

SB 1050



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

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Statement of
LUIS P. SALAVERIA
Director
Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism
before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Thursday, February 12, 2015
2:45 p.m.
State Capitol, Conference Room 225

in consideration of
SB 1050
RELATING TO ENERGY.

Chairs Gabbard and Baker, Vice Chairs Green and Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development & Tourism (DBEDT) respectfully offers comments on SB 1050 which orders the implementation of a community renewables program.

DBEDT supports the purpose of the legislation and offer comments geared to keep this measure moving forward. DBEDT believes that a community renewable energy program could be a valuable tool in achieving Hawaii's renewable energy goals and expanding access to many who have been unable to install or benefit from renewable energy installations.

Notably, California has passed community renewable legislation, SB 43, and the California Public Utilities Commission has recently issued a long awaited final decision on California's investor owned utilities, SDG&E, PG&E and SCE applications to implement a community renewable program.

A key component of the California legislative approach is the requirement for "customer indifference" that provides fair value to participating community solar customers and mitigates cost

shifts to non-participating customers.¹ DBEDT recommends that the legislature consider “customer indifference” language in this measure because it will support the long term sustainability of community renewable installations.

To ensure the portfolio of resources that serve Hawaii is optimized to achieve renewable goals at the lowest cost, we recommend specifying an initial program size in order to provide the opportunity for the program to be demonstrated and reviewed prior to expansion. This would help ensure the program design results in the procurement of the lowest cost resources to achieve the State’s renewable goals.

Community solar would benefit from a consistent program framework to be established by the PUC. As the investor owned utilities will implement the tariff, they would appropriately bring project proposals before the PUC for their consideration and/or modification. However, this would not dictate the structure of the contract between a third party provider and customers. In addition the program should allow for customers to have the choice to participate directly through the utility or third party developers.

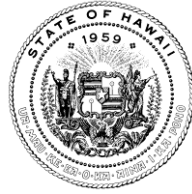
Another notable consideration is that the PUC should be directed to put consumer protections in place. As the number of options available to customers from third parties grow, consumer protections will become increasingly important as third parties generally do not face the same scrutiny from regulators as the utilities.

Finally, consideration should be given to the characterization of a customer’s participation with third parties as an investment.² There are any number of contractual arrangements that third parties may enter into with customers. However, characterizing those arrangements in statute as “investments” could create a risk that such a program would have to be registered as a security and comply with securities law.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments regarding SB 1050.

¹ California SB 43 section (p) *The commission shall ensure that charges and credits associated with a participating utility’s green tariff shared renewables program are set in a manner that ensures nonparticipant ratepayer indifference for the remaining bundled service, direct access, and community choice aggregation customers and ensures that no costs are shifted from participating customers to nonparticipating ratepayers.*

² See SB 1050 Page 4 line 12 reference to “interest”.



DAVID Y. IGE
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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
AND COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
REGULAR SESSION OF 2015

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2015
2:45 p.m.

TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. ONO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF
CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER
AFFAIRS, TO THE HONORABLE MIKE GABBARD AND
ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES

SENATE BILL NO. 1050 - RELATING TO ENERGY

DESCRIPTION:

This measure proposes to establish the community-based renewable energy program, which allows the Public Utilities Commission ("PUC") 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.

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 that would take effect no later than January 1, 2016.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY OF RANDY Y. IWASE
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
STATE OF HAWAII
TO THE
SENATE COMMITTEES ON
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
&
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

FEBRUARY 12, 2015

2:45 p.m.

MEASURE: S.B. No. 1050

TITLE: Relating to Energy

Chair Gabbard, Chair Baker, and Members of the Committees:

DESCRIPTION:

This measure would add a new section to Chapter 269, Hawaii Revised Statutes (“HRS”), to explicitly authorize the Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) to establish community based renewable energy tariffs by which customers who have invested in renewable energy generation facilities are allowed to receive compensation from the utility for electricity produced by those facilities.

POSITION:

The Commission supports the intent of a tariff structure to enable new energy programs.

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 community based renewable energy tariff has the ability to increase renewable energy generation while improving customers’ options to manage energy use. The Commission notes that a properly implemented community based renewable energy tariff should ensure that the program is equitable to all ratepayers and that any new generation resources proposed under such a program maximize the use of cost-effective renewable resources. Further, the Commission notes that the discretion to revise and modify the program

S.B. No. 1050
Page 2

should be left to the Commission so that appropriate adjustments can be made to ensure that the program remains in the public interest.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



SB1050
RELATING TO ENERGY

Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection

February 12, 2015

2:45 p.m.

