

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

JOSH GREEN  
LT. GOVERNOR

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

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CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN  
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI  
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

**Testimony of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs**

**Before the  
House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
Thursday, January 30, 2020  
8:30 a.m.  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325**

**On the following measure:  
H.B. 2657, RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII**

Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

My name is Dean Nishina, and I am the Executive Director of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs' (Department) Division of Consumer Advocacy. The Department supports the intent of and offers comments on this bill.

The purposes of this bill are to prohibit the: (1) issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022; and (2) approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

As noted in the bill's preamble, the term of Hawaiian Electric Company's power purchase agreement with the AES Hawaii Power Plant will conclude in 2022, and Hawaiian Electric Company has initiated plans, pursuant to the O`ahu Power Supply Improvement Plan accepted by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in Docket No. 2014-0183, to replace that generation capacity through other cleaner sources, such as the dispatchable solar projects combined with storage that were recently approved

by the Commission. Thereafter, according to the accepted plan, and limited by the renewable portfolio standards interim milestones, it is exceedingly unlikely that Hawaiian Electric Company or any other regulated electric utility company would pursue a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement with a coal facility of which the Consumer Advocate would recommend approval.

The Legislature's passage of this measure would clearly signal Hawaii's commitment to clean energy. Based on the intent of this bill, the Department suggests modifying certain language to close potential loopholes. For example, it should be made clear that the Commission should not approve: (1) any power purchase agreement for a facility that relies entirely or partly on coal as a fuel source; (2) any fuel supply agreement that will provide coal for the purposes of generating electricity; or (3) the construction or purchase of any facility intended to use coal as a fuel source by a utility company. The Legislature should also consider whether any housekeeping measures would be appropriate, such as revising the provision in Hawaii Revised Statutes section 243.35 that allows an independent power producer to pass on the coal tax to a purchasing utility company, to eliminate other statutory provisions that might facilitate a coal-burning electricity generating facility.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.



**STATE OF HAWAII  
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH**

P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, HI 96801-3378  
doh.testimony@doh.hawaii.gov

**Testimony COMMENTING on HB 2657  
RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII**

REPRESENTATIVE NICOLE LOWEN, CHAIR  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Hearing Date: 1/30/2020 Room Number: 325

1 **Fiscal Implications:** Economic and operational impacts on the sole coal-burning facility in the  
2 State of Hawaii and potential effects on Oahu electricity costs.

3 **Department Testimony:** The Department of Health (Department) offers the following  
4 comments on this bill that proposes to prohibit the issuance or renewal of an air pollution control  
5 permit to a coal-fired, electricity generating source beyond December 31, 2022.

6 The Department supports the bill's goals to reduce mercury and greenhouse gas (GHG)  
7 emissions in striving for clean and renewable energy for Hawaii. The bill aligns with long term  
8 power supply improvement plans for Oahu to convert to cleaner/renewable sources of energy such  
9 as photovoltaic and wind energy, and supports Hawaii's 100 percent Renewable Portfolio Standard  
10 and 2045 carbon neutrality goals. Coal naturally contains mercury, a neurotoxin which can make  
11 its way into the soil and water. The GHG emissions from burning coal contribute to climate change  
12 and sea level rise. Fugitive dust and particulate matter concerns related to the handling and  
13 processing of coal as well as the transfer of coal ash to the PVT landfill would also be eliminated  
14 with the passing of this bill.

15 The primary goal of the bill is to reduce emissions of mercury and greenhouse gas (GHG)  
16 emissions by preventing the use of coal. The one affected facility in Hawaii burns coal with low  
17 mercury levels and uses multiple technologies that includes particulate collection air pollution  
18 control systems to minimize mercury emissions to the atmosphere. The level of mercury  
19 emissions per MWhr (Megawatt-hour) from this facility is ranked as the fourth highest among

1 the largest power generating plants statewide . The facility also generates GHG emissions at a  
2 rate per MWhr of electricity production that is the fourth highest among Hawaii's largest power  
3 producers.

4 CAB's regulatory review of any air permit application is based on a source meeting state  
5 and federal air standards and regulations. The review compares the proposed source emissions  
6 to a set of limits or requirements that set an objective standard (e.g., state and federal air quality  
7 standards) for approving or denying the permit. All facilities are required to demonstrate  
8 compliance with these standards before an air permit is approved. This bill would modify this  
9 approach and restrict permitting based on fuel type.

10 The Department supports replacement of Oahu's coal and other fossil fuel generated  
11 electrical power with cleaner sources of energy, and the Hawaiian Electric Power Supply  
12 Improvement Plan shows numerous additional clean energy sources (e.g., photovoltaic, wind, etc.)  
13 will be added to Oahu's power supply in the future. However, the Department cautions that should  
14 the energy shortfall from elimination of coal fueled power generation have to be met by other  
15 existing power plants on Oahu, there may be little or no reduction realized, as other large electric  
16 generating stations may emit comparable or even greater emissions.

17 **Offered Amendments:** None.

18 Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

TESTIMONY OF  
JAMES P. GRIFFIN, Ph.D.  
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE  
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

January 30, 2020  
8:30 a.m.

