

TESTIMONY OF RANDY IWASE  
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII  
TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
FINANCE

APRIL 8, 2015  
3:00 p.m.

**MEASURE:** S.B. No. 1050, S.D. 2, H.D. 2  
**TITLE:** Relating to Energy

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

**DESCRIPTION:**

This measure would require electric utilities to file a proposed community-based renewable energy ("CBRE") tariff with the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") by October 1, 2015. This measure would also require the Commission to establish a CBRE tariff if the tariff is found to be in the public interest and is not unduly discriminatory.

**POSITION:**

The Commission supports the intent of a tariff structure to enable new energy programs and offers the following comments and **proposed draft** for the Committee's consideration.

**COMMENTS:**

The Commission views the intent of this measure as consistent with the principles articulated in the Commission's white paper entitled, *Commission's Inclinations on the Future of Hawaii's Electric Utilities*. A properly implemented CBRE tariff has the ability to increase renewable energy generation while improving customers' options to manage energy use. A properly implemented CBRE tariff should also maximize the use of cost-effective renewable resources and should address issues of cross-subsidy between the utility, participating ratepayers, and non-participating ratepayers.

The Commission, the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, and Blue Planet, in consultation with other renewable energy stakeholders, have produced a proposed draft that we feel sets the best conditions to allow for the timely implantation of a viable CBRE program.

The proposed draft directs the utility to collaborate with key stakeholders prior to filing a proposed CBRE tariff by October 1, 2015. **This method provides the fastest route to a viable CBRE program.** A tariff that is filed by the utility can automatically take effect in 30 days if it goes unopposed. Stakeholders still have the opportunity to oppose the tariff if they have concerns. By directing utilities to collaborate with key stakeholders prior to filing, stakeholders have the chance to come to agreements or develop positions outside of the docket process.

The proposed draft also leaves the Commission the discretion to set, revise, and modify the details of the program so that appropriate adjustments can be made to allow for the program to remain in the public interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2015

**S.B. NO.** 1050  
PROPOSED  
HD 3

STATE OF HAWAII

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that all Hawaii residents should be able to participate in and enjoy the economic, environmental, and societal benefits of renewable energy. Spurred by the Hawaii clean energy initiative and increasingly affordable clean energy options, such as solar photovoltaic systems, localized renewable energy generation technology has become increasingly attainable.

While residential solar energy use has grown dramatically across the State in recent years, many residents and businesses are currently unable to directly participate in renewable energy generation because of their location, building type, access to

the electric utility grid, or other impediments. The community-based renewable energy program seeks to rectify this inequity by dramatically expanding the market for eligible renewable energy resources to include residential and business renters, occupants of residential and commercial buildings with shaded or improperly oriented roofs, and other groups who are unable to access the benefits of onsite clean energy generation.

The legislature finds that it is in the public interest to promote broader participation in self-generation by Hawaii residents and businesses through the development of community-based renewable energy facilities in which participants are entitled to generate electricity and receive credit for that electricity on their utility bills.

Community-based renewable energy creates new construction jobs, stimulates the economy, reduces emissions of greenhouse gases, promotes energy independence, and assists in meeting the State's clean energy goals. Further, community-based renewable energy enables residents and businesses to save money on their electricity bills, thereby providing additional funds for purchasing, investment, or other economic activity.

The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii community-based renewable energy program to make the benefits of

renewable energy generation more accessible to a greater number of Hawaii residents. The Legislature finds that a community-based renewable energy tariff should, to the extent possible, be designed in an open and accessible process and should accommodate a variety of community-based renewable energy projects, models, and sizes. The Legislature also finds that, in order to facilitate the timely implementation of community-based renewable energy, the electric utilities should collaborate with the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and other stakeholders from the renewable energy industry and environmental advocacy community on the development of a community-based renewable energy tariff prior to filing the tariff with the public utilities commission.

SECTION 2. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"§269- Community-based renewable energy tariffs. (a)**

Each electric utility in the State of Hawaii shall file a proposed community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs with the public utilities commission by October 1, 2015. The public utilities commission shall establish a community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs if the tariff or tariffs are found to be in the public interest.

(b) Any person or entity may own or operate an eligible community-based renewable energy project or projects provided that the person or entity complies with all applicable statutes, rules, tariffs, and regulations governing the ownership and interconnection of such project or projects.

(c) As used in this section, "eligible community-based renewable energy project" means a project that:

(1) Is subject to a community-based renewable energy tariff; and

(2) Generates or produces renewable energy as defined under 269-91.

(d) As used in this section, "community-based renewable energy tariff" means a tariff approved by the commission that:

(1) Allows an electric utility customer to participate in an eligible community based-renewable energy project that is providing electricity and electric grid services to the electric utility;

(2) Allows the electric utility to implement a billing arrangement to compensate those customers for the electricity and electric grid services provided to the electric utility;

(3) Is designed to provide fair compensation for electricity, electric grid services, and other benefits

provided to or by the utility, participating ratepayers,  
and non-participating ratepayers; and

(4) To the extent possible, standardizes and streamlines  
the related interconnection processes for community-based  
renewable energy projects.

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**

**DAVID Y. IGE**  
GOVERNOR

**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
DIRECTOR

**MARY ALICE EVANS**  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

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Statement of  
**LUIS P. SALAVERIA**  
**Director**  
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism  
before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**  
Wednesday, April 8, 2015  
3:00 p.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 308

in consideration of  
**SB 1050, SD 2, HD 2**  
**RELATING TO ENERGY.**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) supports SB 1050, SD 2, HD 2, with amendments as contained in the attached proposed HD 3.

The measure requires the State's utilities to file an application for a community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs with the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) by October 1, 2015.

DBEDT views the concept of a community-based renewable energy tariff as an attractive option for increasing the penetration of renewable energy on Hawaii's electric grids in a reliable, cost-effective and equitable manner. By allowing utility customers to obtain partial interests in renewable projects that can be sited in optimal locations, and then crediting those customers for the energy provided to the grid on their utility bills, a community-based renewable energy tariff creates an efficient mechanism for broadening and deepening the benefits of clean energy to Hawaii's residents. Moreover, we view the potential use of financing from the Green Energy Market Securitization (GEMS) program with the community-based renewable energy tariff as a viable option to expand access to under-served market segments.

Importantly, DBEDT worked collaboratively with the PUC, Blue Planet Foundation, Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance, Ulupono Initiative, the Clean Energy Collective and other stakeholders on the attached proposed draft. By requiring the utility to submit a tariff proposal by a certain date, and calling upon the utility to collaborate with DBEDT and other stakeholders in the tariff's design and development, we believe this draft offers the most viable and inclusive pathway toward creating a community-based renewable energy program that is aligned with Hawaii's energy policy priorities.

Finally, in prior testimony on this measure, DBEDT recommended including a statutory requirement to ensure against cross-subsidies or cost-shifting. We also identified a potential issue whereby participation in a community-based renewable energy project would be characterized as a security interest for the purpose federal securities law. After conducting further research, we believe that the attached draft provides the PUC sufficient latitude and context to effectively address these matters, if necessary, as part of the tariff proceeding.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments regarding SB 1050, SD 2, HD 2.

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## A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that all Hawaii residents should be able to participate in and enjoy the economic, environmental, and societal benefits of renewable energy. Spurred by the Hawaii clean energy initiative and increasingly affordable clean energy options, such as solar photovoltaic systems, localized renewable energy generation technology has become increasingly attainable.