Room 225

The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Committee on Beneficiary Advocacy and Empowerment will recommend to the Board of Trustees a position of **COMMENT** on SB1050, which establishes a community-based renewable energy framework, thereby expanding who can participate in the economic and environmental benefits associated with renewable energy.

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 less able to afford the up-front costs of participating in and benefiting from the current renewable energy distributed-generation market. **By expanding who can participate in renewable energy generation projects, this bill will provide opportunities for more people to benefit from renewable energy related cost savings.**

The framework established by SB1050 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. By adopting the targets of the Aloha+ Challenge, the state, including OHA, has committed to achieving the use of clean energy for 70% of our islands’ energy needs by 2030. The principles underlying the Aloha+ Challenge support a renewed commitment to the sustainability practiced by our ancestors, and are perpetuated today through the traditional concept of mālama ‘āina. The Aloha+ Challenge is embodied in the Hawaiian saying: “E mālama i ka ‘āina i mohala i nā kānaka o ke kulāiwi” (When one cares and perpetuates and preserves the natural resources, the people shall thrive).

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Testimony of Hawai'i Green Growth
In Support of SB1050 Relating to Energy
Senate Committee on Energy and Environment
Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection
12 February 2015, 2:45pm, Room 225**

Audrey Newman
Hawai'i Green Growth
P.O. Box 535 Ho'olehua, Hawai'i 96729

Hawai'i Green Growth is a voluntary partnership of more than 70 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.

Aloha Chairs Gabbard & Baker, Vice Chairs Green & Taniguchi, and Members of the Committee:

Hawai'i Green Growth (HGG) strongly supports SB1050. 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. This specific language has consensus from HGG Working Group members Hawai'i State Energy Office, Blue Planet Foundation, and Hawaiian Electric Company.

SB1050 is a clean energy priority that will help advance action on the *Aloha+ Challenge: A Culture of Sustainability – He Nohona 'Ae'oiia*, 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". The signature is written in a cursive style.

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>



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT AND COMMERCE & CONSUMER
PROTECTION

Thursday, February 12, 2015 — 2:45 p.m. — Room 225

Ulupono Initiative Strongly Supports SB 1050, Relating to Energy

Dear Chair Gabbard, Vice Chair Green, Chair Baker, Vice Chair Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees:

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, which establishes a community-based renewable energy program, because it aligns with our goal of producing more clean, renewable energy in Hawai'i.

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 utility to obtain cost recovery for the transmission of electricity

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: carl.campagna@kamakagreen.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 10:01:06 AM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Environmental Caucus of the Democratic Party of Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

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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Testimony of ERIK KVAM
President of Renewable Energy Action Coalition of Hawaii
e-mail: Erik.Kvam@REACHhawaii.org

In SUPPORT of SB 1050 RELATING TO ENERGY

**Before the
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT**

Thursday, February 12, 2015 2:45 p.m.

Aloha, Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Green and members of the Committee.

My name is Erik Kvam. I am the President of Renewable Energy Action Coalition of Hawaii (REACH). REACH is a trade association whose vision is a Hawaiian energy economy based 100% on renewable sources indigenous to Hawaii.

REACH SUPPORTS THE INTENT of HB 484.

REACH believes that a community renewable program could be a valuable tool in expanding access to many who have been unable to install or benefit from renewable energy installations.

Thank you for allowing me to testify.



**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 12, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Room 225

(Testimony is 8 pages long)

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF SB 1050

Chair Gabbard, Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Green, Vice-Chair Taniguchi, and members of the Committees:

The Blue Planet Foundation strongly supports SB 1050, establishing a community renewables program to expand the number of Hawai'i residents who can participate in the benefits of clean energy. This measure would allow residents to obtain a beneficial interest in solar and wind energy systems—even if those systems are not sited on their property.

SB 1050 makes renewable energy accessible for many Hawai'i residents, businesses, and agencies who cannot currently take advantage of energy cost savings available from solutions like rooftop solar photovoltaic energy. Community-based renewable energy boosts private investment in our green energy infrastructure while it maximizes the flexibility of our clean energy solutions. In doing so, it benefits all Hawai'i residents by reducing the amount of money we send out of the state to pay for imported fossil fuels.

To ensure that SB 1050 successfully delivers clean energy access, it must retain three key features. First, SB 1050 enables anyone (community, renewable developer, land or building owner, etc.) to propose a community renewables project (subject to technical interconnection)—not just the electric utility. This truly enables the democratization of our renewable energy resources. Second, the measure directly establishes a program and a timeline, avoiding a lengthy, resource-intensive, and sometimes contentious regulatory process. Finally, the bill makes it clear that the legislation will not preclude an electric utility from developing and implementing their own community renewables program—it simply establishes a framework for others to develop projects and broaden the competitive renewable landscape.

