## SB 2535

# RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII





SUZANNE D. CASE CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> KEKOA KALUHIWA FIRST DEPUTY

JEFFERY T. PEARSON, P.E. DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING PORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS

#### STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

POST OFFICE BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of SUZANNE D. CASE Chairperson

## Before the Senate Committees on TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY and PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS and WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 3:00 P.M. State Capitol, Conference Room 229

## In consideration of SENATE BILL 2535 RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL

Senate Bill 2535 proposes to: (1) allow counties to adopt ordinances to regulate geothermal resources exploration conducted less than one mile from a residence if the ordinance is not inconsistent with state law; (2) prohibit counties from adopting ordinances to regulate geothermal resources exploration conducted one mile or more from a residence; (3) clarify that the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration is reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute; (4) require the lessee of a mining lease to comply with all water and air pollution control laws, relating to building, grading, and flood control codes; and (5) require the rules of the board of land and natural resources regarding mining operations, geothermal resource development, and geothermal resource exploration, including drilling conditions and restrictions, to be uniform throughout the State. The **Department of Land and Natural Resources (Department) supports the provisions in this bill that reaffirm that the State is the regulatory authority for geothermal resources explorates exploration and geothermal resources development. The Department also agrees that all geothermal drilling requirements should be uniform and regulated by the State.** 

Geothermal development in Hawaii has contributed to a greater energy diversification of the State. Accordingly, effective management of the resource and its development is vital to protect the health and safety of the public and to ensure the continued viability of this Public Trust

Resource for future generations. In accordance with existing Hawaii Administrative Rules<sup>1</sup>, the Department is responsible for:

(1) The leasing of geothermal resources on state or reserved lands; and

(2) The regulation of all drilling of geothermal resources in Hawaii

These authorities are to ensure that the proper management of geothermal resources are in place for the purpose of: (1) preventing waste; (2) conserving and providing for the optimum use of the resource; (3) minimizing or preventing degradation of the environment, surface and ground waters, and other natural resources; and (4) preventing injury to life and property.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 13, Chapter 183, Rules on Leasing and Drilling of Geothermal Resources

DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR

LUIS P. SALAVERIA DIRECTOR

MARY ALICE EVANS DEPUTY DIRECTOR



## DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM

No. 1 Capitol District Building, 250 South Hotel Street, 5th Floor, Honolulu, Hawaii 96813 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2359, Honolulu, Hawaii 96804 Web site: www.hawaii.gov/dbedt Telephone: (8 Fax: (8

(808) 586-2355 (808) 586-2377

## Statement of LUIS P. SALAVERIA Director Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism before the SENATE COMMITTEES ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY And PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS And WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE

Tuesday, February 16, 2016 3:00 p.m. State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of **SB 2535** 

#### **RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL.**

Chairs Inouye, Nishihara, and Gabbard, Vice Chairs Gabbard, Espero, and Nishihara, and Members of the Committees.

The Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism (DBEDT) <u>offers</u> <u>comments</u> with concerns on SB 2535, which allows county and state authorities to permit geothermal exploration and development.

DBEDT supports the re-establishment of county authority to regulate geothermal development on urban, rural, and agricultural land to provide the appropriate framework to balance economic, technical, environmental, and cultural considerations. DBEDT also supports the Department of Land and Natural Resources' (DLNR) authority to regulate geothermal on conservation land.

DBEDT is <u>concerned</u> this measure may not clearly re-establish the authorities or process to regulate geothermal resources exploration and development. For example, there is no discussion of

the specific permit process to be used to regulate geothermal exploration and development, nor does the measure provide guidance to the agencies on permit approval criteria. DBEDT is also concerned that the retro-active nature of this measure may have adverse consequences for the State's lone geothermal power production facility, which is providing firm renewable power consistent with the State's energy policy directive for a diverse renewable portfolio.

As this measure concerns the administration of state permitting of geothermal resources development and exploration, we defer to DLNR on these matters.

Thank you for the opportunity to offer these comments on SB 2535.



#### SB2535 RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy te Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

February 16, 2016	3:00 p.m.	Room 229
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The Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA) Board of Trustees provides the following <u>COMMENTS</u> for SB2535, which gives the state the exclusive authority to regulate all geothermal resources development and exploration activities taking place more than a mile away from a residence, and limits the counties' remaining regulatory authorities to those explicitly delegated to the counties. Further, the bill mandates statewide uniformity relating to rules for mining operations, geothermal resources development, and geothermal resources exploration, without describing what those rules should include.

OHA has concerns that this bill does not address the need for procedural safeguards that provide clear and transparent processes, including public input and participation opportunities, for decisions relating to geothermal resources development and exploration. In addition, this bill appears to nullify the procedures already in place on a local level in both Hawai'i and Maui counties, without providing for alternative procedures.

Prior to 2012 and the enactment of Act 97 (2012), the permitting process for geothermal resources development and exploration was clearly laid out in statute. Among other provisions, Act 97 repealed HRS § 205-5.1, which described public hearing and mediation requirements, criteria for permit approval, appellate jurisdiction, and a list of what must be included in a record of decision relating to geothermal development activities. Currently, the only remaining permitting procedures for geothermal development may be found in Hawai'i and Maui County Planning Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure.

If this bill passes, the public will be left with substantial uncertainty related to how geothermal resources development and exploration may occur in future, and with fewer established opportunities to provide input and to participate in the decision-making process through public hearings, mediation, or the appeals process. Thereore, OHA recommends that any changes to the permitting process for geothermal resources development minimally include the following: public hearing provisions that provide the public with sufficient opportunities to provide input; hearing notification provisions to ensure that the public, particularly people who reside or spend time in the vicinity of the proposed project, are notified of any proposed geothermal project in a timely fashion; criteria for approval that ensure that the permitting entity considers environmental, cultural, social, and public health and safety impacts of any proposed project; and a process whereby interested parties may participate in decision-making and appeal the permitting entity's final decision.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



808-733-7060

808-737-4977

1259 Aʻala Street, Suite 300 Honolulu, HI 96817

February 16, 2016

The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair
Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy
The Honorable Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs
The Honorable Mike Gabbard, Chair
Senate Committee on Water, Land and Agriculture
State Capitol, Room 229
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

## RE: S.B. 2535, Relating to Geothermal

## HEARING: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 3:00 p.m.

Aloha Chair Inouye, Chair Nishihara, Chair Gabbard, and Members of the Committees:

I am Mary Begier, Government Affairs Committee Member, here to testify on behalf of the Hawai'i Association of REALTORS<sup>®</sup> ("HAR"), the voice of real estate in Hawai'i, and its 8,800 members. HAR **supports** S.B. 2535 which:

- 1. Allows counties to adopt ordinances to regulate geothermal resources exploration conducted less than one mile from a residence if the ordinance is not inconsistent with state law;
- 2. Prohibits counties from adopting ordinances to regulate geothermal resources exploration conducted one mile or more from a residence;
- 3. Clarifies that the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration is reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute;
- 4. Requires the lessee of a mining lease to comply with all water and air pollution control laws, relating to building, grading, and flood control codes; and
- 5. Requires the rules of the board of land and natural resources regarding mining operations, geothermal resource development, and geothermal resource exploration, including drilling conditions and restrictions, to be uniform throughout the State.

There are multiple benefits which geothermal power production has for consumers and the public. For example, the current production of power from geothermal energy not only dramatically decreases the State's dependence on fossil fuels (current displacement is equivalent to 300,000 barrels of oil per year from the existing facility in Puna), the on demand power which is available from geothermal power production on a 24/7 basis

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allows the energy grid to absorb more power from fluctuating renewable sources such as wind and solar energy.

On the Big Island, geothermal energy has proven itself to be a source of reliable and cost efficient power which provides stable cost efficient power of 20% of the island population, and which also serves as a lower rate source during evening hours to charge electric vehicles.

Geothermal power fosters the ability to sustain housing opportunities which are affordable and provide flexibility in housing options. It can lessen costs to those who purchase power from the energy grid, and can allow more net energy metering from PV systems to be linked to the grid.

Already highly regulated by the EPA and the State of Hawaii, geothermal energy exploration and production activities have been proven to be a safe and clean operation which operates under a closed loop system that emits little to no emissions. The highest pollution emissions continue to emanate from plants which burn fossil or other fuels, which only increase the rate of climate change.

The adoption of local county regulations can conflict with State regulation and interfere with the ability of a geothermal energy producer to safely and efficiently conduct exploration or production activities, leading to an increase in the cost of production or discourage investment in the production of additional geothermal energy power.

A geothermal energy producer should be allowed to comply with regulations adopted by the EPA and the State, and county efforts to impose improper restrictions which can compromise safety should be preempted. As an example, a recent County of Hawaii ordinance purports to prohibit all night time drilling operations which include safety protocols which are mandated by the State to protect water resources and the environment. Despite rational opposition from representatives of DLNR who voiced strong concerns about the safety and cost aspects of such restrictions, the ordinance was adopted.