While residential solar energy use has grown dramatically across the State in recent years, many residents and businesses are currently unable to directly participate in renewable energy generation because of their location, building type, access to the electric utility grid, or other impediments. The community-based renewable energy program seeks to rectify this inequity by dramatically expanding the market for eligible renewable energy resources to include residential and business renters, occupants of residential and commercial buildings with shaded or improperly

oriented roofs, and other groups who are unable to access the benefits of onsite clean energy generation.

The legislature finds that it is in the public interest to promote broader participation in self-generation by Hawaii residents and businesses through the development of community-based renewable energy facilities in which participants are entitled to generate electricity and receive credit for that electricity on their utility bills.

Community-based renewable energy creates new construction jobs, stimulates the economy, reduces emissions of greenhouse gases, promotes energy independence, and assists in meeting the State's clean energy goals. Further, community-based renewable energy enables residents and businesses to save money on their electricity bills, thereby providing additional funds for purchasing, investment, or other economic activity.

The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii community-based renewable energy program to make the benefits of renewable energy generation more accessible to a greater number of Hawaii residents. The Legislature finds that a community-based renewable energy tariff should, to the extent possible, be designed in an open and accessible process and should accommodate a variety of community-based renewable energy projects, models, and sizes. The Legislature also finds that, in order to facilitate the timely implementation of community-based renewable energy, the electric

utilities should collaborate with the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and other stakeholders from the renewable energy industry and environmental advocacy community on the development of a community-based renewable energy tariff prior to filing the tariff with the public utilities commission.

SECTION 2. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

"§269- Community-based renewable energy tariffs. (a) Each electric utility in the State of Hawaii shall file a proposed community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs with the public utilities commission by October 1, 2015. The public utilities commission shall establish a community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs if the tariff or tariffs are found to be in the public interest.

(b) Any person or entity may own or operate an eligible community-based renewable energy project or projects provided that the person or entity complies with all applicable statutes, rules, tariffs, and regulations governing the ownership and interconnection of such project or projects.

(c) As used in this section, "eligible community-based renewable energy project" means a project that:

- (1) Is subject to a community-based renewable energy tariff;
- and

(2) Generates or produces renewable energy as defined under 269-91.

(d) As used in this section, "community-based renewable energy tariff" means a tariff approved by the commission that:

(1) Allows an electric utility customer to participate in an eligible community based-renewable energy project that is providing electricity and electric grid services to the electric utility;

(2) Allows the electric utility to implement a billing arrangement to compensate those customers for the electricity and electric grid services provided to the electric utility;

(3) Is designed to provide fair compensation for electricity, electric grid services, and other benefits provided to or by the utility, participating ratepayers, and non-participating ratepayers; and

(4) To the extent possible, standardizes and streamlines the related interconnection processes for community-based renewable energy projects.

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.



DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI  
LT. GOVERNOR

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

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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE  
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

WEDNESDAY APRIL 8, 2015  
3:00 p.m.

TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. ONO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF  
CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER  
AFFAIRS, TO THE HONORABLE SYLVIA LUKE, CHAIR,  
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

SENATE BILL NO. 1050, S.D. 2, H.D. 2 - RELATING TO ENERGY

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to require the utilities to file proposed community-based renewable energy tariffs with the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") by October 1, 2015 and to authorize ratepayer participation in eligible community-based renewable energy projects.

POSITION:

The Division of Consumer Advocacy supports this bill.

COMMENTS:

Thus far, distributed renewable energy systems, such as solar photovoltaic ("PV") systems, have been largely limited to single-family homeowners. Renters have no incentive to make the capital investment for a PV system that will be owned by a landlord. Furthermore, high-rise apartment owners do not have sufficient roof space to benefit from solar PV. Therefore, a large segment of Hawaii's population has been locked out of the distributed generation market for a number of reasons, including economic reasons even with the new financing and leasing options available for rooftop solar PV systems. A properly designed community-based renewable energy program has the potential to provide significant energy cost-savings to this under-served market.

It also opens up access to affordable renewable energy to schools and community organizations that might otherwise be unable to participate in renewable energy self-generation programs.

In establishing the appropriate tariff, the PUC should take the following into consideration:

- There should be no cross-subsidy by non-participants to fund any part of a community-based renewable energy program;
- Participants should receive a per kilowatt-hour credit on their electricity bills based upon the cost of generation;
- Participants should be allowed access to capital through the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism's Green Energy Market Securitization or "GEMS" program; and
- The PUC should have the discretion to revise, modify, or cancel the program, if, at any time, the PUC determines that the program is not in the public's interest.

Therefore, the Consumer Advocate supports this bill that would require the PUC to establish a community-based renewable energy tariff.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



**SB1050 SD2 HD2**  
**RELATING TO ENERGY**  
House Committee Finance

April 8, 2015

3:00 p.m.

Room 308

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) offers the following **COMMENTS** on SB1050 SD2 HD2, which requires each electric utility in the state to file a proposed community-based renewable energy tariff (tariff) with the public utilities commission (PUC), and then requires the PUC to establish a tariff if, and only if, the proposals are found to be in the public interest and not unduly discriminatory.

**By expanding who can participate in renewable energy generation projects, this bill may provide opportunities for more people to benefit from renewable energy-related cost savings by establishing a community-based renewable energy program.** Currently, many households and businesses in Hawai'i are unable to benefit from the long-term cost savings associated with renewable energy. In some cases, the upfront costs are prohibitive, while in other cases, people may not own their own homes or business locations, or may live in condominiums. Despite having a labor force participation rate 4.5% higher than the statewide rate, Native Hawaiian families earn \$9,105 lower per-capita income than the state average, and thus are particularly less able to afford the up-front costs of participating in and benefiting from the current renewable energy distributed-generation market.

If approved, a community-based renewable energy program will also provide more of Hawai'i's residents, including Native Hawaiians, with the opportunity to help Hawai'i meet its clean energy goals, and reduce its dependence on imported fossil fuels.

**However, OHA notes that as currently drafted, SB1050 SD2 HD2 may not lead to the establishment of a community-based energy program, as envisioned in previous versions of the bill, and as anticipated by the bill's current preamble.** While SB1050 SD2 HD2 requires each electric utility in the state to propose a tariff to the PUC by October 1, 2015, the PUC would only establish a tariff if the proposal is found to be in the public interest and not unduly discriminatory. Should the PUC fail to find that a proposal is in the public interest, there is no process or requirement for additional or alternative proposals to be submitted or vetted; accordingly, no tariff or program would be established in such a case. The committee therefore may want to consider an amendment to ensure that a tariff, and subsequently a program, is established even if the electric utilities fail to submit satisfactory initial proposals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



Testimony before the House  
Committee on Finance  
April 8, 2015  
Conference Room 308  
S.B. 1050 SD2 HD2– Relating to Energy

By Keiki-Pua Dancil, Ph.D.  
Director, Business Strategy Development  
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Keiki-Pua Dancil. I am Director of Business Strategy Development at Hawaiian Electric Company. I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric and its subsidiary utilities, Maui Electric and Hawaii Electric Light (collectively “Companies”). The Companies are in **strong support of community renewables.**<sup>i</sup>

After evaluating SB 1050 SD 2HD 2, we believe that the proposed deadline of October 1, 2015 for each utility to file a tariff is very aggressive. We therefore request additional time to allow for collaborative work to design a tariff with input from DBEDT and all stakeholders. As the PUC mentioned in their testimony:<sup>ii</sup>

*“A tariff that is filed by the utility can automatically take effect in 30 days if it goes unopposed.”*

**We suggest that the tariff filing date be extended three months to January 1, 2016 in order to allow sufficient time to gather input from all stakeholders to produce a tariff that is acceptable to all.**

Our vision is to deliver cost-effective, clean, reliable, and innovative energy services to our customers, creating meaningful benefits for Hawaii's economy and environment, and making Hawaii a leader in the nation's energy transformation. To drive our vision for Hawaii, we anchor our strategies in a set of common objectives; lowering customer bills 20 percent by 2030, increasing renewables in our generation portfolio, modernizing our grid, and expanding customer options.