For these reasons, and the reasons outlined below, Blue Planet Foundation strongly supports SB 1050 and asks that you forward it without amendments.

Our current system leaves many Hawai'i households, businesses, and public agencies unable to directly participate in renewable energy

Many residents and businesses have been using solar power and other technologies to break free from energy costs being driven upward by fossil fuels. Unfortunately, many individuals and households are currently unable to directly participate in renewable energy because of their location, building type, access to the electric utility grid, or other impediments. For example, (a) it may be difficult for a single condominium owner to install solar panels, without a wider installation on behalf of the entire condominium; (b) it may be difficult for homeowners with shaded roofs to harness as much of the sun's energy as their neighbors; or (c) a homeowner may find that the utility is limiting the amount of energy from the homeowner's particular circuit.

All of these situations can be addressed with community-based renewable energy.

Community Renewables unlocks clean energy solutions, improves our economy, and benefits our electrical grid

Community Renewables allows residents to join together to find energy solutions. For example, several condominium owners in different buildings may collectively install solar panels in another location with spare rooftop capacity. Even larger communities can join together to install renewable energy in ways that are most effective and efficient for their particular community. Or public agencies, such as schools, colleges, universities, and local governments will have more flexibility to access renewable energy across their systems. The cost savings can benefit important educational programs, social services, and new hiring.

Community Renewables can also help make our energy system more robust, by evening out the distribution of renewable energy on the grid. For example, homeowners on a crowded circuit can install solar panels on another circuit, and receive the credit against their energy bill. By promoting renewable energy on under-utilized circuits, it can help the utility to operate our electrical system more effectively and efficiently. In addition to these benefits, group net metering creates new construction jobs, stimulates the economy, reduces emissions of greenhouse gases, promotes energy independence, and will assist in meeting and exceeding the state's clean energy goals.

Community Renewables can also empower new energy innovations. For example, a community electric vehicle charger could participate in the program, tying charging to the availability of 100% renewable energy generated elsewhere on the grid. The program can also become a catalyst for smart energy pricing, where the value of renewable energy changes as supply and demand change on the grid throughout the course of a day.

Ensuring Fairness for All Utility Customers

The promise of Community Renewables is that, if scaled up appropriately, it can provide fair access to clean power for all consumers. But this promise will only be realized if the program (i) promotes broad participation by many customers, (ii) invites innovation and competition from clean energy companies, (iii) grows beyond the confines of the traditional utility business model, and (iii) takes a forward-looking view on how to value clean energy. A program that is too utility-centric would risk closing the door on competition from innovative and entrepreneurial solutions. A program limited to large utility-scale energy projects, each subject to individualized negotiation with the utility, and each potentially limited by a traditional utility business model, will struggle to achieve the promise of fair access for all. Consumers need a broad, open, program that encourages new innovations and utility business models.

Too often, the concept of “fairness” is shifted away from focusing on fair access for all consumers, and instead becomes about protecting utility revenues under the traditional business model. Many assume that large “cost shifts” from solar energy customers to non-solar energy customers are inevitable, even though Hawai‘i does not yet have the benefit of an accounting that addresses all the costs and benefits of solar power. Hawaii has not yet implemented a dynamic rate structure that would comprehensively capture all costs and benefits as they change over time, or that would encourage new utility revenue streams for promoting distributed power. Thus, public dialogue is narrowly focused on the utility’s “lost revenues” rather than a comprehensive view of costs, benefits, and access for all consumers.¹

The myth of a solar “cost shift” also ignores the fundamental fact that the regulated monopoly utility is built on “cross-subsidies” between customers. A regulated utility is intended to ensure that all customers receive equal access to power. But the cost of providing that power is not the same for all customers.

For example, the regulated utility rate structure does not charge rural residents more, even though the fixed costs of delivering energy a longer distance may be higher than in settings with higher population density.

¹ In the HECO Companies’ Testimony on companion bill HB 484, the HECO Companies testified that “[a]s of December 2014, the annualized total fixed cost shift was \$53MM.” It is unclear whether this “total fixed cost-shift” accounts for many benefits of distributed solar energy, such as reduced transmission losses, forfeited customer energy credits, reduced utility capital expenditures on renewable generation, or other potentially substantial benefits. Nor does it account for benefits that many ratepayers may value, such as consumer choice and protecting our environment. A focus on lost utility revenues, rather than a total accounting of costs and benefits, cannot capture the state’s energy policies. For example, if a similar analysis was applied to energy efficiency (which is functionally the same as solar generation that is used on-site at the same time it is generated) the utility might argue that efficiency is not “fair for ALL consumers.” Plainly, energy policy favors efficiency. Just as energy policy favors clean energy.

