



DEPT. COMM. NO. 175

December 23, 2019

The Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi, President and Members of the Senate Thirtieth State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 The Honorable Scott Saiki, Speaker and Members of the House of Representatives Thirtieth State Legislature Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Dear President Kouchi, Speaker Saiki, and Members of the Legislature:

For your information and consideration, the University of Hawai'i is transmitting one copy of the Report on Energy Systems and Technology Training: July 1, 2019 – November 30, 2019 (Act 145, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2019) as requested by the Legislature.

In accordance with Section 93-16, Hawai'i Revised Statutes, this report may be viewed electronically at: <u>https://www.hawaii.edu/offices/government-relations/2020-legislative-reports/</u>.

Should you have any questions about this report, please do not hesitate to contact Stephanie Kim at 956-4250, or via e-mail at <u>scskim@hawaii.edu</u>.

Sincerely.

David Lassner President

Enclosure

UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I SYSTEM REPORT



REPORT TO THE 2020 LEGISLATURE

Report on Energy Systems and Technology Training July 1, 2019 – November 30, 2019

Act 145, SLH 2019

December 2019

Report to the Legislature on Energy Systems and Technology Training July 1, 2019 – November 30, 2019 Pursuant to ACT 145, SLH 2019

Act 145 was enacted on June 26, 2019 to establish a training program for county officers and employees responsible for permitting, inspecting, licensing, and approving energy systems and related technology. This initiative supports the State's ambitious goal to achieve 100 percent clean energy by 2045 by educating county personnel on the advances in distributed energy systems and technology. Funding from the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT) Hawai'i State Energy Office will be provided to the University of Hawai'i Community Colleges (UHCC) to establish an advisory committee and develop, administer, and coordinate energy training courses for county officers and employees.

Agreements and Funding

The Hawai'i State Energy Office and the UHCC are in the process of finalizing MOA agreements and internal reviews and anticipate full execution by January 2020. The transfer of funds from DBEDT to the UHCC will follow.

Advisory Committee

Numerous outreach activities and meetings have resulted in the identification of appropriate stakeholders and preliminary focus points for training. The following offices and organizations will be consulted as potential representatives on the advisory committee:

- DBEDT, Hawai'i State Energy Office
- University of Hawai'i Community Colleges
- Hawai'i Energy
- Hawaiian Electric
- Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative
- Offices of the City & County of Honolulu, Maui, Hawai'i, Kaua'i: Departments of Public Works and Fire Departments
- Hawai'i Solar Energy Association
- Yahata Corporation

Preliminary Training Topics

Stakeholder's preliminary topics for committee consideration may include, but not be limited to, the following areas:

- Code requirements for storage battery systems
- Code changes for new technology in distributed systems
- Fire inspection and safety standards for energy systems
- Energy system drawings and planning documents
- New technology review and approvals

- Energy storage & battery backup
- Micro grid technology
- Overcurrent protection, sizing of conductors, grid interconnectivity, rapid shutdown systems etc.
- Access to education and training material for inspectors and permitting authorities
- Short term training and need for long-term professional development

(Note: These are examples of possible training areas and may change due to recommendations from the advisory committee and subject matter experts.)

Next Steps

- Execute agreements and funding between the Hawai'i State Energy Office and the UHCC
- Identify and confirm advisory committee representatives
- Convene 1st advisory committee meeting in early 2020
- Secure training quotes from recommended national subject matter experts (SME) as needed to meet local training needs
- Schedule statewide training opportunities with SME
- Hold follow up committee meetings for additional guidance and recommendations