A uniform system of regulation by the State of Hawaii is necessary to further the State's renewable energy goals.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.





HAWAII LABORERS-EMPLOYERS COOPERATION AND EDUCATION TRUST 650 Iwilei Road, Suite 285 · Honolulu, HI 96817 · Phone: 808-845-3238 · Fax: 808-845-8300

#### TESTIMONY OF HAWAII LECET CLYDE T. HAYASHI - DIRECTOR

THE SENATE THE TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2016

#### COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

> COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

#### NOTICE OF HEARING

DATE:	Tuesday, February 16, 2016
TIME:	3:00 PM
PLACE:	Conference Room 229
	State Capitol
	415 South Beretania Street

### AGENDA

#### TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 2535, RELATING TO GEOTHERMAL

TO COMMITTEE CHAIRS, COMMITTEE VICE CHAIRSAND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEES:

My name is Clyde T. Hayashi, and I am the Director of Hawaii LECET. Hawaii LECET is a labormanagement partnership between the Hawaii Laborers Union, Local 368, and its unionized contractors.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill No. 2535.

We support the development of geothermal energy as a needed firm, renewable source of energy which is critical in Hawaii achieving our goal of 100% renewable energy by 2045. On Hawaii Island, about 25% of the island's energy needs are provided by geothermal energy.

SB 2535 will clarify that the State will oversee any geothermal drilling operations. The DLNR is the only State Agency with the expertise and authority to issue geothermal well permits. DLNR rules and requirements ensure that there will be no compromise of safety.

For these reasons, we **<u>support</u>** Senate Bill No. 2535, and humbly ask that it passes these committees.



P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, Hawai`i 96837-0158 Phone: 927-0709 henry.lifeoftheland@gmail.com

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND ENERGY Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair Senator Mike Gabbard, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY, INTERGOVERNMENTAL, AND MILITARY AFFAIRS Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Senator Will Espero, Vice Chair

COMMITTEE ON WATER, LAND, AND AGRICULTURE Senator Mike Gabbard, Chair Senator Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice Chair

DATE: Tuesday, February 16, 2016 TIME: 3:00 PM PLACE: Conference Room 229

Re: SB 2535 Relating to Geothermal HOLD

Aloha Chairs Inouye, Nishihara and Gabbard, and Members of the Committees

Life of the Land is Hawai`i's own energy, environmental and community action group advocating for the people and `aina for 46 years. Our mission is to preserve and protect the life of the land through sound energy and land use policies and to promote open government through research, education, advocacy and, when necessary, litigation. Citizens United gave personhood to corporations, but unlike people, corporations can't go to jail. SB 2535 proposes that Puna Geothermal Venture be given a "Get Out of Jail" free card for violating county ordinances. SB 2535 proposes that PGV be retroactively freed from following laws aimed at protecting people's health. SB 2535 proposes that county laws be pre-empted by State laws even if the State has turned its back on a health issue.

Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) drilled new geothermal wells in the middle of the night causing widespread community opposition. The County of Hawai`i banned night time geothermal drilling in 2012. In violation of the ban PGV began 24 hour drilling of another new well in 2015. The community sued.

PGV lost its initial efforts to have the case dismissed on several grounds, including an argument that only the state could pass laws regulating geothermal development. Having lost that argument, PGV now appears to have turned the state legislature to pass SB2535 to retroactively override the county.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis

**Executive Director** 

DRAFT February 1, 2016



Puna Pono Alliance PO Box 492668 Kea`au, HI 96749

web: http://punapono.com email: info@punapono.com

\_\_\_\_\_, 2016

To: Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair

> Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice-Chair

Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Sen. Will Espero, Vice-Chair

Re: SB2535 (relating to geothermal) – *Oppose* Hearing on \_\_\_\_\_, 2016, at \_\_\_\_.m., Conference Room \_\_\_\_

Aloha Senators,

Opposition to SB2535 is necessary for several reasons: first, it is a preemption bill that proposes to deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would plainly interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; and third, as such, it is an attempt to enact special legislation for the benefit of Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV), the only geothermal producer in the State of Hawai'i.

SB2535 would grossly expand the concept of preemption by saying "the absence of state law shall be interpreted to mean that the power to regulate geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration, as those terms are defined in section 182-1, has been reserved to the State." Preemption law usually is concerned with the existence of federal or state statutes that comprehensively occupy a field, thus preempting lower jurisdictions from entering that field. SB2535 simply declares geothermal in general is a topic for state control.

County government is more closely connected to and accessible by the people, and therefore may be more accountable. Local communities are sources of innovation and catalysts for statewide change. However, the ability of local governments to pass laws that protect the health, safety and welfare of their constituents has been increasingly attacked nationwide in recent years by special interest groups. In those legitimate areas of local concern, the Counties of Hawai`i should be allowed to build upon and improve minimum standards set by the State, reflecting their communities' unique character and needs – one size does not fit all. In recent

years, Hawai'i County has enacted two geothermal related ordinances after hearing extensive public testimony on the factual need for those laws.

The pending Third Circuit Court case, *Puna Pono Alliance, et al. vs. Puna Geothermal Venture, et al.*, Civil No. 15-1-0034, was filed a year ago to challenge the disregard of Hawai'i County Code (HCC) §§ 14-113 and 114. In 2012, PGV's drilling of a well was so disturbing to its neighbors that complaints led the Hawai'i County Council to pass Bill 292, signed by Mayor Kenoi as Ordinance 12-151 on December 5, 2012, and codified as HCC §§ 14-113 and 114 – it provides, in relevant part: "drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m." PGV later began work on a new well twenty-four hours a day, disregarding the County law. Litigation of the validity of the County's night drilling ban is ongoing after PGV lost a motion to dismiss the suit based in part on an argument that state law preempts county authority to limit night drilling.

SB2535 proposes preempting county geothermal ordinances retroactively to December 4, 2012, the day before the Hawai`i County night drilling ban was enacted – an obvious attempt to create a special benefit that would affect the ongoing Circuit Court litigation against PGV.

The geothermal legislation needed today is not political favoritism for a geothermal site or preemption of County laws. Instead, we need a reasonable and comprehensive state scheme of regulation, such as is set forth in SB2267, *that is complemented by County laws*. For those reasons, we oppose SB2535.

Aloha,

non

Robert Petricci, President Puna Pono Alliance

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:04 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	wao-hsl@WeAreOne.cc
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

## SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By Organization		<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joseph Kohn MD	We Are One, Inc www.WeAreOne.cc - WAO	Oppose	No

### Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 9:37 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	teresamlee.51@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Teresa L. Nakama	BIFA	Oppose	No

Comments: We oppose SB2535 for the following bullet points: \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) \* the state has a poor record of regulating PGV.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:04 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	amara@mindspring.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>	
Amara Karuna	Laakea community LLC	Oppose	No	

Comments:

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From:	Maya Dolena <mayadolena@gmail.com></mayadolena@gmail.com>
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 11:21 AM
То:	TRE Testimony; WLA Testimony; PSMTestimony
Subject:	SB2535 - In Opposition to this bill!

Aloha Senators and Committee members and Chairs,

The geothermal legislation needed today is neither political favoritism for PGV nor preemption of County laws. Instead, we need a reasonable and comprehensive state scheme of regulation complemented by County laws.

This bill is wrought with erosion of citizens' rights, County law preemption on laws voted in by the people, favoritism for corporate ventures and environmental impact issues.

PLEASE do not support this bill. Mahalo,

Sylvia Maya Dolena Pele Lani Farm, LLC Pahoa, HI 96778

	Enter a measur SB2535	e to retrieve the corresponding hearing notice.	About the Copital (video)
Hearings by Measure	Committee TRE/PSM/W	Room         Date/Time           LA         229         Feb 16, 2016 3:00 PM         View Notice	
Order of the Day Condense of the Day Contains 2015 Acts Contains 2015	Enter Informa Name Email address Testifying on behalf of:	fion Sylvia Dolena * sylvia dolerna@yshoo.com * To change your small, please do so undor Edit Account O Individual (ex. testifying as an individual citizen) * Organization (ex. representing government agency, non-profit, business, etc.) Pele Lani Farm, LLC	Hawaii State Capitol 415 South Berefania St. Honolulu, HI 96813 Help and Information Testimony and Login Help Citizen's Guide to the
Browse Document Directories (bills and resolutions/ (committee reports/ (hearing notices/ (testimony/	Testifier position	<ul> <li>Support</li> <li>Oppose</li> <li>Comments Only</li> </ul>	Legislative Process Maps & Directories Ceneral Information and FAQs Legislative Glassary
/order of the day/ /referral_sheets/ /house_action_sheets/ /house_tournal/	Will you be testifying in person at the hearing?	⊖ Yes ● No	Broadcasts
/house attendance/ /senate_daily_floor_actions/	Testimony file to upload (10mb max)	Browse	RSS Feeds
		If you wish to attach more than one file, please email your testimony directly to the committee holding the hearing.	
	Additional Com (alphanumeric	ments and punctuation characters only)	