In another example, the regulated utility rate structure allows commercial customers to pay lower rates than residential customers, while invoking a capacity charge or other mechanism. In contrast, residential customers pay higher rates but do not typically see differentiation based on their capacity demand. Thus, it is inevitable that some residential customers are providing a cross-subsidy to other residential customers. It is likely that commercial customers are providing a cross-subsidy to residential customers, or vice-versa.

And most-importantly, it is bad energy policy to zealously slam the door on “cross-subsidies” because it may be desirable to provide a cross-subsidy for low-income ratepayers. The cross-subsidy language inserted into companion bill HB 484 HD1 is too broad; it would prohibit this outcome in favor of low-income ratepayers.

In light of these important issues, consumers need more than a “fairness” sound bite.

For companion bill HB 484, the HECO Companies proposed substantial changes to the Community Renewables Bill. These changes do not promote fair access for all customers.

- **HECO’s proposed changes would bar any entity other than the utility from proposing a Community Renewables program structure.** A fair and open program should be open to all consumers and energy developers, and should welcome the competitive benefits of being open to innovative business and development models. HECO proposes to limit the program to a utility-centric model. *The existing draft is preferable because the program will be established by the legislature, and will be open to everyone. Even if the utility never prepares a proposed Community Renewables tariff, another party could submit a proposed program design to the PUC for approval.*
- **HECO’s proposed changes eliminate the deadline for implementing a program.** We cannot overstate the urgency of implementing a Community Renewables program to provide fair and open access to renewable energy. HECO proposes a bill with no timeline. Consumers do not deserve to wait any longer. *The existing draft is preferable because it establishes a deadline of January 1, 2016 to implement a Community Renewables tariff that is accessible to all consumers and developers. This will allow at least a year before the potential expiration of federal tax credits that can make these projects even more cost-effective for Hawaii consumers. Consumers cannot afford to wait a year or longer for this program to be implemented.*
- **HECO’s proposed changes eliminate the legislature’s policy guidance favoring streamlined standardized approval processes.** Eliminating this language creates the risk that the Community Renewables program will be constrained by increased transaction costs associated with individualized utility negotiations. This will favor larger utility-centric projects, rather than empowering a market for project designs that work for various communities. It will also ultimately constrain the potential size of the Community Renewables program. *The existing draft is preferable because it calls for streamlined*

standardized processes, while still requiring that large projects (greater than 1 MW) will be subject to individualized PUC approval. This will help to promote greater access by all customers.

- **HECO’s proposed changes impose a vague standard of “transmit[ting] the most cost effective renewable energy to ALL customers.”** Although at first blush this standard seems favorable, the legislature has already issued a measured and rational cost-effectiveness mandate. H.R.S. § 269-6(b) states:

“In making determinations of the reasonableness of the costs of utility system capital improvements and operations, the commission shall explicitly consider, quantitatively or qualitatively, the effect of the State's reliance on fossil fuels on price volatility, export of funds for fuel imports, fuel supply reliability risk, and greenhouse gas emissions. The commission may determine that short-term costs or direct costs that are higher than alternatives relying more heavily on fossil fuels are reasonable, considering the impacts resulting from the use of fossil fuels.”

The standard proposed by HECO’s amendments would conflict with this existing legislative policy guidance, and may prescribe a standard that would limit the availability of the program even in the face of consumer demand. *The existing draft is preferable because it allows the PUC to evaluate cost effectiveness under clear existing guidelines.*

For these reasons, we strongly urge the committees to forward the bill without amendments.

However, to the extent that the committees seek to implement amendments, we offer the following suggestion. This suggestion is itself an amendment of changes made to the House companion bill HB 484, and is intended to ensure that both costs and benefits to participants and non-participants are evaluated.

(b) In establishing the community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs, the commission shall consider mechanisms to appropriately address potential cross-subsidy or shifting of costs and benefits between participants and non-participants. Such considerations may include, but shall not be limited to, time-of-use rates, demand charges, system efficiency, ancillary services, and other elements of a dynamic rate structure to promote an appropriate balance of costs and benefits in the interest of both participating and non-participating ratepayers.

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.²

² 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>.

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.

We respectfully request that SB 1050 be forwarded for further consideration. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

The following pages contain an “FAQ” on community renewables and an article from Pacific Business News.

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.



AMERICANS FOR DEMOCRATIC ACTION

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John Bickel, President
Chuck Huxel, Vice-President
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DIRECTORS

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Juliet Begley
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Brien Hallett
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George Simson
Bart Dame (Alt)
Marsha Schweitzer (Alt)
PO. Box 23404
Honolulu
Hawai'i 96823

February 11, 2015

Chair Senator Gabbard and ENE Committee Members and Chair Baker and CPN Members

Re: SB 1050 Relating to Energy
Hearing on Feb. 12, 2105

Dear Senators Gabbard and Baker Members of the Committees:

Americans for Democratic Action is an organization devoted to the promotion of progressive public policies.

