 325

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports of HB 2191, Relating to the Issuance of Special Purpose Revenue Bonds to assist Anaergia Inc.

Dear Chair Lee, Vice Chair Thielen and Members of the Committee:

My name is Murray Clay and I am managing partner of the Ulupono Initiative, a Hawai'i-based impact investment firm that strives to improve the quality of life for the people of Hawai'i by working toward solutions that create more locally grown food, increase renewable energy, and reduce/recycle waste. Ulupono invests in projects that have the potential to create large-scale, innovative change.

Ulupono strongly supports HB 2191, which authorizes the issuance of special purpose revenue bonds to assist Anaergia Inc. Ulupono's waste mission is to reduce waste tonnages from going into the landfill. Relative to the neighbor islands, O'ahu has the greatest percentage of waste diversion from the landfill due to more sorting and processing facilities, including the City and County of Honolulu's H-POWER waste to energy plant. After being processed by H-POWER, waste volume into the landfill can be reduced by 90% while subsequently creating electricity that can power O'ahu's homes. Yet, there is no waste to energy plants on the neighbor islands.

In addition, landfill space is limited in island communities. Therefore, projects such Anaergia's proposed material recover facility will reduce the need for future landfill space on Maui. Siting for future landfills can be difficult as the residents in nearby communities often oppose their development.

Furthermore, waste can be burned into baseload renewable energy production. Without this energy production, MECO would have to import and use more fossil fuels to generate electricity. Anaergia's waste to energy plant will be better for the environment, create more sustainable energy production, and reduce the need for further power generating infrastructure.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay
Managing Partner

Email: communications@ulupono.com