Chair Lowen and Members of the Committee:

**MEASURE:** H.B. No. 2657

**TITLE:** RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII.

**DESCRIPTION:** Prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022. Prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

**POSITION:**

The Public Utilities Commission offers the following comments for consideration.

**COMMENTS:**

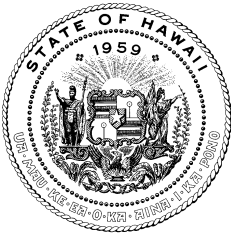
The Hawaiian Electric Companies' current Power Supply Improvement Plan ("PSIP") was filed with the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") on December 23, 2016 in Docket No. 2014-0183. The Commission subsequently accepted the PSIP, with conditions, by Decision and Order No. 34696 on July 14, 2017.

In the PSIP, the HECO Companies state their intention to allow the existing power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal on Oahu to "expire without renewal" when it ends 2022 (see PSIP at pages M-6 and M-34).

After the success of the HECO Companies' Phase 1 request for proposals (RFP) for new renewable energy and storage projects across the HECO Companies' service territories (Docket No. 2017-0352), the Commission directed the HECO Companies to expand

Phase 2 substantially, in order to significantly boost the acquisition of renewable and dispatchable generation and help enable the retirement of the AES coal-fired plant on schedule. In addition, the Commission directed the HECO Companies to conduct a grid services RFP, with the goal of utilizing customer-sited distributed energy resources to help replace the essential grid services currently provided by the AES facility. According to the HECO Companies' schedule, Phase 2 projects will be selected in mid-2020, with contract negotiations and applications for Commission approval to continue into 2021.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

235 South Beretania Street, 5<sup>TH</sup> Floor, Honolulu, HI 96813 | [energy.hawaii.gov](http://energy.hawaii.gov)

DAVID Y. IGE  
GOVERNOR

SCOTT J. GLENN  
CHIEF ENERGY OFFICER

(808) 587-3807

## Testimony of **SCOTT J. GLENN, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**  
Thursday, January 30, 2020  
8:30 AM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

## In SUPPORT of **HB 2657** **RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII.**

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the Committee. The Hawaii State Energy Office supports HB 2657 which prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after December 31, 2022.

The purpose of the Hawaii State Energy Office is to promote energy efficiency, renewable energy, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient, clean energy, decarbonized economy. Decarbonizing the electric sector is essential for Hawaii to achieving the zero emissions clean economy target set forth in Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §225P-5 to sequester more atmospheric carbon and greenhouse gases than emitted within the State as quickly as practicable, but no later than 2045. On September 13, 2018 Governor Ige signed onto the Powering Past Coal Alliance, who came to an agreement that phasing out unabated coal power is one of the most important steps governments can take to tackle climate change and meet our commitment to keep global temperature increase well below 2°C, and to pursue efforts to limit it to 1.5°C. For Hawaii, stationary combustion, which includes fuel combustion emissions from electric power plants and petroleum refineries, represents roughly 40% of greenhouse gas emissions<sup>1</sup> in the state. In addition, the state is actively pursuing the decarbonization of ground transportation through electrification. As ground transportation is approximately 20% of the state's greenhouse gas emissions<sup>2</sup>, reducing the emission factor of electric generation is critical as the State's adoption of electric vehicles grows.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2019/12/2016-Inventory\\_Final-Report\\_December2019-1.pdf](https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2019/12/2016-Inventory_Final-Report_December2019-1.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2019/12/2016-Inventory\\_Final-Report\\_December2019-1.pdf](https://health.hawaii.gov/cab/files/2019/12/2016-Inventory_Final-Report_December2019-1.pdf)

Hawaii is on a trajectory to retire coal fired generation. The Hawaiian Electric Companies' current Power Supply Improvement Plan ("PSIP") was filed with the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") on December 23, 2016 in Docket No. 2014-0183. The Commission accepted the PSIP, with conditions, on July 14, 2017 by Decision and Order No. 34696. In the PSIP, the Hawaiian Electric Companies state their intention to allow the existing power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal on Oahu to "expire without renewal" when it ends in 2022. The Hawaiian Electric Companies have subsequently issued an RFP in response to Order No. 36474 issued on August 15, 2019 in Docket No. 2017-0352 to acquire dispatchable and renewable generation.

The HSEO defers to the Public Utilities Commission on the extent to which the outcome of the RFP impacts the ability to retire the coal plant.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this bill.





P.O. Box 37158, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96837-0158  
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#### COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair

Rep. Tina Wildberger, Vice Chair

DATE: Thursday, January 30, 2020

TIME: 8:30 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 325

HB 2657 RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII.

**Support**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, 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 49 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.

This is a feel good bill to end the awful practice of using of coal to make electricity.

The utility contract with the only coal plant in the State ends in 2022. HECO has already released its RFP for renewables plus storage to replace the coal generator. Assuming that works, the coal plant's operations ends. If the RFP fails for some reason and there must be a delay, no legislator or regulator would support destabilizing the HECO grid until a replacement is found.