We support SB 1050 as it would support making community solar an option for everyone. Community solar is the simple concept that the community should be able to come together to install panels on any roof, and have all the participants receive credit for their share of the power. This is more important today than ever because a greater percentage of us are living in condominium buildings. This bill particularly helps this growing population live green.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

John Bickel
President



Directors

Jody Allione
Project Development
Consultant

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
SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

SB 1050, RELATING TO ENERGY

February 12, 2015

Chair Gabbard, Vice-Chair Green 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 are to (i) require PUC to establish community-based renewable energy tariff or tariffs to take effect by 1/1/16; (ii) define community-based renewable energy tariffs; and (iii) provide that projects up to one megawatt are subject to PUC-approved interconnection processes and projects greater than one megawatt are subject to PUC review and approval.

HREA **supports** this measure with the following comments and recommendations, including deletion of a section as discussed below.

- 1) Clean Energy Goals. This measure supports our 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 current RPS of 40%. Such systems will provide an option to customers who are not able to install renewable systems on their property via a net metering or other agreement, and lack adequate renewable resources or space on their property.
- 2) Role of the Utility. Given the PUC's IRP Inclinations and its denial of HECO's application for 15 MW PV facility at its Kahe power plant site, we do not believe it is appropriate for the electric utility to develop and implement its own community-based renewable energy projects. References:
 - a) "Commission's Inclinations on the Future of Hawaii's Electric Utilities - Aligning the Utility Business Model with Customer Interests and Public Policy Goals, Exhibit A to PUC Order No. 32052 in its Integrated Resource Planning Docket No. 2012-0036, filed on April 28, 2014; and
 - b) Commission's Decision and Order 32437, dated November 4, 2014, in its Docket No. 2013-0360, pages 1-2, and 66-67.
- 3) Recommendations: Please pass out this measure deleting section (c) (p.4, l: 3-6).

Mahalo for this opportunity to testify.



Hawaii Solar Energy Association
Serving Hawaii Since 1977

Before Senate Committee on Energy and Environment & Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, February 12, 2015, 2:45 p.m., room 225
SB 1050: Relating to Energy

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker, Vice Chairs Green and Taniguchi, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Hawaii Solar Energy Association (HSEA), I would like to testify in support for SB 1050 which establishes a community-based renewable energy program. 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. SB 1050 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 would allow the utility or any third party to propose, own, or operate a community based project

SB 1050 also has the advantage of allowing either the utility or any third party to propose, own, or operate a community based project and still make use of the community solar tariff created by this legislation. This means that the power to create a community solar project would not rest solely with the utility, and this provision might even the playing field when it comes to project development and approval. This provision is in alignment with the PUC's inclinations in which the PUC states that the utility should move more in the direction of a wires company and leave development and generation to third parties.

Interconnection procedures stay in place and systems above 1 MW subject to PUC approval

SB 1050 also expressly states that interconnection procedures would stay in place and that any projects above 1 MW would only be built subject to PUC approval. This ensures that community solar projects would not be afforded interconnection protocol different from other renewable energy projects currently waiting in queue. Getting a project interconnected is no easy task, and it is important to ensure that a fair interconnection process stays in place. HSEA would also like to see that community solar projects are developed such that site selection does not subsequently preclude roof top customers from installing systems whenever possible.

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 HSEA



Testimony in support of SB 1050

Prepared by Clean Energy Collective for the joint Committee on Energy and Environment and Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection hearing on Thursday, February 12th, 2015

SB 1050 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 Committees on ENE and CNP today regarding SB 1050. We are also pleased to offer specific input in person via our representative, Jody Allione.

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.

In general, we are very supportive of SB 1050 and thank the sponsors for their efforts. We urge you to pass the bill and allow all Hawaiians the chance to access their own clean energy. However, in the spirit of constructive input, CEC recommends that you consider the following changes or clarifications:

- 1) **Remove the 1 MW limit for standard interconnection process in Sec 2 (b).** Instead, CEC recommends simply setting the maximum project size at 5 MW with all projects subject to the interconnection processes approved by the commission. As written, the current legislation adds an unnecessary extra step in the approval process for projects larger than 1 MW, which will slow down deployment of community-based renewables and potentially even prevent the development of projects up to 5 MW in size, hindering the ability for customers to get higher economic benefits out of the program.
- 2) **Add language to require a percentage of small subscribers for each community-based renewable energy facility, to ensure that small customers are included.** One of the appealing qualities of community-based renewable systems is that they allow all citizens the ability to own and benefit from renewable energy. And while larger commercial customers are important, individuals and small businesses are vital for long-term community support and involvement. In our experience, specific language requiring a level of participation by small customers is needed or else they will be crowded out. CEC recommends adding language similar to what is found in Massachusetts' Virtual Net



Metering Law 220CMR18 – requiring each community-based renewable facility to have no more than two customers consuming over 25 kW of capacity, with those two customers making up no more than 50% of overall project capacity.