We have the following guiding principles for a fair and sustainable community renewables program:

- **Access:** Expand options to more of our customers, meeting their ever-changing energy needs in a fair and sustainable manner. Community renewables will be one of a suite of products and services that allow us to tailor a package of solutions to address customers' energy needs.
  - A community renewables program is an option that will provide the benefits of renewable energy to those customers (participants) who either choose not to or do not have access to install renewables on their property.
  - As of December 2014, twelve percent of our customers have received the benefits of solar energy through our NEM program, which is only accessible to those with access to on-site generation. A community renewable program would be available to everyone with a utility bill that is not currently in the NEM program.
- **Fairness to ALL customers:** Develop community renewables in the most cost effective manner that benefits ALL customers, not just participants in the community renewables program and does not increase the net energy metering (NEM) cost shift.<sup>iii</sup>
  - The most cost effective renewable energy would be developed in optimal locations to the electric system (interconnection), at scale, and areas with high solar irradiance or wind capacity. Collectively, optimizing size (economies of scale), capacity factor, and interconnection to the electric system ensures ALL customers will get the most benefit from renewables.<sup>iv</sup>

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

<sup>i</sup> <http://www.energy.gov/eere/sunshot/solar-market-pathways>. Hawaiian Electric is a participating utility stakeholder in Solar Electric Power Association's (SEPA) Department Of Energy's Sun Shot Initiative grant to explore community solar business models and consumer demographics to develop more standardized program design options.

<sup>ii</sup> [http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2015/Testimony/SB1050\\_HD1\\_TESTIMONY\\_CPC\\_03-23-15\\_PDF](http://www.capitol.hawaii.gov/Session2015/Testimony/SB1050_HD1_TESTIMONY_CPC_03-23-15_PDF)

<sup>iii</sup> As of December 2014, the annualized total fixed cost shift was \$53MM, a \$15MM increase from December 2013.

<sup>iv</sup> <http://www.hawaiianelectric.com/heco/hidden/Hidden/CorpComm/Hawaiian-Electric-sends-six-more-Oahu-solar-contracts-to-Public-Utilities-Commission-for-approval?cpsextcurrchannel=1> (average price of solar \$0.14/kWh).



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth in Support of SB1050 SD2 HD2  
Relating to Energy**

**House Committee on Finance**

8 April 2015, 3:00pm, Room 308

Audrey Newman

Hawai'i Green Growth

P.O. Box 535 Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

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*Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 60 state, county, federal, business, and non-governmental leaders from energy, food production, natural resources, waste reduction, planning, green jobs, and other sectors who have come together to support a shared statewide commitment and tangible actions toward sustainability and a model green economy.*

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Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee,

**Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) strongly supports SB1050 SD2 HD2.** This establishes the community-based renewable energy program, which allows the public utilities commission to establish a tariff that allows all electric utility customers to obtain an interest in a portion of an eligible renewable energy project that is providing electricity to the electric utility and receive compensation for the energy provided to the electric utility.

HGG supports a community-based renewable energy program that allows Hawai'i ratepayers to obtain an interest in renewable energy equipment, or otherwise benefit from renewables located anywhere on their island grid. HGG agrees that participants should receive credit on their electricity bill as determined by a tariff approved the Public Utilities Commission.

**SB1050 SD2 HD2** is a clean energy priority that will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'ōia*, a joint leadership commitment to achieve six sustainability targets by 2030 in the areas of clean energy, local food production, natural resource management, solid waste reduction, smart growth and climate resilience, green jobs and education. The *Aloha+ Challenge* was unanimously endorsed by the 2014 Legislature (SCR 69) and signed by Hawai'i's Governor, Mayors and Office of Hawaiian Affairs. It was also internationally recognized as a model of integrated sustainability at the UN Conference on Small Island Developing States in Samoa.

Mahalo nui for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Audrey Newman".

**Audrey Newman**

Senior Advisor, Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG)

*Bringing leaders together to achieve sustainability in Hawai'i & be a model for a green economy*

<http://www.hawaiigreengrowth.org>



**Testimony prepared by Clean Energy Collective for the House Committee on Finance hearing on Wednesday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015**

SB 1050 SD2 HD2 is an important piece of legislation for Hawaii and its residents. The legislation would open up access to renewable energy for all residents, allowing the potential for everyone to enjoy the economic and environmental benefits of clean energy. Clean Energy Collective (CEC) appreciates the opportunity to provide written testimony to the House Committee on Finance today regarding SB 1050 SD2 HD2 and specifically urges the adoption of the amendments agreed upon and offered by the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission, Blue Planet and DBEDT.

Clean Energy Collective (CEC) is the nation's leading developer of community shared solar solutions, and can directly testify to the importance of strong, well-designed community renewable energy legislation. Community-based renewable energy projects allow anyone, regardless of whether or not they can put solar panels on their roof, to own and control their own renewable energy generation. By doing so, each individual is allowed to choose their own energy future, supplying their energy needs from local generation that they control. We have over 50 projects built or under development in 8 states and can testify directly to the positive impacts they have in their community.

We are very supportive of SB 1050 SD2 HD2 and thank the sponsors for their efforts. We think the amendments offered thus far work well to create a strong program that provides enough flexibility for an effective community-based renewable program to be rolled out. We urge you to pass the bill and allow all Hawaiians the chance to access their own clean energy. It will allow the PUC to move forward in designing a community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs, and CEC hopes to stay involved in that process. We have witnessed the successful implementation of community-based renewable programs in several states across the country, and look forward to providing examples of effective strategies as the PUC works on design and implementation.

CEC appreciates the opportunity to provide feedback and looks forward to staying engaged in this process as the Legislature moves forward with this important piece of legislation. We support the amendment offered by the PUC, Blue Planet, and DBEDT, and urge the Committee to pass the bill as amended. By developing a program for community-based renewables, Hawaii will see an increase in renewable energy deployment across the state, while creating a means for all citizens to control and receive the benefits of clean energy generation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Hunt", written over a white background.

Tom Hunt  
VP of Corporate Development  
Clean Energy Collective



Email: [communications@ulupono.com](mailto:communications@ulupono.com)

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
Wednesday, April 8, 2015 — 3:00 p.m. — Room 308

## **Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 1050 SD 2 HD 2, Relating to Energy**

Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, 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 company 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 clean, renewable energy, and waste reduction. We believe that self-sufficiency is essential to our future prosperity, and will help shape a future where economic progress and mission-focused impact can work hand in hand.