The geothermal legislation needed today is neither political favoritism for PGV nor

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 11:27 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	shannonkona@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: STRONGLY OPPOSE!!!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 10:12 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	kona3gurl@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Melodie Reyes	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 7:25 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	Salinasckl@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

### <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kimberly crawford	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 9:40 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	biltoftc@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Christopher Biltoft	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SB2535 is a truly strange piece of legislation designed primarily to deprive Hawaii County of the ability to regulate geothermal resource exploration and development. Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) is the only geothermal development in the State of Hawaii. It has operated for decades out of compliance with State law and with little or no State oversight. The result has been numerous toxic gas releases into the surrounding community that have sickened many and perhaps contributed to the deaths of some Puna residents. PGV is currently operating outside it's State-issued Noncovered Source Permit, which expired in December 2014. The SB2535 statement "The absence of state law shall be interpreted to mean that the power to regulate geothermal resource development ...has been reserved to the State" is a tortured piece of logic that would prevent the County of Hawaii from enacting ordinances to protect its citizens from unregulated PGV industrial operations. It confuses and confounds rather than clarifies regulation of geothermal resource exploration and development. Consequently, SB2535 cannot be allowed to pass into law.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 9:30 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	keauea@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ana Kahoopii	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. First, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) and finally the state has a poor record of regulating PGV.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 8:20 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	lisaggh@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
lisa Hummel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 8:32 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	mblazak@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Megan Blazak	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha Chairs & Members of the Committees: I strongly oppose SB2535. It is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) and finally the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. Please oppose SB2535.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 8:32 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	sgajate@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Serafina Gajate	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, My name is Serafina Gajate, I am a resident and registered voter of Hilo, Hawaii Island for the past 10 years. I am writing to express my strong opposition to SB2535, for the following reasons: SB2535 would retroactively preempt a Hawai'i County law that says "Geothermal resources exploration drilling and geothermal production drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m". The bill says it is retroactive to December 4, 2012, the day before the county night drilling ban was enacted. That County night drilling law is the subject of pending litigation in Puna Pono Alliance vs. Puna Geothermal Venture, Third Circuit Civil No. 15-1-0034, where PGV's motion to dismiss based in part on preemption was denied last year. SB2535 transforms PGV previously unsuccessful arguments into new, and probably unconstitutional, state law. Initially SB2535 purports to offer counties authority to regulate geothermal exploration conducted less than one mile from a residence. As noted above, Hawai'i County law presently regulates geothermal exploration and geothermal production drilling one mile or less from a residence at night. The bill's purported offer actually takes a step backward from the present situation by preempting the more substantial part of county law. In addition to the initial part, SB2535 continues to track the interests and arguments of PGV in the pending court litigation by saying "the absence of state law shall be interpreted to mean that the power to regulate geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... has been reserved to the State." Usually, the presence of a comprehensive state law provides the basis for preemption of local authority on a subject. SB2535 further preempts county geothermal laws by declaring geothermal generally is a topic for state control: "the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... shall be reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute". That preemption attacks existing county laws and also is contradictory to various existing geothermal related laws and regulations that often require compliance with county ordinances and rules. SB2535, as wrong-minded pro-developer legislation, is intended to trump those references. Finally, SB2535 amends the state mineral leasing law by adding a provision limiting an existing general reference to compliance with county laws to only those "relating to building, grading, and flood control" while further saying that "geothermal resources development, and geothermal resources exploration, including drilling conditions and restrictions, shall be uniform throughout the State" - parroting argument made by PGV in its unsuccessful motion to dismiss. For the more than fifty years of existence of the state mineral lease law, it has required lessees to comply with county laws. Now, for the special benefit of PGV, SB2535 proposes to restrict that compliance to building, grading, and flood control and remove geothermal drilling conditions and restrictions from county authority. There can be no doubt that SB2535 proposes to preempt county geothermal laws for the

special benefit of PGV, the only geothermal producer in the state, at the expense of residents of lower Puna, neighbors of the only geothermal site in the state. The geothermal legislation needed today is neither political favoritism for PGV nor preemption of County laws. Instead, we need a reasonable and comprehensive state scheme of regulation complemented by County laws. Mahalo for your time, Serafina Gajate, Hawaii Island Resident

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 8:42 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	carolinesdelano@aol.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Caroline Delano	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) \* the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. SB2535 would retroactively preempt a Hawai'i County law that says "Geothermal resources exploration drilling and geothermal production drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m".

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:06 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	slwsurfing@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sharon	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Too much like Fracking! Toxic, noisy and causes earthquakes. We have the SUN! Mahalo

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 8:18 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	ted.orssten@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Ted Orssten	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This is not something the residents and voters want passed or enacted. It is in no ones' best interest except HELCO, and their parasites. They are mismanaged and the current geothermal is a debacle. Do some good for your constituents, particularly you, Inouye.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 2:32 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	lsierraknight@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
LS Knight	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose geothermal exploration and continued development. This has not proven safe for residents while other alternative energy sources are available. Please stop more desecration of the islands by corporate interests!!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 10:35 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	living4resonance@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
michael helms	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill, I have family that has been effected by geothermal in a negative way, aole

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Wednesday, February 10, 2016 10:54 PM		
То:	TRE Testimony		
Cc:	OccupyHiloMedia@yahoo.com		
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM		

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/10/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Kerri Marks	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: strongly oppose this bill that aims to undue citizens initiatives at the County level enacted to protect health and safety. shame on Senator Inouye for scheduling this bill that directly effects thousands of people on her island, when they live in her district or not. please kill this bill.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 4:10 AM		
То:	TRE Testimony		
Cc:	revjuleshi@aol.com		
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM		

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julia Paul	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: As someone who resides near the existing geothermal plant I am opposed to this bill. We need to be able to address the ongoing issues at the county level. The State will follow the money without regard to public safety.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov		
Sent:	Thursday, February 11, 2016 1:21 PM		
То:	TRE Testimony		
Cc:	bill@puna.us		
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM		

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/11/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bill Smith	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture

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1

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 9:40 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	drjoeka@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
joe kassel	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: When the State government preempts the county Governments protection of it's public and environment, it violates the sacred trust that binds a functional representative democracy. Violate that trust at the risk of alienating the citizenry. Please do not pass this legislation Dr. Joseph Kassel N.D.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 9:24 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	hokuokekai50@msn.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

## SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Lacques	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.
From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 2:37 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	mary@mauivortex.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Mary Overbay	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I oppose all geothermal development. Hawai'i has wind, solar, and tidal energy that should be developed.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 3:27 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	Bbugbee@globetrans-ec.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bill Bugbee	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: SB2535 locks in fundemental problems with Hawaii's regulatory treatment of geothermal drilling and plant operations which pollute and impact residential communities near site operations. Geothermal energy is a poor choice for qualifying as a renewable energy source which is neither clean energy nor compatiable with solar and wind energy and 2045 state RPS goals.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 3:32 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	madeinhawaii@mac.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dr. Chris Keliiwaiho'ikeone Camarillo	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Toxins from geothermal are horrific and impede healthy living. Residential and schools need to have regulation in place to prevent environmental destruction common to places that have been drilled, fracked, or subject to mining or other subteranian development.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 1:35 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	ttravis12@mac.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM
Attachments:	SB2535 Preemption Bill Testimony 15 February.pdf

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Thomas Travis	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. First, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit PGV and, finally, the state has a poor record of regulating PGV.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 1:30 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	clareloprinzi@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
clare loprinzi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: This bill is so wrong...no aloha in this bill and can definitely hurt all life on moku o keave...it is your kuleana to kill this bill. now and not let this reflect who is in the senate. It will die let it happen now. clare

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:45 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	omagicboy@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Michael Roy	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Testifying as a Puna resident opposed to this bill!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

1

From:	Pat <pat@leosart.com></pat@leosart.com>
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:29 AM
То:	TRE Testimony; WLA Testimony; PSMTestimony; legislation@punapono.com
Subject:	SB2535

Aloha, I strongly oppose SB2535 for several reasons:

First, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) and finally the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. Patricia Leo

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From:	leo <andy@leosart.com></andy@leosart.com>
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:28 AM
То:	TRE Testimony; WLA Testimony; PSMTestimony; legislation@punapono.com
Subject:	SB2535

Aloha, I strongly oppose SB2535 for several reasons:

First, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) and finally the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. Andrew Leo

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:26 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	tulsi@mauiishome.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tulsi	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill!! There should be no geothermal allowed in hawaii. Please oppose this bill!! Thank you Tulsi Greenlee

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:20 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	k21loa@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM
Attachments:	Oppose SB2535

# <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pi'ikea Loa	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:13 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	terez.amato@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Terez Amato Lindsey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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1