- 3) **CEC recommends that the Hawaii PUC refer to successful community renewable energy programs when implementing SB1050.** Many of the details of the community-based renewable energy programs enabled by SB1050 are left up to implementation by the PUC. CEC is supportive of this approach, as the PUC has the expertise and knowledge needed to handle such program details. In doing so, we suggest that the PUC use examples of successful community renewable energy program implementations. This will allow faster implementation and greater chance of success in Hawaii. Some examples are Colorado’s Community Solar Gardens program and Massachusetts’ Community Shared Solar program. Examples of important details to consider include: contract length between consumers and the facility owner, minimum number of subscribers per project, and interconnection standards and policies for allowing interconnection of a facility before 100% subscription.

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. 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 "TH", written over a white background.

Tom Hunt
VP of Corporate Development
Clean Energy Collective



Testimony before the Senate
Committee on Energy And Environment and Committee on Commerce And Consumer Affairs
February 12, 2015, 2:45 pm
Conference Room 225
S.B. 1050 – Relating to Energy

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

Chairs Gabbard and Baker, Vice Chairs Green and Taniguchi, and Members of the Committees:

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**ⁱ. However we have **concerns about the language proposed in SB 1050**. We have **included edits for consideration** into SB 1050 SD 1.

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.
- 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.ⁱⁱ

Access

The Companies support increasing options for ALL customers. 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

The Companies supports a community renewables program that is fair and sustainable to ALL customers, not just participants in the program. 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.ⁱⁱⁱ

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

ⁱ <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.

ⁱⁱ As of December 2014, the annualized total fixed cost shift was \$53MM, a \$15MM increase from December 2013.

ⁱⁱⁱ http://www.hawaiianelectric.com/heco/_hidden_hidden/CorpComm/Hawaiian-Electric-sends-six-more-Oahu-solar-contracts-to-Public-Utilities-Commission-for-approval?cpsexcurrchannel=1 (average price of solar \$0.14/kWh).

THE SENATE
TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE, 2015
STATE OF HAWAII

A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO ENERGY.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that all Hawaii residents
2 should be able to participate in and enjoy the economic,
3 environmental, and societal benefits of renewable energy.

4 Spurred by the Hawaii clean energy initiative and increasingly
5 affordable clean energy options, such as solar photovoltaic,
6 localized renewable energy generation technology has become
7 increasing attainable.

8 While residential solar energy use has grown dramatically
9 across in recent years, many residents and businesses are
10 currently unable to directly participate in renewable energy
11 because of their location, building type, access to the electric
12 utility grid, or other impediments.

13 The community-based renewable energy program seeks to
14 rectify this inequity by ~~dramatically~~ expanding the market for
15 eligible renewable energy resources to ~~include residential and~~
16 ~~business renters, occupants of residential and commercial~~

S.B. 1050
[PROPOSED SD1]

1 ~~buildings with shaded or improperly oriented roofs, and other~~
2 ~~groups who are unable to access the benefits of onsite clean~~
3 ~~energy generation.~~ The legislature finds that it is in the
4 public interest to promote a fair and sustainable program that
5 benefits ALL customers ~~broader participation in self-generation~~
6 ~~by Hawaii residents and businesses~~ through the development of
7 cost effective community renewable energy facilities in which
8 participants are able to purchase a pro rata interest in the
9 ~~entitled to generate~~ electricity generated by the facility and
10 sold to the electric utility for the benefit of all customers,
11 and at a price approved by the PUC; and receive be credited for
12 that electricity on their utility bills.

13 Like all new construction projects, Community based
14 renewable energy facilities creates ~~new~~ construction jobs,
15 stimulates the economy, reduces emissions of greenhouse gases,
16 promotes energy independence, and assists in meeting the State's
17 clean energy goals. Further, community-based renewable energy
18 enables ~~residents and businesses~~ participants to ~~save off set~~
19 their monthly electric utility money on their electricity bills,
20 thereby bill, thereby providing additional reallocating funds for

S.B. 1050
[PROPOSED SD1]

1 | other ~~purchasing, investment, or other economic~~
2 | ~~activity purposes~~.