**Ulupono strongly supports SB 1050 SD 2 HD 2**, which establishes a community-based renewable energy program, because it aligns with our goal of producing more clean, renewable energy in Hawai'i.

We believe the intent of the Legislature is to allow all parties, the utility, independent power producers or communities of ratepayers to participate in, and benefit from, the efficiencies that the larger scale of community solar projects.

As imported fossil fuel prices have become more volatile, clean energy options like solar PV have become more economically attractive. Yet, to participate in the benefits of solar PV, a resident would need to have access to a roof with direct sunlight, access to the utility's grid, and be located in an area on the grid that can incorporate intermittent renewable energy. This leaves out many from participating, including renters and apartment dwellers. This bill creates a structure that would allow increased participation by residents and eventually maximize solar energy production throughout the grid.

Through increased renewable energy production, the State can be in a better position to meet its clean energy goals and obtain energy self-sufficiency. Community solar will stimulate the economy and create new jobs including many in the construction industry. Furthermore, solar PV is often the most recognizable clean energy source for the average person. If more people are better able to participate in solar energy production, the more aware they will be about the benefits of clean energy and this could create a more informed and supportive general public toward clean energy policies overall. This bill also allows the

*Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i*



utility to obtain cost recovery for the transmission of electricity through its grid infrastructure.

As Hawai'i's energy issues become more complex and challenging, we appreciate this committee's efforts to look at policies that support renewable energy production.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Murray Clay  
Managing Partner



**Directors**

Joe Boivin  
Hawaii Gas

Kelly King  
Pacific Biodiesel

Warren S. Bollmeier II  
WSB-Hawaii

TESTIMONY OF WARREN BOLLMEIER ON BEHALF OF THE  
HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE BEFORE THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE  
SB 1050 SD2 HD2, RELATING TO ENERGY

April 8, 2015

Chair Luke, Vice-Chair Nishimoto and members of the Committee, I am Warren Bollmeier, testifying on behalf of the Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance (HREA). HREA is an industry-based, nonprofit corporation in Hawaii established in 1995. Our mission is to support, through education and advocacy, the use of renewables for a sustainable, energy-efficient, environmentally-friendly, economically-sound future for Hawaii. One of our goals is to support appropriate policy changes in state and local government, the Public Utilities Commission and the electric utilities to encourage increased use of renewables in Hawaii.

The purposes of SB 1050 SD2 HD2 are to: (i) require electric utilities to file proposed community-based renewable energy tariffs with the public utilities commission by October 1, 2015; and (2) authorize ratepayer participation in eligible community-based renewable energy projects.

HREA **supports** this measure with the following comments and recommendations:

- 1) Clean Energy Goals. In our opinion, we need to facilitate the installation and operation of community-based renewable systems to the greatest extent possible if we are to meet our clean energy goals. Such systems will provide an option to customers who have not able to install renewable systems due to lack space on or adequate renewable resources at their property.
- 2) Discussion. Following the CPC hearing which resulted in the HD2:
  - a) Proposed HD3. A number of Parties, including the PUC, DBEDT, Blue Planet, HREA, the Clean Energy Collective and Ulupono, collaborated on a new draft – “Proposed HD3” – which we believes clarifies legislative policy of the measure with respect to the Community-Based Renewable Energy Program and Tariff (s).
  - b) HREA Support HREA supports the proposed HD3 as the preferred vehicle for this measure.
  - c) Recommendation. Please pass out this measure with the recommended amendments in the proposed HD3.

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



Testimony Before the House Committee on  
Finance

By Michael Yamane, P.E.  
Chief of Operations  
Kauai Island Utility Cooperative  
4463 Pahee Street, Suite 1, Lihue, Hawaii, 96766-2000

Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 3:00 p.m.  
Conference Room #308

**Senate Bill No. 1050, SD2, HD 2– Relating to Energy**

To the Honorable Sylvia Luke, Chair; Scott Y. Nishimoto, Vice-Chair, and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure. I am Michael Yamane, Chief of Operations at Kauai Island Utility Cooperative (“KIUC”).

KIUC would like to offer comments on SB 1050, SD2, HD2 which proposes a community-based solar tariff.

KIUC believes the measure is overly broad and impractical because it includes other forms of renewable generation besides solar. The original intent of the legislation was to expand the market of customer-sited solar generation by creating a tariff that allows the participation by people who could not install such a system due to various constraints (i.e. condos owners, renters, roof orientation.)

The current version of this bill also includes a provision for the construction of new renewable energy projects related to the community-based tariff. This does not reflect the needs of Kauai, where KIUC will have more than 30 megawatts of utility-scale solar online by June. These solar arrays, the largest in the state, will provide more than 50 percent of the electricity needed to meet Kauai’s daytime demand.

These existing renewable energy projects will be the basis of a proposed Time of Use tariff that will allow our members to voluntarily participate in a program that encourages them to shift their energy consumption to the daytime hours, when they will be billed at a reduced rate. This gives consumers an incentive to use cheaper, cleaner solar energy during the day and helps ensure that there is sufficient demand for KIUC’s abundant solar resources.

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KIUC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

Lastly, KIUC would prefer not to have this tariff be a legislative mandate but instead be a rule or order from the PUC, which has jurisdiction in these matters. Each island is developing its own strategies for meeting the state's renewable energy goals. By giving the PUC the flexibility to establish the timing and detailed requirements of this tariff, each island's unique situation would be taken into account.

To impose a deadline and prescriptive details could have unintended consequences for KIUC's renewable energy efforts. To help avoid this, we propose the following wording:

By rule or order the public utilities commission shall require that each utility file a community-based tariff. The Commission shall approve a community-based renewable energy tariff within 30 days if the tariff is found to be in the public interest and is not unduly discriminatory.

Thank you for your consideration.



**Hawaii Solar Energy Association**  
*Serving Hawaii Since 1977*

Before House Committee on Finance  
Wednesday, April 8, 2015, 3:00 p.m., Room 308  
SB 1050 SB 2 HD 2: Relating to Energy

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA), I would like to testify in general support for SB 1050 SD 2 HD 2, which establishes a community-based renewable energy program. However, HSEA respectfully requests that SB 1050 SB 2 HD 2 be replaced with SB 1050 SB 2 HD 3 (“PUC-DBEDT Proposed Draft”) with two amendments, which would allow for a community solar tariff with more flexibility in its design and execution. HSEA is a non-profit trade organization that has been advocating for solar energy since 1977, with an emphasis on both solar hot water (SHW) and residential and small commercial distributed generation (PV). We currently represent 90 member companies, which employ thousands of local employees working in the solar industry. With 38 years of advocacy behind us, HSEA’s goal is to work for a sustainable energy future for all of Hawaii.

Interest in renewable energy has grown exponentially but not all can directly benefit

The installation of rooftop PV has grown significantly since 2008, and Hawaii now boasts over 40,000 residential PV systems. However, not all residential customers can take advantage of having some or all of their power being generated from renewable energy for a variety of reasons. A Community Solar Tariff would address this issue by making it possible for apartment dwellers and others to invest in renewable energy and pay for it directly through a community solar tariff on the electric bill, thus enabling more customers to invest in sustainable renewable energy and to benefit from a hedge against rising electric bills. SB 1050 PUC-DBEDT Proposed Draft also allows for a variety of community based renewable energy projects, models, and sizes which more fully supports the spirit of the bill to include a variety of producers and consumers.