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 11:01 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	steve@daileysuccess.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Steve Dailey	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I live on Hinalo St, less than one mile from the PGV plant. I am opposed to the bill because: \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) \* the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. PGV's lack of proactivity to address the community's concerns, and the state's lack of action and concern for the citizens and quality of life makes it very clear that a combination of more local influence on solutions INCLUDING an oversight body made up of citizen's and county officials is desperately needed. OUR NEEDS, QUALITY OF LIFE, AND VOICES HAVE BEEN, AND ARE BEING, IGNORED.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:39 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	jeff@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

# SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tyler Divino	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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1

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:39 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	hypnosusan@sbcglobal.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Bambara	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha and thank you for your time. In summary, I oppose SB2535 for the following reasons and hope you will, too. Thank you. \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) \* the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. SB2535 would retroactively preempt a Hawai'i County law that says "Geothermal resources exploration drilling and geothermal production drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m". The bill says it is retroactive to December 4, 2012, the day before the county night drilling ban was enacted. That County night drilling law is the subject of pending litigation in Puna Pono Alliance vs. Puna Geothermal Venture, Third Circuit Civil No. 15-1-0034, where PGV's motion to dismiss based in part on preemption was denied last year. SB2535 transforms PGV previously unsuccessful arguments into new, and probably unconstitutional, state law. Initially SB2535 purports to offer counties authority to regulate geothermal exploration conducted less than one mile from a residence. As noted above, Hawai'i County law presently regulates geothermal exploration and geothermal production drilling one mile or less from a residence at night. The bill's purported offer actually takes a step backward from the present situation by preempting the more substantial part of county law. In addition to the initial part, SB2535 continues to track the interests and arguments of PGV in the pending court litigation by saying "the absence of state law shall be interpreted to mean that the power to regulate geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... has been reserved to the State." Usually, the presence of a comprehensive state law provides the basis for preemption of local authority on a subject. SB2535 further preempts county geothermal laws by declaring geothermal generally is a topic for state control: "the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... shall be reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute". That preemption attacks existing county laws and also is contradictory to various existing geothermal related laws and regulations that often require compliance with county ordinances and rules. SB2535, as wrongminded pro-developer legislation, is intended to trump those references. Finally, SB2535 amends the state mineral leasing law by adding a provision limiting an existing general reference to compliance with county laws to only those "relating to building, grading, and flood control" while further saying that "geothermal resources development, and geothermal resources exploration, including drilling conditions and restrictions, shall be uniform throughout the State" - parroting argument made by PGV in its unsuccessful motion to dismiss.

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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:38 AM	
То:	TRE Testimony	
Cc:	olindaorganicfarm@hawaiiantel.net	
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*	

### <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jeff Lind	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:37 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	caveguy@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lars Lind	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:36 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	mauimartha@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Martha Lind	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please oppose this bill!

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:22 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	lynhowe1946@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lyn Howe	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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1

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:20 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	hawaiiheb@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

## SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Cindy Heberton	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha I have been led to believe that we have a "government for the people and by the people". We have worked within the parameters of this system and have attained legislation that expresses our opinion. Because the state wants to deny our say, I am submitting my opposition to SB2535. Bills have been passed, only to have PGV thumb their noses at us. One example is the ban on nighttime drilling which has virtually been ignored. SB2535 will regress this issue back to before this bill was passed. This is NOT correct law making. The people of the Big Island have spoken with their votes and testimonies. Yet the state legislature and the powers that be are now trying to turn back our efforts with tactics that will void these important bills. They want the issue of geothermal decided on a state level as if somehow we don't matter enough or we are not competent enough to figure out what works best for our island. You need to be reminded that each of our islands is unique, with individual needs. Please make your decisions concerning the future of geothermal in Hawaii based on scientific data and not the bank accounts of the CEOs and shareholders of the utility companies. Believe in your constituents. Allow us a government that believes in Home Rule. Please say NO to SB2535 on February 16, 2016. Thank you for your consideration. Cindy Heberton Pohoiki Road. GO SOLAR !!! Big Island Hawaii Cindy

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:07 AM	
То:	TRE Testimony	
Cc:	bob-marion@hawaiiantel.net	
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*	

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Marion McHenry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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1

From:Donna Worden <dworden@csumb.edu>Sent:Monday, February 15, 2016 10:00 AMTo:TRE TestimonyCc:PSMTestimony; WLA TestimonySubject:SB2535

'Olu'olu, please OPPOSE SB2535.

- \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws
- \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court
- \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV)
- \* The state has a poor record of regulating PGV.

SB2535 would retroactively preempt a Hawai'i County law that says "Geothermal resources exploration drilling and geothermal production drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. -7:00 p.m".

The bill says it is retroactive to December 4, 2012, the day before the county night drilling ban was enacted.

<u>County night drilling law is the subject of pending litigation</u> in Puna Pono Alliance vs. Puna Geothermal Venture, Third Circuit Civil No. 15-1-0034, where PGV's motion to dismiss based in part on preemption was denied last year. SB2535 transforms PGV previously unsuccessful arguments into new, and PROBABLY UNCONSTITUTIONAL, state law.

SB2535 seeks to further preempt county geothermal laws by declaring: "the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... shall be reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute".

Such preemption would attack existing county laws and also is contradictory to various existing geothermal-related laws. <u>SB2535</u> is wrong-minded legislation that would profit a private corporation at the expense of local residents!

Additionally, SB2535 parrots an argument made by PGV in its unsuccessful motion to dismiss.

For the special benefit of PGV, SB2535 proposes to restrict compliance with County law to building, grading, and flood control and proposes to remove geothermal drilling conditions and restrictions from county authority,

It is obvious the legislation proposes special benefit for PGV, the only geothermal producer in the state, at the expense of residents of lower Puna, neighbors of the only geothermal site in the state.

The community's <u>decades-long protests over negative health impacts</u> attributed to PGV and claims of inadequate government regulation of PGV both were supported in a 2013 county-sponsored study (the Adler report). Accidents and detrimental events at PGV during recent years have finally been getting some attention! <u>The Hawai'i County Council enacted two geothermal related</u> ordinances (the night drilling ban and a ban of geothermal fracking) after hearing extensive public testimony on the need for those laws.

Preemption is a popular legislative tool for special interests nationwide, in part because County government is more closely connected to and accessible by the people, and therefore more accountable. The ability of local governments to pass laws that protect the health, safety and welfare of their constituents has been increasingly attacked nationwide in recent years by special interest groups with lots of money, hoping to profit further.

Signed, Dr. Donna Worden

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 9:10 AM	
То:	TRE Testimony	
Cc:	slwsurfing@yahoo.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM	

## SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
sharon willeford	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: There are too many risks in this bill. We do not need toxic Geothermal ~ we have the sun and new Free Energy methods. Toxic geothermal does not belong in neighborhoods and residents demand public hearings and more county control over the industrialization of our neighborhoods. The farther you live from geothermal, the better it sounds; this is not the case for the nearby sacrificed communities. Hydrogen Sulfide kills. PROTECT OUR precious resources and WATER! Mahalo <3

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 8:57 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	begoniabarry@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Barbara Barry	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 8:52 AM	
То:	TRE Testimony	
Cc:	MSMatson@hawaii.rr.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM	

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Michelle Matson	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose this bill. It deprives the counties of the right to enact geothermal laws, including determining public health and safety protections and protocols relating to geothermal impacts of poisonous air, toxins percolating into the finite water supply and seismic instability. This proposed measure would also interfere with ongoing litigation on the Third Circuit Court and would retroactively pre-empt Hawaii county law! In addition, this is special legislation for a special interest, Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV), which has an abominable track record in ensuring the protection of area residents'health and safety. Please Kill this Bill.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 8:51 AM	
То:	TRE Testimony	
Cc:	svickery@hawaii.rr.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM	

#### <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Vickery	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Leave it in the ground. Poisonious waste and then where do you dispose of it. Please oppose SB2535. No more drilling necessary. Go green with solar & wind energy. Mahalo!

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 8:28 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	info@courtneybruch.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Courtney Bruch	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Dear Senators, Please OPPOSE. People deserve public notice and a choice in this matter! I am very concerned about the hazards of Geothermal operations, their effect on people and the environment. Thank you, Courtney

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

My Name is Terri L Napeahi of Hilo, Hawaii and I oppose Bill 2535

OPPOSE SB2535 - Prohibits counties from adopting ordinances to regulate geothermal resources exploration conducted one mile or more from a residence. Clarifies that the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration is reserved to the State..

Democracy has always resonated hope for me as an individual living in this country. Hopeful that the Governing parties would be FAIR and make decisions for the best interest of the people it governs. JUST AND TRUE DECISIONS that would keep the lives of its people safe and free from harm.

I lived within less than a mile from a geothermal well blow out in Puna, Hawaii. It spewed toxic chemicals for hours before it could be contained. It sounded like a 747 jet in my front living room. It was devastating! This was a State initiative promoting a safe and renewable energy process for Hawaii.