3 | While the concept of "wheeling" electricity over utility
4 | infrastructure has been the subject of discussion for years, the
5 | community-based renewable energy program contemplated in this
6 | Act should not be construed as "wheeling". ~~because the tariff or~~
7 | ~~tariffs established by the commission will address the utility~~
8 | ~~costs related to transmission and distribution infrastructure~~
9 | ~~and grid operations.~~

10 | The purpose of this Act is to establish the Hawaii
11 | community-based renewable energy program to make the benefits of
12 | renewable energy more accessible to a greater number of Hawaii
13 | residents.

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

17 | **"§269- Community-based renewable energy tariffs. (a)**

18 | Upon application by an electric utility ~~or another party~~, or
19 | upon its own motion, the commission shall establish a community-
20 | based renewable energy tariff or tariffs. ~~A community-based~~

S.B. 1050
[PROPOSED SD1]

1 ~~renewable energy tariff or tariffs shall take effect no later~~
2 ~~than January 1, 2016.~~

3 (b) Any person or entity, including a utility, may
4 propose, own, or operate a community-based renewable energy
5 project or projects; ~~provided that a project or projects equal~~
6 ~~to or less than one megawatt in size shall be subject to the~~
7 ~~interconnection processes approved by the commission and a~~
8 ~~project or projects greater than one megawatt in size shall be~~
9 subject to the commission's review and approval.

10 (c) An electric utility may develop and implement its own
11 community-based renewable energy project or projects; provided
12 that the project or projects shall be subject to the
13 commission's review and approval.

14 (d) ~~The community-based renewable energy tariff and~~
15 ~~related interconnection processes shall, to the extent possible,~~
16 ~~be standardized.~~

17 (e) Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit
18 wheeling.

19 (f) For purposes of this section:

20 "Community-based renewable energy tariff" means a tariff
21 approved by the commission that:

S.B. 1050

[PROPOSED SD1]

1 (1) Allows the electric utility to transmit the most cost
2 effective renewable energy to ALL customers
3 irrespective of their participation in the tariff
4 program, ensuring fairness to ALL customers. All
5 electric utility customers, irrespective of rate class
6 and not participating in another tariff (e.g. net
7 energy metering), ~~to~~ may obtain an pro rata interest
8 in the energy produced from the renewable energy
9 facility to off set their monthly utility bill; a
10 portion or portions of an eligible renewable energy
11 project that is providing electricity to the electric
12 utility; and

13 (2) Allows the electric utility to implement a billing
14 arrangement to ~~compensate-credit~~ those customers
15 participating in the tariff for the energy provided to
16 ALL customers via the electric system grid equal to
17 their pro rata interest in the renewable energy
18 facility.
19 electricity provided to the electric utility.

S.B. 1050
[PROPOSED SD1]

1 ~~SECTION 3. Section 269-1, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is~~
2 ~~amended by adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted~~
3 ~~and to read as follows:~~

4 ~~"Wheeling" means the transmission of electricity over~~
5 ~~transmission or distribution lines by an entity that does not~~
6 ~~directly own or use the electricity being transmitted, without~~
7 ~~any compensation to the electric utility for the cost of~~
8 ~~transmission and distribution."~~

9 SECTION 3. New statutory material is underscored.

10 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

From: [Angelina Mercado](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: Testimony in strong support of SB 1050
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 10:02:08 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

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.

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.

Sincerely,
Angelina Mercado

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 12, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Room 225

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1050

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

I strongly support Senate Bill 1050 to establish a community renewables program for Hawaii that is open to all participants.

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.

Brit Reis, MD
Reis Pediatrics
30 Aulike Street, Suite 500
Kailua, HI 96734

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: carl.campagna@kamakagreen.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 10:02:31 AM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Carl Campagna	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: davidhenkin@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 7:56:08 PM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

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

Comments: Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:
Please pass Senate Bill 1050, which would establish a community renewables program for Hawaii that is open to all participants. This measure brings fairness and equity to access to renewable energy, as well as creating new construction jobs, stimulating the economy, reducing carbon pollution, and helping end Hawaii's dependence on fossil fuels. Mahalo for the opportunity to provide this testimony.

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
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: c9b03fb4@opayq.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB674 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 11:38:18 AM

SB674

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Dr. Jodi Zender	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SB 674, a ban on Ivory sales in Hawaii... I OPPOSE... Elephant populations in sub-equatorial Africa in areas with good habitat development and game management policies are healthy and increasing in numbers according to the World Wildlife Fund web site, 2015. In impoverished African areas with no political stability elephant populations are threatened with extinction. This bill will not alter poaching in those areas. Bans are price supports for illegal activity there. Confiscated ivory and ivory harvested to protect subsistence farming and habitat degradation should be and is marketed to fund habitat improvement and anti-poaching enforcement. This bill makes criminals of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads, musical instruments, scrimshaw, hatpins, or jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance. Appraisal as an antique, produced before 1989, or lawfully harvested, should be exemptions or represent an affirmative defense.