Electricity should be delivered to the electric grid—not to the electric utility

HSEA respectfully requests that the PUC-DBEDT Proposed Draft be amended such that energy produced via a community solar project is described as being delivered to the electric grid, not the electric utility. HSEA believes that it is important that this distinction be made as community solar is not a power purchase agreement between the producer and the utility, and amending the language as shown below would clarify that relationship.

§269 (d)

- (1) Allows an electric utility customer to participate in an eligible community based-renewable energy project that is providing electricity and electric grid services to the electric utility grid;
- (2) Allows the electric utility to implement a billing arrangement to compensate those customers for the electricity and electric grid services provided to the electric utility grid;

Interconnection of Community Solar Should Depend Upon Project Size

HSEA believes that the Proposed Draft should be amended such that the interconnection process would be tailored to recognize the size of the project, with a possible streamlined process for smaller installations. In addition, it is key that community solar projects would not be given preferential interconnection status over other projects of similar size such as NEM or SIA applications. HSEA respectfully requests that the PUC/DBEDT draft be amended as follows:

§269(c)

(4) To the extent possible, standardizes ~~and streamlines~~ the related interconnection processes for community-based renewable energy projects., with special consideration given to streamlined standardized processes for community-scale and household-scale projects in relation to utility-scale projects.

HSEA has always advocated for maximizing all of our renewable energy resources, and the development of a community solar program would be a welcome step to diversifying our renewable portfolio.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify  
Leslie Cole-Brooks  
Executive Director  
Hawaii Solar Energy Association



**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3 P.M.

Room 308

(Testimony is 10 pages long)

**TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1050  
JOINT SUPPORT FOR PROPOSED HD3**

Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and members of the Committee:

The Blue Planet Foundation strongly supports SB 1050, establishing a community renewables program to make the benefits clean energy more equally accessible to all consumers.

This measure:

- Will allow residents and businesses to obtain a beneficial interest in solar and wind energy systems—even if those systems are not sited on their property.
- Will particularly benefit condominium residents, renters, and others who cannot install solar energy on their own roof.
- Will help to democratize our energy system by making renewable energy more accessible for all.

**We respectfully request that the committee pass the measure with amendments noted in the attached Proposed HD3. We understand that the Public Utilities Commission and the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism have proposed the same HD3, with the additional support of the Ulupono Initiative, the Hawaii Renewable Energy Alliance, and the Clean Energy Collective.**

We note that the compromise language in the Proposed HD3 will:

- Ensure that the PUC can appropriately balance “fair compensation for electricity, electric grid services, and other benefits provided to or by the utility, participating ratepayers, and non-participating ratepayers.” [Section (d)(3)]
- Ensure that program is in the “public interest.” [Section (a)]

We also note that the Proposed HD3 is an attempt at collaborative consensus and compromise. We support the resulting compromise, although we believe that the bill could provide more direct legislative policy guidance to clarify that the program: (1) should be available to consumers as

soon as possible (to provide an opportunity for those consumers to benefit from federal tax credits that will likely change at the end of 2016); and (2) should be readily accessible and streamlined for household-scale and community-scale renewable energy projects (currently reflected in Section 1 on Legislative Intent).

Public interest in this type of democratized community renewables program is rising. The Honolulu Star-Advertiser has expressed a similar view: “Whichever vehicle [HB 484 or SB 1050] moves, it must allow these relatively small-scale projects to be developed by private individuals and groups, as well as by the power utility.”<sup>1</sup>

Community Renewables is an innovative solution that is already happening in at least ten other states, such as California, Colorado, Massachusetts, Washington, Maryland, and Maine.<sup>2</sup> California calls it “shared renewables.” Colorado and Minnesota call them “community solar gardens.” Massachusetts calls it “neighborhood” metering. Washington D.C. calls it “community renewables.” Under any name, this is a good idea, urgently needed in Hawaii. For the reasons outlined above, and detailed below, Blue Planet Foundation strongly supports SB 1050. **We respectfully request that the bill be passed in accordance with the attached Proposed HD3.**

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

*The following pages contain:*

- *An editorial from Pacific Business News in favor of community renewables;*
- *An editorial from the Honolulu Star-Advertiser in favor of community renewables;*
- *An “FAQ” on community renewables;*
- *Jointly Proposed HD3.*

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<sup>1</sup> Honolulu Star-Advertiser, *State should seek ambitious energy goals*, March 15, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> The U.S. Dep’t of Energy’s National Renewable Energy Laboratory has reported on elements of these programs, <http://www.nrel.gov/docs/fy11osti/49930.pdf>.

## Community-based renewable energy FAQ

### ***Q: Why is community renewables necessary?***

A: While solar has been an incredible success story in Hawai'i, the majority of residents simply cannot directly participate in renewable energy because of their lack of access to a suitable rooftop for solar, such as many of the 40% of residents who live in multi-unit housing such as condos, or those whose roofs are shaded or otherwise incapable of supporting solar. Community-based renewable energy allows residents to invest in and benefit from solar and wind energy systems—even if those systems weren't directly on their property. It's a matter of fairness and equality. Everyone should be able to participate in Hawai'i's clean energy future, not just those fortunate enough to have a big roof over their heads.

### ***Q: What are the benefits of community renewables?***

Aside from making Hawai'i's clean energy policies more equitable, community renewables can bring real economic value to those who need it the most. Under California's Multifamily Affordable Solar Housing program (established in 2008, with at least 7 MW installed, and 13 MW signed up), community renewables is estimated to save low-income households 30% on their electric bills.

### ***Q: Is anyone else doing community renewables?***

A: Yes, as of November 2010, utilities, public utility commissions, and communities in California, Florida, Arizona, Utah, Colorado, Washington, Vermont, Massachusetts, Maryland, and Maine had all taken steps to adopt innovative community renewables programs. According a report by the U.S. Dep't of Energy National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) examined “the various community solar approaches that have been implemented thus far,” to develop “model” rules for community based renewable energy programs. These model rules could be used to develop a program for Hawai'i.

### ***Q: Aren't there other approaches to solve the same problem of lack of access to renewable energy?***

A: Yes, there are, such as the potential for a utility-sponsored “green pricing” program. But this is not available in Hawai'i and there are no current plans to make such a program available. Moreover, a community-based renewable energy program would empower residents to take control of their energy situation with their own resources, leveraging the efficiency of efficiency of the market.

OUR VIEW

## Solar gardens can make everyone a winner



A proven technology that is gaining popularity on the Mainland deserves some serious consideration here in Hawaii,

where the sun is part of our brand identity.

The concept is especially important on Oahu as we grow upward with high-rise condominium towers that offer their residents few options for renewable energy.

We're talking about community solar gardens, which enable businesses and residents to invest in renewable energy by subscribing to a solar electric array that is connected to the utility grid. Subscribers will then receive a credit on their electric bills.

Solar energy has been one of Hawaii's fastest-growing industries during the past decade, helped in large part by federal and state tax credits. Even so, its market penetration is under 10 percent.

One of the problems is that approximately 40 percent of Hawaii residents live in multifamily households, many of them without enough roof space to accommodate renewable-energy equipment. There also are economic barriers in rental units where tenants would reap the benefits while landlords pay for the equipment.

Community solar gardens would remove some of those barriers.

The Blue Planet Foundation, which introduced legislation last year, calls it a win-win-win proposition.