Since than Puna residents have been to countless county and state hearings and lawsuits. Why is it still an issue not being resolved? Could it be because legislators are really not JUST, TRUE and FAIR?

I have spent hours in front of legislators reminding them of TRUTH and JUSTICE. Why is it that the VOICE of our PEOPLE cannot be HEARD?

Please hear their voices and stop this initiative that truly is harmful to our people. Is it worth the lives of a few to attain the dollars of wealthy developers? When there are ALTERNATIVES much more efficient and less costly, how can you justify the ways and means? There is no justification to this issue. If you vote yes to this bill you comprise the lives of our FUTURE.

Please be JUST and TRUE and VOTE NO for this BILL 2535.

Yours truly,

Terri L. Napeahi 69 Lyman Ave. Hilo, Hawaii 96720

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 8:22 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	koohanpaik@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Koohan Paik	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 8:12 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	una@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

	Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Γ	Una Greenaway	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Please help our counties to keep their home rule. Only the residents of each area understand the benefits and problems with geothermal. The folks of Puna, especially, have been living with this for many years.

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1

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov	
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 6:36 AM	
То:	TRE Testimony	
Cc:	mmcardle19@aol.com	
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM	

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Peggy McArdle	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB2535! Stop usurping County Homerule! No to Geothermal fracking.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 1:51 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	ipoc.m.chang@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Corine Chang	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I Oppose S.B. 2535. I am against Geothermol Fracking for Energy in Hawaii and Fracking of any kind for energy because we have many other Clean Energy Choices! People in Puna on the Big Island have been suffering with respiratory issues breathing in the toxic gas fumes from geothermal. We have other ways to harness energy with the sun, wind and water. Geothermal is pollution. I am against anything geothermal in Hawaii! I strongly oppose SB2535.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 14, 2016 8:47 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	paul@punapono.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/14/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	Present at Hearing
Paul Kuykendall	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I strongly oppose SB2535 is necessary for several reasons: first, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) and finally the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. I oppose SB2535 because. \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) \* the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. SB2535 would retroactively preempt a Hawai'i County law that says "Geothermal resources exploration drilling and geothermal production drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m". The bill says it is retroactive to December 4, 2012, the day before the county night drilling ban was enacted. That County night drilling law is the subject of pending litigation in Puna Pono Alliance vs. Puna Geothermal Venture, Third Circuit Civil No. 15-1-0034, where PGV's motion to dismiss based in part on preemption was denied last year. SB2535 transforms PGV previously unsuccessful arguments into new, and probably unconstitutional, state law. Initially SB2535 purports to offer counties authority to regulate geothermal exploration conducted less than one mile from a residence. As noted above, Hawai'i County law presently regulates geothermal exploration and geothermal production drilling one mile or less from a residence at night. The bill's purported offer actually takes a step backward from the present situation by preempting the more substantial part of county law. In addition to the initial part, SB2535 continues to track the interests and arguments of PGV in the pending court litigation by saying "the absence of state law shall be interpreted to mean that the power to regulate geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... has been reserved to the State." Usually, the presence of a comprehensive state law provides the basis for preemption of local authority on a subject. SB2535 further preempts county geothermal laws by declaring geothermal generally is a topic for state control: "the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... shall be reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute". That preemption attacks existing county laws and also is contradictory to various existing geothermal related laws and regulations that often require compliance with county ordinances and rules. SB2535, as wrong-minded pro-developer legislation, is intended to trump those references. Finally, SB2535 amends the state mineral leasing law by adding a provision limiting an existing general reference to compliance with county laws to only those "relating to building, grading, and flood control" while further saying that "geothermal resources development, and geothermal resources exploration, including drilling conditions and restrictions, shall be uniform throughout the

State" - parroting argument made by PGV in its unsuccessful motion to dismiss. For the more than fifty years of existence of the state mineral lease law, it has required lessees to comply with county laws. Now, for the special benefit of PGV, SB2535 proposes to restrict that compliance to building, grading, and flood control and remove geothermal drilling conditions and restrictions from county authority. There can be no doubt that SB2535 proposes to preempt county geothermal laws for the special benefit of PGV, the only geothermal producer in the state, at the expense of residents of lower Puna, neighbors of the only geothermal site in the state. The community's decades long protests over negative health impacts attributed to PGV and claims of inadequate government regulation of PGV both found support in a 2013 county sponsored study (the Adler report). Complaints about accidents and events at PGV during recent years have finally been getting some attention. The Hawai'i County Council enacted two geothermal related ordinances (the night drilling ban and a ban of geothermal fracking) after hearing extensive public testimony on the need for those laws. Since Act 97 of 2012 repealed the former state geothermal regulatory laws, community efforts to enact new permitting laws have been frustrated by ardent geothermal advocates. This year, for example, SB2267, a competent and comprehensive geothermal regulatory bill that built upon the content of a 2014 bill endorsed by DLNR and DBEDT, was killed when these same committees refused to schedule its referral for a hearing. Preemption is a popular legislative tool for special interests nationwide, in part because County government is more closely connected to and accessible by the people, and therefore more accountable. Local communities are sources of innovation and catalysts for statewide change. However, the ability of local governments to pass laws that protect the health, safety and welfare of their constituents has been increasingly attacked nationwide in recent years by special interest groups. In those legitimate areas of local concern, the counties of Hawai'i must be allowed to build upon and improve general State standards, reflecting their communities' unique character and needs - one size does not fit all. In Gov. Ige's January 25, 2016, address to the Legislature he said, "a few years ago, we saw the demise of the SuperFerry. Its failure has been attributed to environmental objections and a hostile court. But that is not exactly what happened. The fact is the state failed to follow the law. When we tried a legal end run, it also failed. The point is the state should have followed the law and done the right thing in the first place." SB2535 looks like a replay of special legislation that attempted to save the SuperFerry - the legal end run referred to by Gov. Ige. Doing the right thing today requires opposition to this special benefit legislation aimed at supporting PGV's defense in litigation by eliminating county authority to play its appropriate role in local geothermal issues. The geothermal legislation needed today is neither political favoritism for PGV nor preemption of County laws. Instead, we need a reasonable and comprehensive state scheme of regulation complemented by County laws. 5

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 14, 2016 7:01 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	susiemarie_@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/14/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Susan Blau	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: For the past 6+ years I have lived in a house in Seaview Subdivision, less than 10mi from Puna Geo. plant. When the trade winds blow, I experience sudden onset of symptoms that come on a breath of fresh air. Suddenly my eyes begin to burn and water. Suddenly I begin violent uncontrolled sneezing, then my sinus pour snot that feels like acid going thru my sinus and nose as it plugs up completely. Suddenly I begin to gasp for air, or have a headache appear. These symptoms can come separately or together, and when whatever comes in my house in the air makes me fall asleep instantly while writing, or I just must go lie down while cooking, I know that a lot of the unseen, rarely smelled, seriously toxic fumes have come into my house. At first I thought this was just some allergy, or that I had narcolepsy, or ? But after logging months of experiences, I realized that these symptoms only happen when the trades blow. Where do the clouds pass before my house? The geothermal plant. Where had I experienced these symptoms before?, at a friends house adjacent to the plant, to such an extreme that I was unable to move my body in the night to get up to use the toilet. When I learned that these symptoms were related to the geothermal venting, I realized what a danger this poses to our community. It used to only happen on Thur. evenings, after 11pm. But this has been changing for the past 3+ yrs. Now it happens like clock work. winds blowing fast = 8 min. after the hour, winds blowing med. = 13-17 min. after the hour, winds blowing slow = 27-45 min. after the hour. Quite often 5:30 in evening I get blasted. by 7:30, again, then 9:30, or it waits till after 12:30am, sometimes all night till dawn. If it rains, I get very few symptoms, or none at all. My throat swells with huge walnut size lumps every night the gasses come. The times the so/ winds, or so/east winds etc. blow, I have no symptoms. Now, you say, oh, this is just vog. This is the lie we have all been perpetuating. Geothermal gas venting and vog have VERY different symptoms in my body. Vog from so/west winds take 4 days to begin to weigh on my system. But when the trades blow, these symptoms come without a moments notice = suddenly I am getting too much and I pass out. When it rains, there are no or less symptoms. Where I live, should have clean air. Most moments it does, until the fumes come. These fumes made me pass out in the middle of hurricane Iselle, for several hours. When the winds switched for the 4th time and came from the north east, I passed out and could barely stand or walk when I awakened. I was sick for days with headache and weak. This plant is dangerous. How many more years do people have to endure the traumas and fears this factory has brought to paradise? I came here to get away from pollution. I thought that I had found it. Now I realize, after living in this house, that I have been experiencing these symptoms for years to a lesser degree, because I was not in the drift zone before. Everyday that it comes, is taking years off my life. My hair falls out dramatically. I cannot think nor barely function till afternoon most days, just feeling good in time for more to come blast me again. I used to leave my house for 8-12 hrs a day to avoid