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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 12, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Room 225

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1050

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

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.

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: mendezj@hawaii.edu
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 11:21:33 AM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Javier Mendez-Alvarez	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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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**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 12, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Room 225

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1050

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 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.

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~

From: [Jeff Yin](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: I support SB 1050
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 6:48:25 PM

Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, February 12, 2:45 pm
Testimony in strong support of SB 1050

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

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. As an apartment renter, I would like to be able to choose whether my electricity comes from renewable sources, and SB 1050 would allow me to do that.

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.

Jeffrey Yin
Makiki, Honolulu, O'ahu

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 12, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Room 225

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1050

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

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.

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!

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT
SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION**

February 12, 2015, 2:45 P.M.

Room 225

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB 1050

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:24:40 PM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Joseph Kohn MD	Individual	Support	No

Comments: www.WeAreOne.cc

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From: [June Chee](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1050 - Testimony of Support
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 8:40:33 AM

Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Commerce and Consumer Protection
Thursday, February 12, 2:45 pm
Testimony in support of SB 1050

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

I strongly support Senate Bill 1050 to establish a community renewable energy 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.

Mahalo for your time.
June Chee

--

Kupu

June Chee | RISE Program Manager

677 Ala Moana Blvd. | Suite 1200 - Honolulu, HI 96813

p: 626.318.6313 | e: june.chee@kupuhawaii.org

www.kupuhawaii.org

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From: [laurag](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1050 support
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 8:36:15 PM

To whom it may concern,

I support clean energy for environmental, health and ethical reasons
and so should you.

Sincerely,

Laura Gray R.N.

Senate Committees on Energy and Environment and Commerce and
Consumer Protection

Thursday, February 12, 2:45 pm

Testimony in strong support of SB 1050

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

I wanted to write my own testimony, but I can't say it any better than Blue Planet already has.

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.

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.

Lois Crozer

Kailua

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: messy808@yahoo.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB674 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 10:00:52 AM

SB674

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lyle Hlromoto	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose this bill because it will make a criminal of anyone with antique gun grips or sight beads,musical instruments,jewelry bearing small amounts of ivory from any source harvested long ago and offered for sale or transfer other than by inheritance.

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From: [Matt Lau](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1050
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 9:50:04 PM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

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.

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.

IT'S TIME TO DO WHAT'S BEST FOR FAMILIES AND THE PLANET.

Thank you,

Matt Lau

From: [Mele Stokesberry](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: Strong support for SB1050
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 5:50:13 AM

Aloha Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the committees:

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

From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: sawonglaw@hawaii.rr.com
Subject: Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 10:27:54 AM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/11/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sandie Wong	Individual	Support	No

Comments: I am a resident of a high rise condo, thus the only way for me to take advantage of the benefits of PV energy is via community solar. I strongly support this measure. Thank you.

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From: mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Cc: sharon.s.coburn@gmail.com
Subject: *Submitted testimony for SB1050 on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM*
Date: Tuesday, February 10, 2015 8:29:56 PM

SB1050

Submitted on: 2/10/2015

Testimony for ENE/CPN on Feb 12, 2015 14:45PM in Conference Room 225

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sharon Coburn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

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From: [Shem Lawlor](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: SB 1050 - Community Solar
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 9:01:38 AM

Dear Chairs Gabbard and Baker and members of the Energy and Environment and Commerce and Consumer Protection Committees,

As a resident of an apartment building where I am unable to put solar panels on my roof, I strongly support SB 1050. This bill would provide me and hundreds of thousands of other Hawaii residents an avenue to directly participate in the funding of clean energy infrastructure and reap energy cost savings from it.

This is an extremely important bill from a macro-scale energy policy position. I am a transportation and urban planner. For years we have known that compact development reduces transportation energy requirements and costs and that multifamily homes on average use far less energy than single family homes.

But compact urban development, and multifamily housing and office buildings make offsetting electricity costs through solar panels difficult due to limited roof space relative to total electricity usage.

This bill would help Hawaii reap the benefits of both lower per person energy usage that comes with compact development, while also promoting solar photovoltaics to offset electricity demand.

I urge the committees to pass this bill. Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Mahalo,

Shem Lawlor
shemtheo@yahoo.com
Honolulu, Hawaii

From: [Virginia Hinshaw](#)
To: [ENETestimony](#)
Subject: Support for SB 1050
Date: Wednesday, February 11, 2015 2:46:03 PM

I support SB 1050 so our citizens can move Hawai'i forward in accomplishing a more sustainable future. Please support this bill. Virginia S. Hinshaw, resident of Hawai'i