"Households everywhere can win by accessing affordable clean energy," the foundation says. "The utility wins by adding another tool to solve energy-interconnection questions. And businesses win because they can access a market that has long been cut off."

Hawaiian Electric Co. also likes the concept, according to spokesman Peter Rosegg.

"We are looking for a model for customers who want to invest in and benefit from solar PV but do not have the opportunity because they are high-rise residents, home renters or other reasons," he said. "The model should also offer potential lower-cost renewable energy and economic benefits for all our customers, not just those investing in community solar or single-family homeowners who can benefit from solar on their own roofs."

As one would expect, solar contractors also think it's a great idea. It would mean more business for them and expand solar's reach.

So, what's stopping us?

The Blue Planet Foundation's House Bill 1363 attracted some attention in the 2013 Legislature, but it was one of those complicated issues whose "time had not yet come." The foundation will submit a new draft this session.

We think the time has come to give community solar gardens serious attention. In our bid to rely more on renewable energy and less on fossil fuels, here's a concept that holds promise to move us in the right direction.

**State should seek ambitious energy goals - Hawaii News - Honolulu Star-Advertiser**

StarAdvertiser.com

**State should seek ambitious energy goals**

POSTED: 01:30 a.m. HST, Mar 15, 2015

LAST UPDATED: 04:38 a.m. HST, Mar 15, 2015

The concept of moving the goalposts isn't always a dodge of responsibilities. In the case of renewable energy, it's an acknowledgement that Hawaii can be more ambitious about producing its own clean energy, becoming more secure and economically stronger.

The Legislature and the state Public Utilities Commission are facing decision points concerning energy policy, all aimed at positioning Hawaii optimally to make the best use of its renewable energy riches.

The PUC has correctly resolved to decide on four outstanding dockets that would govern the utility's business approach toward expanding the penetration of clean energy on the power grid. These decisions — which would determine how customers are charged, how more rooftop solar can be deployed and other factors — are likely to take a year to 18 months, officials have said.

The onus is on state lawmakers to act before the PUC in authorizing the next set of goals. Ideally, the new aim would take Hawaii off imported fossil fuels entirely, as soon as it's possible without busting household budgets.

And action by legislators as well as the regulatory agency is essential in advance of any final deal by the Florida-based NextEra Inc. to merge with Hawaiian Electric Industries, as is being proposed. The expectations the state has for its electric utilities should be known to the principal players, both current and prospective.

At issue at the state Capitol are a few bills of interest, all of which deserve serious consideration and debate:

» **House Bill 623, House Draft 2**, is the proposal that has passed the House; the Senate Energy Committee has slated a hearing for 2:45 p.m. Tuesday in conference room 225.

This bill would update the Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative to achieve a state energy portfolio of 100 percent renewable energy by 2045. The original initiative goal included a 70 percent clean-energy benchmark, which by 2030 would be achieved through conservation and substitution of renewables for the fossil fuels that now dominate.

A similar bill, **Senate Bill 715, Senate Draft 2**, would push back the deadline to 2050; it has not been scheduled for a hearing.

» **HB 484, HD 2**, and its companion bill **SB 1050, SD 2**, would require the PUC to establish a "community-based renewable energy tariff" system, a means of allowing people who lack the means or opportunity to install their own photovoltaic panels to buy into a larger project and reap some of the energy savings solar PV systems enable.

Whichever vehicle moves, it must allow these relatively small-scale projects to be developed by private individuals and groups, as well as by the power utility.

» **HB 1504, HD 2**, would provide funds and direct the Legislative Reference Bureau to do a comparative study of various utility models, including those that are owned cooperatively or in the public sector.

It would also impose a cap on interconnection costs that the utility could recover through a surcharge. These are the expenses associated with connecting external electricity generators to its grid. The cap would be based on national averages.

The primary accelerator for all of this would be the 100 percent clean-energy legislation. Judging by the meteoric rate of adoption of clean energy in recent years, this goal should be more than aspirational. It should be within reach.

However, the utility is bound to act in the interest of ratepayers, so it's essential that enabling legislation have an "out clause" to keep costs manageable, meaning the costs that are passed through to ratepayers. Technology developments over time should present more affordable consumer options, and it's important that the PUC has the discretion to make adjustments to the goals.

Fortunately, both bills currently offer some needed flexibility. Allowances in the current law already are made for circumstances beyond the utility's control; added to the list of circumstances would be the inability to garner enough renewable electrical energy to meet benchmarks "in a manner that is beneficial to Hawaii's economy in relation to comparable fossil fuel resources."

By almost every measure, getting Hawaii off imported fuel makes sense. It would reduce our carbon footprint at a time when concern about climate change is skyrocketing. It would keep more money in the local economy, as well. And if customers are ensured enough competition and choice, it gives ratepayers more control over their household budgets.

NextEra is positioned to become the dominant force in Hawaii's market, and it certainly has the capacity to increase green-energy generation. Additionally, the company can make liquefied natural gas potentially cheaper as a "bridge" fuel in the near term.

But before NextEra comes to town, decision makers must act promptly to set the renewable-energy bar where it should be: 100 percent.

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# A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:**

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that all Hawaii residents should be able to participate in and enjoy the economic, environmental, and societal benefits of renewable energy. Spurred by the Hawaii clean energy initiative and increasingly affordable clean energy options, such as solar photovoltaic systems, localized renewable energy generation technology has become increasingly attainable.

While residential solar energy use has grown dramatically across the State in recent years, many residents and businesses are currently unable to directly participate in renewable energy generation because of their location, building type, access to the electric utility grid, or other impediments. The community-based renewable energy program seeks to rectify this inequity by dramatically expanding the market for eligible renewable energy resources to include residential and business renters, occupants of residential and commercial buildings with shaded or improperly oriented roofs, and other groups who are unable to access the benefits of onsite clean energy generation.

The legislature finds that it is in the public interest to promote broader participation in self-generation by Hawaii residents and businesses through the development of community-based renewable energy facilities in which participants are entitled to generate electricity and receive credit for that electricity on their utility bills.

Community-based renewable energy creates new construction jobs, stimulates the economy, reduces emissions of greenhouse gases, promotes energy independence, and assists in meeting the State's clean energy goals. Further, community-based renewable energy enables residents and businesses to save money on their electricity bills, thereby providing additional funds for purchasing, investment, or other economic activity.

The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii community-based renewable energy program to make the benefits of renewable energy generation more accessible to a greater number of Hawaii residents. The Legislature finds that a community-based renewable energy tariff should, to the extent possible, be designed in an open and accessible process and should accommodate a variety of community-based renewable energy projects, models, and sizes. The Legislature also finds that, in order to facilitate the timely implementation of community-based renewable energy, the electric utilities should collaborate with the department of business, economic development, and tourism, and other stakeholders from the

renewable energy industry and environmental advocacy community on the development of a community-based renewable energy tariff prior to filing the tariff with the public utilities commission.

SECTION 2. Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by adding a new section to be appropriately designated and to read as follows:

**"§269- Community-based renewable energy tariffs.** (a) Each electric utility in the State of Hawaii shall file a proposed community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs with the public utilities commission by October 1, 2015. The public utilities commission shall establish a community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs if the tariff or tariffs are found to be in the public interest.

(b) Any person or entity may own or operate an eligible community-based renewable energy project or projects provided that the person or entity complies with all applicable statutes, rules, tariffs, and regulations governing the ownership and interconnection of such project or projects.