needing to run fans and air conditioner and air purifier just to be able to stay home. This past year my health has kept me home more, so I have to run more air moving equipment so that my electric bill runs \$300-\$400 per month. This company doesn't care about our health. If it did, long ago it would have installed an air purifying room, so that NO POISONS exit at all. Why our government would even allow this pollution spewing environment destroying, people and animal harming plant to continue, only shows me that corruption is deep and vast and permeates like those insidious invisible particles that are harming the people of Puna. People who have lived here, know exactly what I am talking about, and they fear for my life. I invite anyone to come test this nasty stuff that fills my house. I invite you to prove that my symptoms are just imaginary. Prove that my house is clear of the toxins that this geothermal plant claims it doesn't release. I claim = THEY ARE LYING, STOP allowing geothermal to continue harming me, my animals, my neighbors. You know very well that the brackish waters down hill from the plant are being harmed. Pay attention to that fact that these waters connect to the most popular swimming areas of Puna. Geothermal poisons are not just staying in their holding ponds. (AND who allowed that in the first place?) This whole plant is a bad idea gone to the worst thing that could have ever happened. Please stop allowing it to hurt anyone anymore. Close this plant down, and DO NOT consider any more of their ventures, unless you want to be responsible for allowing them to hurt us. For our only recourse is to hold each of you and your predecessors accountable for this harm. You have the opportunity to hear us, and do what is right and honorable, by stopping the corruption that has allowed this horrible crime to continue.

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From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 14, 2016 12:46 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	suzannewakelin@yahoo.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

## SB2535

Submitted on: 2/14/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Suzanne Wakelin	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Sunday, February 14, 2016 10:25 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	pamelapcm@gmail.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/14/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Pamela M Williams	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From: Sent: To: Subject: jade@lemuria8.com Saturday, February 13, 2016 6:56 PM TRE Testimony SB2535

Please do NOT pass SB 2535- we cannot have any drilling and fracking on this Island. Our water table is already low, full of more saline water. As a Doctor, we have seen blood pressures going up as the water is more salty.

We cannot drill-DAY OR NIGHT- on this Precious Island. WE need to use renewable resources, not destructive resources.

Jade P McGaff,MD 808-640-1558 Kamuela, HI 96743

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, February 13, 2016 1:52 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	luanajones777@hotmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM
Attachments:	SB2535.docx

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/13/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Luana Jones	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Strongly OPPOSE! The State must not support the expansion of geothermal development without sufficient regulation enforcement in place to protect the public. I live across the street from PGV and I want to let you know that people (and 'aina) have been negatively impacted! What happened to the Health Study that the Adler Report(County,2010?) recommended? I would be a candidate. The current situation here in Puna and beginning in Kona is "A'ole Pono - Not Right!" Regulation enforcement to protect public health and safety is lacking, and there is no emergency evacuation plan (after two blow-outs). People will rebel against this kind of development (and laws), and it will increase the costs for all concerned. Therefore, I strongly oppose this bill that seeks to streamline geothermal development that is a'ole pono. Please support what is Pono. Mahalo.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

Strongly OPPOSE! The State must not support the expansion of geothermal development without sufficient regulation enforcement in place to protect the public. I live across the street from PGV and I want to let you know that people (and 'aina) have been negatively impacted! What happened to the Health Study that the Adler Report(County,2010?) recommended? I would be a candidate. The current situation here in Puna and beginning in Kona is "A'ole Pono - Not Right!" Regulation enforcement to protect public health and safety is lacking, and there is no emergency evacuation plan (after two blow-outs). People will rebel against this kind of development (and laws), and it will increase the costs for all concerned. Therefore, I strongly oppose this bill that seeks to streamline geothermal development that is a'ole pono. Mahalo for your support for what is Pono.

From:April Lee <april@kre2.com>Sent:Saturday, February 13, 2016 2:33 PMTo:TRE Testimony; PSMTestimony; WLA TestimonySubject:We oppose SB2535.

Aloha Honorable Committee Chairs/Legislators of our Great State,

Here are only a few reasons I perceive...our friends in the area are adamant that this issue be given priority. They are afraid.

- \* It deprives Counties of the right to enact geothermal laws
- \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court
- \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV)
- \* The State of Hawai'i has a poor record of regulating PGV.

SB2535 further preempts County geothermal laws by declaring geothermal generally is a topic for state control: "the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... shall be reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute". When something goes wrong, like it already has, do you want to be responsible for lives and property. You have enough to be held accountable for. The court litigation should be read to fully understand this implication.

# Kung Hey Fat Choi!



2016 is the Chinese Year of Red Fire Monkey See below for the tendencies... April K. Lee, RB, BA, CCIM, ABR E-Pro & Jeffrey D. Lee, RS Jasmin & Lance McCracken, Leo Lai Oin, Jaia McCracken and Christina Lee P.O. Box 190705; Hawi, HI 96719-0705 Office: 808.889.5505 Toll Free: 877.781.3070

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, February 13, 2016 11:31 AM
To: TRE Testimony	
Cc:	ndouvris@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM
Attachments:	Here is a summary of why I oppose SB2535.docx

# SB2535

Submitted on: 2/13/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Nicolette Douvris	Individual	Oppose	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.

Here is a summary of why I oppose SB2535.

- \* It deprives counties of the right to enact geothermal laws
- \* It would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court
- \* It is special legislation to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV)
- \* the state has a poor record of regulating PGV.

SB2535 would retroactively preempt a Hawai'i County law that says "Geothermal resources exploration drilling and geothermal production drilling operations being conducted one mile or less from a residence, shall be restricted to the operating hours of 7:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m".

The bill says it is retroactive to December 4, 2012, *the day before the county night drilling ban was enacted.* 

That County night drilling law is the subject of pending litigation in <u>Puna Pono</u> <u>Alliance vs. Puna Geothermal Venture</u>, Third Circuit Civil No. 15-1-0034, where PGV's motion to dismiss based in part on preemption was denied last year. SB2535 transforms PGV previously unsuccessful arguments into new, and probably unconstitutional, state law.

Initially SB2535 purports to offer counties authority to regulate geothermal *exploration* conducted less than one mile from a residence. As noted above, Hawai'i County law presently regulates geothermal exploration and geothermal *production* drilling one mile or less from a residence at night. The bill's purported offer actually takes a step backward from the present situation by preempting the more substantial part of county law.

In addition to the initial part, SB2535 continues to track the interests and <u>arguments</u> of PGV in the pending court litigation by saying "the absence of state law shall be interpreted to mean that the power to regulate geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... has been reserved to the State." Usually, the *presence* of a comprehensive state law provides the basis for preemption of local authority on a subject.

SB2535 further preempts county geothermal laws by declaring geothermal generally is a topic for state control: "the regulation of geothermal resources development and geothermal resources exploration ... shall be reserved to the State unless delegated to the counties by statute".

That preemption attacks existing county laws and also is contradictory to various existing geothermal related laws and regulations that often require compliance with county ordinances and rules. SB2535, as wrong-minded pro-developer legislation, is intended to trump those references.

Finally, SB2535 amends the state mineral leasing law by adding a provision limiting

an existing general reference to compliance with county laws to only those "relating to building, grading, and flood control" while further saying that "geothermal resources development, and geothermal resources exploration, including drilling conditions and restrictions, shall be uniform throughout the State" – parroting argument made by PGV in its unsuccessful motion to dismiss.

For the more than fifty years of existence of the state mineral lease law, it has required lessees to comply with county laws. Now, for the special benefit of PGV, SB2535 proposes to restrict that compliance to building, grading, and flood control and remove geothermal drilling conditions and restrictions from county authority,

There can be no doubt that SB2535 proposes to preempt county geothermal laws for the special benefit of PGV, the only geothermal producer in the state, at the expense of residents of lower Puna, neighbors of the only geothermal site in the state.

The community's decades long protests over negative health impacts attributed to PGV and claims of inadequate government regulation of PGV both found support in a 2013 county sponsored study (the Adler report). Complaints about accidents and events at PGV during recent years have finally been getting some attention. The Hawai'i County Council enacted two geothermal related ordinances (the night drilling ban and a ban of geothermal fracking) after hearing extensive public testimony on the need for those laws.

Since Act 97 of 2012 repealed the former state geothermal regulatory laws, community efforts to enact new permitting laws have been frustrated by ardent geothermal advocates. This year, for example, SB2267, a competent and comprehensive geothermal regulatory bill that built upon the content of a 2014 bill endorsed by DLNR and DBEDT, was killed when these same committees refused to schedule its referral for a hearing.

Preemption is a popular legislative tool for special interests nationwide, in part because County government is more closely connected to and accessible by the people, and therefore more accountable. Local communities are sources of innovation and catalysts for statewide change. However, the ability of local governments to pass laws that protect the health, safety and welfare of their constituents has been increasingly attacked nationwide in recent years by special interest groups. In those legitimate areas of local concern, the counties of Hawai'i must be allowed to build upon and improve general State standards, reflecting their communities' unique character and needs – one size does not fit all.