(c) As used in this section, "eligible community-based renewable energy project" means a project that:

- (1) Is subject to a community-based renewable energy tariff; and
- (2) Generates or produces renewable energy as defined under 269-91.

(d) As used in this section, "community-based renewable energy tariff" means a tariff approved by the commission that:

(1) Allows an electric utility customer to participate in an eligible community based-renewable energy project that is providing electricity and electric grid services to the electric utility;

(2) Allows the electric utility to implement a billing arrangement to compensate those customers for the electricity and electric grid services provided to the electric utility;

(3) Is designed to provide fair compensation for electricity, electric grid services, and other benefits provided to or by the utility, participating ratepayers, and non-participating ratepayers; and

(4) To the extent possible, standardizes and streamlines the related interconnection processes for community-based renewable energy projects.

SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2015.

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 6:55 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: zojing@aol.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM\*

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Zojing Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 6:23 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: wendywailua@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Wendy Raebeck	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Dear Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee, I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). 97% of people in Hawaii favor more solar power so Hawaii gets cleaner, cheaper energy. We absolutely need our government to make community solar a priority, so everyone has access to solar power, to being part of the solution, and to saving money.. Please do not act in the interests of utility companies but in the interests of the people. Please pass this bill. Mahalo nui.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 10:15 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: vhinshaw@hawaii.edu  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Virginia Hinshaw	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee, As a citizen of Hawaii and board member of Blue Planet, I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof and I am in that same situation. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's. Lead us into the future of clean energy. Mahalo - Virginia Hinshaw

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, April 07, 2015 7:11 AM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: davidsher@juno.com  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM\*

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/7/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 6:09 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: milestopping@gmail.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Miles Topping	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee, I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, Hawaii as a community should harness the sun's power. The sun has so much power, it is noticeable in just 5mins of standing outside. It's abundant and it's free. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. Please make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's. Thank you, Miles Topping

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 8:28 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: mauipeaceaction@earthlink.net  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mele Stokesberry	Individual	Support	No

Comments: My husband Charles Carletta and I are home owners who have been able to put solar panels on our house, but so many renters or apartment dwellers cannot. We strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, we favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

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Support for SB1050

April 6, 2015

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee,

I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. The sun is a free and renewable energy source we should be taking full advantage of to bring Hawaii closer to energy independence and security. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Justine Espiritu

3035 Hibiscus Drive

Honolulu HI 96815

(707) 324-9940

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 7:29 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: chris@mentzel.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chris Mentzel	Individual	Support	No

Comments: This is a great idea and will level the playing field for condo dwellers. It would be great to give them the tax advantages as well.

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6 April 2015

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee,

My family, friends, and ohana and I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, we strongly favor more solar power.

With each new solar panel, Hawai'i gets cleaner, healthier, safer, more economical and more sustainable green energy.

Like our family, not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We would LOVE to be able to afford solar!!!! We know many others who also long for solar.

We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power.

Please pass this bill now. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility company's!

MAHALO NUI LOA for this excellent and trustworthy, progressive and intelligent bill,

Calley O'Neill  
Noa Eads  
Leianna Eads and ohana

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 9:28 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: blockard@iname.com  
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/6/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brodie Lockard	350Hawaii	Support	No

Comments: We strongly support SB1050. Hawaii, of all places, should be promoting community solar. It helps the now-stuggling local solar industry, it gives tens of thousands of customers otherwise shut out from PV the chance to benefit from solar savings, it helps Hawaii meet its RPS, and it fights global warming. Setting this bold example puts us at the forefront of renewables advocacy and shows the way forward for the nation and the world.

Please note that testimony submitted less than 24 hours prior to the hearing, improperly identified, or directed to the incorrect office, may not be posted online or distributed to the committee prior to the convening of the public hearing.

Do not reply to this email. This inbox is not monitored. For assistance please email [webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov](mailto:webmaster@capitol.hawaii.gov)

**Akira Biondo**

1572 Wilhelmina Rise  
Honolulu, HI 96816  
(808) 430-1755  
abiondo@hawaii.edu

April 6, 2015

Trenz Puca  
4321 First Street  
Anytown, State ZIP

**Testimony in Support of SB1050: Community Solar**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee,

I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050).

Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof.

We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. As residents of Hawaii, we are so heavily reliant on imports of everything from food and commodities, to energy. If we have the capability to move towards an off-grid future, which we do, let's take that step and ensure that not only home-owners but also renters have the ability to choose solar.

Please pass this bill.

Sincerely yours,

Akira Biondo

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Finance Committee,

I strongly support Community Solar (SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Thanks,

Henry

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov  
Sent: Tuesday, April 07, 2015 12:50 PM  
To: FINTestimony  
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu  
Subject: \*Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM\*

**SB1050**

Submitted on: 4/7/2015

Testimony for FIN on Apr 8, 2015 15:00PM in Conference Room 308

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050)

I live in a condo and would love the opportunity to be able to contribute to the building of clean energy units for our state.

I would also prefer to spend less on electricity and more on the social and educational welfare of our people.

Please pass this bill.

Andrea Jepson

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). I have solar power and love it! Unfortunately, not everyone can put panels on their own roof. As a business owner I rent space and cannot use solar power. By supporting Community Solar, everyone can access more solar power.

Please pass these bills, HB 484 and SB 1050

Aloha

Brit Reis, MD  
Pediatrician  
Reis Pediatrics

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I support Community Solar as a means of sharing the benefits of this important means of renewable energy. HB 484 and SB 1050 bring fairness and equity by allowing residents to invest in off-site solar generation that can turn into direct reductions on their electricity bills.

Besides reducing carbon pollution, additional solar panel installations will create new construction jobs.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna Ambrose  
316 Ilihau St.  
Kailua, HI 96734  
(808) 664-7861

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar Senate Bill 1050. I believe that with the large rental population in Hawaii we should have this bill pass to let everyone get a fair opportunity to benefit from renewable energy. If some move from one rental to another they can "take" their benefits with them.

Sincerely,

Elayne Cho

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support SB 1050, directing the Public Utilities Commission to create a community renewables program that allows everyone to participate in Hawaii's 100% renewable energy future.

Right now many Hawaii residents cannot benefit from low-cost solar power because they live in buildings that are not suitable for solar power self-generation. Community solar would allow these residents to invest in solar power generation on other residents' buildings, achieve solar power savings on their own utility bills, and participate in a cleaner, greener 100% renewable Hawaii.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify

Aloha nui loa,

Erik Kvam

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support SB 1050. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy, but not everyone can put panels on their own roof. Please make community solar a priority so that everyone has access to solar power. Please pass this bill.

Laura Gray

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

Aloha. I installed PV panels 10 years ago (when it cost more) because I am truly afraid of climate change. Unfortunately, I don't produce enough to cover our use, and could never power an electric car. My neighbor's old, tall coconut trees limit the amount of sun I have access to. The house is an illegal vacation rental and they are not open to cutting the trees. So, I want personal access to Community Solar to add to what I can produce at home. Please give me that opportunity.

Thank you, Lisa Marten

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support HB484 and SB1050, the community-based renewable energy program. If it's feasible we should expand the market for eligible renewable energy resources to include residential and business renters, occupants of residential and commercial buildings with shaded or improperly oriented roofs, and other groups who are unable to access the benefits of onsite clean energy generation.