In Gov. Ige's January 25, 2016, <u>address to the Legislature</u> he said, "a few years ago, we saw the demise of the SuperFerry. Its failure has been attributed to environmental objections and a hostile court. But that is not exactly what happened. The fact is the state failed to follow the law. When we tried a legal end run, it also failed. The point is the state should have followed the law and done the right thing in the first place."

SB2535 looks like a replay of special legislation that attempted to save the SuperFerry – the <u>legal end run</u> referred to by Gov. Ige. Doing the right thing today requires opposition to this special benefit legislation aimed at supporting PGV's defense in litigation by eliminating county authority to play its appropriate role in local geothermal issues.

The geothermal legislation needed today is neither political favoritism for PGV nor preemption of County laws. Instead, we need a reasonable and comprehensive state scheme of regulation complemented by County laws.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, February 13, 2016 7:25 AM
To:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	katc31999@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/13/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Katarina Culina	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Aloha, Please oppose bill SB2535. Strong opposition to SB2535 is necessary for several reasons: first, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) and finally the state has a poor record of regulating PGV. Laws are to be written for and by the people, instead of for and by corporate profit goals. Let's clarify our legislative efforts. Mahalo, Katarina Culina Po box 2142 Pahoa, HI 96778

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Saturday, February 13, 2016 7:32 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	sairam2@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/13/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Geoffrey Lasr	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: Senator Inouye. You sat in that gym 25 years ago made promises you never kept Stop backing corporate agendas and taking away rights of home rule and contested case to Geothermal Development Most people who oppose geothermal do so because of a lack of consideration of the rights of the community. This bill is more of the same. MONEY IN POLITICS

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 4:03 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	panther_dave@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dave Kisor	Individual	Oppose	No

Comments: I stand solidly against this bill, as the geothermal industry does not want the community to have a single say in what happens to them as a result of their slipshod engineering techniques that allow large quantities of subterranian gasses to poison the community. I support the repeal of Act 97 and a return to Act 96! They just want to ride roughshod over us and let us take the hindmost. They are essentially telling us to get stuffed and like it! They want to override all county laws regarding geothermal, because there would be a state law to override it. Most of you in the legislature are not adversely affected by their leaks, however I wish you were. Not enough to kill you, but more than enough to make you very sick and wonder why you can't get up. I went to a friend's house and asked where their cat was and was told during the evening of Iselle, she managed to stagger onto the lanai, convulsed and died. That damned geothermal plant murdered a terrific cat!

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.

Thomas Lee Travis

RR 2 Box 3317 Pahoa, Hi 96778 email: <u>ttravis12@mac.com</u> mobile: (757) 639-7364

February 15, 2016

To:

### Senate Committee on Transportation and Energy

Sen. Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair; Sen. Mike Gabbard, Vice-Chair Re: SB2535 (relating to geothermal)–Strongly Oppose Hearing on February 16, 2016, at 3:00 p.m., Conference Room 229

Copy:

Senate Committee on Water, Land, and Agriculture

Sen. Mike Gabbard, Chair; Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Vice-Chair Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs Sen. Clarence K. Nishihara, Chair Sen. Will Espero, Vice-Chair

### Subject: Testimony in strong opposition to SB 2535 (relating to geothermal)

Senators,

I strongly oppose Senate Bill 2535. I concur with the Puna Pono Alliance testimony, submitted by Robert Petricci. It says in part:

Puna Pono Alliance, a community organization concerned with adverse impacts from Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV), the only geothermal site in Hawai`i, strongly opposes SB2535 for several reasons: first, it is a preemption bill that would deprive counties of their right to enact geothermal laws; second, as a legislative act it would interfere with ongoing litigation in the Third Circuit Court; third, as such, it is special legislation intended to benefit PGV and, finally, the state has a poor record of regulating PGV.

My testimony will focus on the States record in regulating geothermal. I will make the following points:

- The County has inherent interest in regulating geothermal, making the regulatory structure appropriate to the local conditions.
- The State has not demonstrated that it has the resources or wherewithal to appropriately regulate geothermal, a community health hazard.
- State regulation of geothermal has been inadequate to support community health.

The County has inherent interest in regulating geothermal, making the regulatory structure appropriate to the local conditions.

The County coordinates Civil Defense on the Island of Hawaii. In a casualty the status of roads, capabilities and priorities of first responders, and the ability to provide warning and direct possible evacuation are all affected by the regulatory structure. The County clearly should have regulatory authority concerning operation of geothermal plants.. This can be clearly understood when examining what happened on the evening of August 7 2014. The following description of what happened is from a letter to the Governor written by Puna Pono Alliance and Sierra Club of Hawaii Island:

As Tropical Storm Iselle began battering lower Puna on August 7, 2014, Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) went offline and began a release of geothermal fluids through the plant's emergency steam relief system. The release dumped noxious gas into the community surrounding the geothermal power plant for some time. Residents that were trapped in their homes by the tropical storm reported smelling stronger noxious gas odor than they had ever smelled before. Many developed symptoms that could be associated with exposure to hydrogen sulfide, several people passed out, and one man could not be awakened for several hours, possibly due to exposure. Respiratory and neurological symptoms lasted for several days.

Many questions will need to be asked about the cause and consequences of this upset, but one question can be asked right now:

Why was the plant operating when Hawaiian Electric Light Company (HELCO), PGV, and State and County regulators all should have known that operating the plant during a major storm would possibly, in fact probably, lead to an upset?

To understand why the decisions made or not made must immediately be called into focus, we need only to review the upset at PGV on March 13, 2013. On that date with PGV operating near its maximum power, maintenance on one of the two transmission lines and a malfunction on the second caused a loss of load at PGV, forcing the plant to instantly go from near full load to no load. This caused a dangerous over-pressure condition in the power plant, which required the emergency steam relief system to dump geothermal fluid and hydrogen sulfide into the air. Discussions between the US Environmental Protection Agency, the State Department of Health, the County Civil Defense, and the community continue regarding corrective actions stemming from this incident.

Now 17 months later, we learn that PGV was operating at power during Tropical Storm Iselle. Anyone who understood the causes of the March 13, 2013 upset cannot help but be perplexed by this fact. Were HELCO, PGV, and State and County regulators simply indifferent to the potential danger to the community or were they incompetent? Any informed person clearly understands that transmission lines will be lost and electric grid malfunctions are likely during a predicted major storm. Anyone with knowledge of lower Puna knows that during even a local storm, fallen trees make access to PGV difficult. Certainly anyone with knowledge of lower Puna knows that evacuation from homes during high winds, even if possible, is dangerous. Although we do not know the exact chain of events that caused the release of geothermal fluid and noxious gas to the air on the night of August 7, we do know that an upset could have been easily predicted based on the March 13, 2013 incident. We also know that as hydrogen sulfide was pouring into the community, the three PGV perimeter hydrogen sulfide samplers required by the State Department of Health to regulate PGV emissions and to inform the County and community of PGV emissions went out of commission. The Fire Department's Hazardous Material Team could not reach the area to sample for noxious gas due to dangerous conditions on the roads. Suggested evacuation for residents feeling discomfort from exposure required exactly the same roads that were impassable to the Hazardous Material Team.

In addition to its role in Civil Defense, the County does planning for the neighborhoods on each Island. As such, the operation of a major industrial facility in those neighborhoods most appropriately should fall partially under the purview of County regulation. Senate Bill 2535 would change State law to deprive the County of this ability.

The State has not demonstrated that it has the resources or wherewithal to appropriately regulate geothermal, a community health hazard.

Many homes are at the fence line near the PGV plant. The State's limit on noise from a geothermal plant at the fence line is 70 dBa. PGV can produce noise equivalent to placing a running vacuum cleaner in each of the homes around the clock. I would opine that if I were to bring a portable vacuum cleaning into this chamber, turn it on, and refuse to shut it off I would be arrested. Don't people in their homes deserve the same peace and quiet that you insist on in your chambers. State law does not provide that peace and quiet.

Additionally the number and sampling height of hydrogen sulfide samplers is inadequate:

- to determine the severity of a PGV upset,
- · to determine need for community warning and evacuation, or
- to have confidence that PGV is being honest and straightforward about when and what has been released.

The three perimeter samplers do not cover the full azimuth of possible release directions. The sample height of 15 feet is too high to detect ground hugging hydrogen sulfide released during maintenance and too low to detect hydrogen sulfide mixed with steam that rises over the samplers and descends into the community as it cools. Additionally only hydrogen sulfide is sampled although other dangerous pollutants are released during upsets.

Additionally State regulation has proved to often be Inadequate or Ineffective.

- 1. In a 2013 letter, the EPA found that PGV violated various rules, including releasing toxins to the environment. The State had not identified these issues and State regulation did not prevent them.
- 2. The State has not demonstrated the expertise to evaluate PGV assertions about if an upset has happened or the magnitude of the upset. For example, I informed both DOH and DLNR that the capacity of the relief valve that lifted during the upset following Hurricane Iselle would result in a release of about ten times what PGV claimed. Neither DOH nor DLNR officials have further investigated the accuracy of estimates of amounts released.
- 3. Reportedly DOH personnel rarely conduct routine site inspection visits and cannot sample for hydrogen sulfide without coaching.

State lack of expertise in understanding PGV operation is exacerbated by a cozy familiar relationship between PGV and regulatory personnel. The DOH relies on PGV to report violations of rules. In one case in April of 2013, PGV denied a release of hydrogen sulfide for many days before it became clear a release had occurred during maintenance Such incompetent and possibly dishonest reporting from PGV personnel was apparently taken in stride by regulators. Following the release of unabated geothermal fluid to the community in August of 2014, PGV claimed publicly that the release was abated and the plant operated by design. Neither assertion was true. Before any investigation, senior DOH personnel in Honolulu told the public that there were no health effects.

DOH lack of expertise and cozy relationship with PGV becomes more serious when it is coupled with DOH's poor relationship with the community. Community members are often treated as unreliable observers and troublemakers rather than as participants in the regulatory process. For example, DOH denied requests to provide qualified personnel to conduct a survey of health effects following August 7 release, When asked why she did not effectively monitor for hydrogen sulfide and then enforce PGV violations that resulted in exceeding the State hydrogen sulfide limit, the then Director stated that she was not sure PGV could operate if they were regulated to that level...she believed such regulation may be excessive and not in the public interest.

When DOH does take action finding PGV at fault, the action is disproportionate. For example, DLNR recently fined someone over fifty thousand dollars for cutting down a few trees on state land. When PGV released gas during Tropical Storm Iselle—causing a dozen people to pass out, probably contributing to the deaths of one ill and one elderly man, and injuring a score of others—DOH fined PGV less than thirty thousand dollars. PGV has apparently appealed the level of fine.

State regulation of geothermal has been inadequate to support community health.

Although there have been dozens of emergencies and releases of toxic gas at PGV, the four below certainly impacted health.

**HGP-A operations until 1989.** HGP-A operated as a 3 megawatt plant intentionally exhausting the geothermal brine to the neighborhood surrounding the area that now includes PGV. Sampling at one location in the community indicated as much as 4ppm continuous exposure for a month in 1982. Such an exposure is well above that which is expected to cause health effects according to the Acute Exposure Guidelines (AEGL) of the Environmental Protection Agency.

**Blowout, 1991.** Quoting from the Hawaii County sponsored Geothermal Public Health Assessment report:

The most troublesome problem took place in June, 1991 during the drilling of KS-8. A high-temperature, high-pressure zone was encountered at a depth of 3,488 feet. When this zone was penetrated, a powerful steam-driven pressure pulse rapidly moved up the well bore impacting surface equipment and damaging parts of the blowout prevention equipment and drill rig. The well continued to produce a strong flow of geothermal steam, brine, and gas through the damaged blowout prevention equipment. The flow continued for approximately 31 hours before control of the well was reestablished.

This event, referred to as "the blowout," released an estimated 200,000 pounds per hour of steam and brine containing 180 pounds per hour of H2S in a complex plume cloud which was estimated to have emissions extending from ground level to a height of 65 feet. In addition to H2S, the plume contained elements of lead, nickel, cadmium, mercury, other metals, and dissolved solids, which are also naturally present in ground and drinking water. ...

**Well Cleanout of KS-6, Aug 25, 2005.** H2S was released during approved well cleanout of KS-6. Prior to the cleanout, the wellbore of KS-6 was pressurized with nitrogen. The flow cleanout commenced at 12:40 pm. The H2S abatement system was placed in operation about 10 minutes prior to flowing the well into the muffler. PGV estimates that only nitrogen flowed into the muffler for the first 15 minutes or so. During the transition from nitrogen to geothermal fluids, an unfamiliar, pungent odor was present, but no H2S was detected. Approximately sixty minutes from the cleanout start time, H2S was detected. Monitoring indicated more than 750 ppb of H2S in the community. This is a value above the value the EPA considers sufficient to cause health effects in some people.

**Tropical Storm Iselle, August 7, 2014.** At 725 pm on August 7, 2014, Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) tripped because the power output transmission lines were lost. When this occurred, the nearly 3000 gallons per minute (gpm) flow of over 400 degree geothermal fluid coming from over a mile beneath the earth was no longer being used to produce power, causing a prompt over-pressure condition in the geothermal power plant. To relieve pressure, PGV states that geothermal fluid was automatically routed through the Emergency Steam Relief Facility (ESRF). Steam routed through the ESRF passes through a hydrogen sulfide (H2S) abatement system which nominally

reduces H2S concentration by a factor of twenty. The ESRF reportedly remained on line until 8:25 pm or for 60 minutes.

Two rupture disk/pressure relief valve (PRV) combinations also relieved pressure. The design of these rupture disk/pressure relief valve combinations is such that the rupture disk ruptures allowing a six inch relief valve to feel and relieve pressure. Such a design keeps corrosive gas away from the relief valve and prevents inadvertent pressure releases. Release from these valves is unabated.

One PRV operated from the initial high pressure condition at 7:25 pm until 9:18 pm, a period of 113 minutes.

After most affected residents had come forward by January 2015, roughly 130 people reported health effects from the PGV release.

## Summary

Senate Bill 2535 is poorly conceived, would use State government to aid special interests, and would further contribute to making the community surrounding PGV a sacrificial community.

Please kill this bill.

vomas Diran

/s/ Thomas L Travis

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 3:08 PM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	jgelert@yahoo.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
John Gelert	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Toxic geothermal does not belong in neighborhoods. Residents demand public hearings and more county control over the industrialization of our neighborhoods. The farther we live from geothermal, the better it sounds; this is not the case for the nearby sacrificed communities. Hydrogen Sulfide kills.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Friday, February 12, 2016 7:20 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	cvancamp3@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	*Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM*

# <u>SB2535</u>

Submitted on: 2/12/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Carol A. VanCamp	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:01 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	bethmathias@hawaii.rr.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB3044 on Feb 16, 2016 14:45PM

# <u>SB3044</u>

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/EET on Feb 16, 2016 14:45PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Beth Mathias	Individual	Support	No

Comments: Please support SB2044. We need to include transportation goals in Hawaii's plan to reduce the use of fossil fuels.

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:06 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	bigislandsis@gmail.com
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>	
Jacquilyn Chamberlin	Individual	Comments Only	No	

Comments: Just in case, here is additional copy of testimony: I live 7 miles from the geothermal plant in Puna Beach Palisades in an open tropical style home with screen windows and when the gasses blow in the trade winds my eyelids are swollen, my eyes water, itch, and burn, my throat is irritated, I feel fatigue and dizzy. I feel I do live in an affected zone 7 miles away because this disrupts my life and my health. Regulation of PGV is poor!!! I am sick of being made sick by PVG! JACQUILYN CHAMBERLIN

Please note that testimony submitted <u>less than 24 hours prior to the hearing</u>, 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.

From:	mailinglist@capitol.hawaii.gov
Sent:	Monday, February 15, 2016 10:22 AM
То:	TRE Testimony
Cc:	res1z0vb@hawaiiantel.net
Subject:	Submitted testimony for SB2535 on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM

#### SB2535

Submitted on: 2/15/2016 Testimony for TRE/PSM/WLA on Feb 16, 2016 15:00PM in Conference Room 229

Submitted By	Organization	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dana G. Moss	Individual	Comments Only	No

Comments: I oppose this bill on the bases that you are taking away our rights to voice to say no not in our back yards. And to protect ourselves our children and grandparents. So easy to sit over a 150 miles away from the highly poisonous Hydrogen Sulfide Gas that at leased is highly toxic or KILL you! The last hurricane that hit the Big Island caused a emergency shut down of Geothermal. They ignored the dangers of downed power lines by falling tree's. Which in turn made them shut it down and vent all the pressure in the system on to all the people trapped in there homes from downed tree's and blocked roads. The Legislator in the past took away the voices of the people in Puna years ago with a bill for Geothermal. And now the bunch of you who have sponsored this bill want to remove all our voices at the county level. And dictate to the people who live on the Island and surrounding area. That you all are willingly, knowingly poison us our kids and grandparents regardless. Just as you have done and do in Puna. I say you because you all have the ability to protect all the affect people in Puna. But just turn a bind eye to the reality of the decades of poisoning going on. Hualalai is a active volcano with steep slopes. Not if but when it erupts the highly potential fast moving flow can reach the ocean with in hours. Now if there is a well of very high presure that was broken open by the flow or earth quakes. How would one be able to cap it off? It could be a runaway in a populated area. Everyone down wind will have to be evacuated. Where will all the people go. What contingency's will you all have in place. To take care of all the people with voices of concerns protests you have squelched? Eh!

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