In this way participants are entitled to generate electricity and receive credit for that electricity on their utility bills.

This makes total sense in a place that has such ample sunshine.

Lois Crozer

Kailua

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

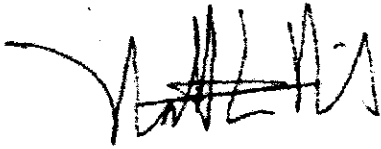
Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mattson C. Davis'. The signature is stylized with a large initial 'M' and a long horizontal stroke.

Mattson C. Davis

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

My husband and I strongly support Senate Bill 1050 to establish a community renewables program for Hawaii that is open to all participants. This measure brings fairness and equity to access to renewable energy.

We have invested in solar panels on our home roof and are enjoying running our home on them AND driving our 2011 Nissan Leaf on sunshine for, usually, a monthly electric bill of \$18. We realize that we are privileged.

About 40% of Hawaii residents are currently unable to benefit from solar power because they live in condos or apartment buildings, they are renters, their home doesn't get enough sun exposure, or their home is on a saturated circuit. Community solar allows these residents to invest in off-site solar generation that can turn into direct reductions on their electricity bills.

Besides cost savings, this program would also create new construction jobs, stimulate the economy, reduce carbon pollution, and help end Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels.

We believe everyone has the right to benefit from renewable energy. Please vote in favor of SB 1050 in its current form to enable community solar for all.

Mele Stokesberry

Charles M. Carletta

51 Mano Drive, Kula, (Maui) HI 96790

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

This letter is in support of the Community Solar Bill, SB 1050 / HB 484.

Four years ago I was fortunate enough to convert my entire household electricity use to solar energy. I drive an electric car which also runs purely on solar energy. I am a community physician. I enjoy the luxury of owning my own home, and an adequate income which allows me the ability to make a difference in the community and reduce the use of fossil fuels.

I am proud to say I work for Kaiser Permanente who also supports clean energy. A group who is mindful with hospital operations and design, incorporates solar power and provides electric vehicle chargers at the workplace. It not only makes good business sense, but is very forward thinking and demonstrates a commitment to a healthier environment.

It is brings me great joy to see this transformation of clean energy use spread throughout the community, but I also realize there are many people who are unable to benefit from solar power due to their residential circumstance or financial situation. This is why I support SB 1050 / HB 484, Community Solar.

Everyone should have the opportunity for solar power and renewable energy. Everyone should be able to feel good about reducing their fossil fuel use, eliminating the high cost of electricity and being a part of a community which hopes to reverse climate change.

Individual households, schools, businesses, or other agencies should have to opportunity to create and share energy solutions and costs. Greater access is needed. Thoughtful planning and addressing the issues of crowded circuits and grid overload is needed. Community Solar is a way to begin to address these issues. This is why I am asking you to join me in support for SB 1050/HB 484 Community Solar

Sincerely Grateful,

Melissa Lawrence MD

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Best regards,

Miles Yoshimoto  
Project Developer

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,  
Reggie Salvador

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,  
Rene' Julian

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I am a retired UH professor and a homeowner and I have decided to have PV solar panels installed on my house with enough capacity to run an electric car.

I understand that almost 50% of Hawaii's people don't share the possibility of doing the above. Therefore, I strongly support Senate Bill 1050 to establish a community renewables program for Hawaii that is open to all adult residents. This should stimulate our efforts to attain electrical energy independence for our state.

Aloha

Richard M. Smith, PhD

(Retired, UHM)

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,

--

Ross M Kutsunai  
Alternate Energy Inc.  
808-478-5631

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,  
Roy Skaggs

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Tatyana E. Cerullo

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

First of all, I thank you for your service to our great community, State, and Country. I am writing in absolute support of **SB 1050**, and, **HB 484**, Community Solar. As a very large portion of residents live in communities and this is a way in which we all can participate in the benefit.

Please support our community, and not to big business/PUCs.

You could effect this in our generation! It is the obvious and right thing to do. A sustainable, secure, and renewable local energy.

Please pass these bills.

Mahalo for your time, attention, energy, & service.

Aloha,

Vickie Fullard-Leo  
579 Auwina Street  
Kailua, HI 96734  
(808) 262-5660; 389-2820

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,

Ari Matsumura

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support SB 1050 to establish a community renewables program for Hawaii that is open to all participants. This measure brings fairness and equity to access to renewable energy.

About 40% of Hawaii residents are currently unable to benefit from solar power because they live in condos or apartment buildings, they are renters, their home doesn't get enough sun exposure, or their home is on a saturated circuit. Community solar allows these residents to invest in off-site solar generation that can turn into direct reductions on their electricity bills.

Besides cost savings, this program would also create new construction jobs, stimulate the economy, reduce carbon pollution, and help end Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels.

I believe everyone has the right to benefit from renewable energy. Please vote in favor of SB 1050 in its current form to enable community solar for all.

Henry Chang

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I want legislators to hear from me so they understand that there is widespread support for community solar to help residents and businesses who are unable to put panels on their own roofs.

I strongly support SB 1050 to establish a community renewables program for Hawaii that is open to all participants. This measure brings fairness and equity to access to renewable energy.

About 40% of Hawaii residents are currently unable to benefit from solar power because they live in condos or apartment buildings, they are renters, their home doesn't get enough sun exposure, or their home is on a saturated circuit. Community solar allows these residents to invest in off-site solar generation that can turn into direct reductions on their electricity bills.

Besides cost savings, this program would also create new construction jobs, stimulate the economy, reduce carbon pollution, and help end Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels.

I believe everyone has the right to benefit from renewable energy. Please vote in favor of SB 1050 in its current form to enable community solar for all.

Thank you  
Jeff Barone~

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people in Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their own roof. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. Please pass this bill. Power should be on the community's terms—not the utility's.

Sincerely,  
Jeff Lum

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

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About 40% of Hawaii residents are currently unable to benefit from solar power because they live in condos or apartment buildings, they are renters, their home doesn't get enough sun exposure, or their home is on a saturated circuit. Community solar allows these residents to invest in off-site solar generation that can turn into direct reductions on their electricity bills.

Besides cost savings, this program would also create new construction jobs, stimulate the economy, reduce carbon pollution, and help end Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels.

I believe everyone has the right to benefit from renewable energy. Please vote in favor of SB 1050 in its current form to enable community solar for all.

Jennie L Sine

Thanks!

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

April 8, 2015, 3:00 P.M.

Room 308

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050 SD2 HD2**

Aloha Chair Luke, Vice Chair Nishimoto, and Members of the Committee:

As a condo dweller, I would hope that future legislation advances condo access to solar panels that help reduce the individual electric bills of resident and slow global warming.

Joan Larcom

**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION & COMMERCE**

March 23, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Conference Room 325

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050, SD2, HD1**

Aloha Chair McKelvey, Vice Chair Woodson, and, Members of the Committee:

I strongly support Community Solar (HB 484, SB 1050). Like 97% of people of Hawaii, I favor more solar power. With each new solar panel, Hawaii gets cleaner and cheaper energy. But not everyone can put panels on their roof top. We need the legislature to make Community Solar a priority, so that everyone has access to more solar power. PLEASE PASS THIS BILL. Power should be on the community's terms--not the utility's.

Sincerely,

Janet Mac Neal, Hilo, HI (born in Honolulu)