Mahalo

Henry Curtis

Executive Director

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 12:38:38 PM

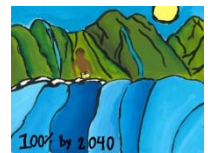
Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Ted Bohlen	Climate Protectors Coalition	Support	No

## Comments:

Climate Protectors Coalition **strongly supports** HB2657!

We are a new group inspired by the Mauna Kea Protectors but focused on reversing the climate crisis. As a tropical island State, Hawaii will be among the first places harmed by the global climate crisis, with more intense storms, loss of protective coral reefs, and rising sea levels. We must do all we can to reduce our carbon footprint and become at least carbon neutral as soon as possible, including ending use of coal to generate electricity as soon as possible, with no renewed or new power purchase agreements after 6/30/20 and no burning of coal after 2022. Mahalo!



## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

January 30, 2020, 8:30 A.M.

Room 325

(Testimony is 2 pages long)

### TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 2657

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the Committee:

Blue Planet Foundation **supports HB 2657**, committing Hawai'i to a future free of climate-changing coal burning by prohibiting the permitting of coal power plants after 2022. This measure ensures that Hawai'i stays on track to achieve a 100% clean energy future while signaling to the globe that Hawai'i is serious about its carbon pollution.

## COAL IS A CLIMATE AND HEALTH DISASTER

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Coal is the single largest contributor to the human-made increase of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Coal, which is primarily carbon, remains a major fuel in global energy systems, accounting for almost 40% of electricity generation and more than 40% of energy-related carbon dioxide emissions.<sup>1</sup> In Hawai'i, the coal-fired power plant on O'ahu (the only coal power plant in the state) is the second largest point source of the state's carbon dioxide emissions. **In 2016, the coal power plant released nearly 3.5 billion pounds of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.**

According to the International Energy Agency, to have a 50% chance of staying within 2 degrees Celsius of global warming (the high end of the temperature target set by the Paris Climate Agreement), only zero carbon utilities and infrastructure should be developed going forward, and coal should be completely eliminated. The burning of coal is simply incompatible with a stable climate and continued civilization.

When coal is burned it releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants. These include mercury, lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulates, and various other heavy metals. Although limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) have helped prevent some of these toxic emissions, the future of these protections remains unclear under the current White House administration. Health impacts from coal emissions include asthma and breathing difficulties, brain damage, heart problems, cancer, neurological disorders, and premature death. **Globally, coal is estimated to cause 800,000 premature deaths every year.**

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<sup>1</sup> International Energy Agency, *Coal 2019*, <https://www.iea.org/reports/coal-2019>.

## THE GLOBE IS WAKING UP TO THE DANGERS OF COAL

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Given the extreme dangers of coal to climate and health, other nations are taking action.

**Twenty countries have pledged to phase out coal power before 2030**, including Angola, Austria, Belgium, Britain, Canada, Costa Rica, Denmark, El Salvador, Fiji, Finland, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Marshall Islands, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Niue, Portugal, and Switzerland. In 2013, the head of the UN climate agency advised that most of the world's coal reserves should be left in the ground to avoid catastrophic global warming.

## COAL PLAYS NO ROLE IN HAWAII'S CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE

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Carbon-intensive coal power is antithetical to Hawaii's 100% clean energy future. Burning coal is at odds with Hawaii's pledge to achieve the Paris Climate Agreement objectives and to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045. None of the current utility plans to achieve Hawaii's 100% renewable portfolio standard include coal-fired electricity. Further, the large coal-burning power plant is slow to start and difficult to ramp its electricity production up and down, making it challenging to pair with a small and increasingly variable island electricity grid.

The current power purchase agreement between the coal power plant's owner, AES, and Hawaiian Electric is set to expire in 2022. The utility currently has no plans to extend or renew the contract. What's more, AES has committed to transitioning to low-carbon sources, pledging to reduce the carbon intensity of its power plants 70% by 2030.

Hawaii's renewable energy transition is happening at lower costs than previously anticipated. Last year, Hawaiian Electric submitted power purchase contracts to the Public Utilities Commission for solar plus storage projects that will provide electricity at nearly half the cost of traditional fossil fuel power plants. **The two lowest cost energy projects—both providing stored solar energy at 8 cents per kilowatt-hour—are owned by coal-plant owner AES.**

## OTHERS ARE FOLLOWING HAWAII'S LEAD ON CLEAN ENERGY

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Hawaii has emerged as a leader on clean energy policy, adopting a number of bold, first-in-the-nation targets that have helped inspire other states to take similar action. Hawaii was the first state in the country to adopt a 100% renewable energy requirement for electricity by 2045 (Act 97 of 2015), and California adopted a similar law in 2018. Hawaii has also pledged to achieve carbon neutrality by 2045 (Act 15 of 2018), another first in the nation.

Despite the clear threat that coal-powered electricity presents to the climate, no state has prohibited its use. **Hawaii has the opportunity to be a national leader by setting an expiration date on coal in Hawaii.** Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 6:22:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
ileana ing	surfrider foundation	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, Members of the Committee,

My name is Ileana and I have been living in Honolulu for 4 consecutive years. I recently graduated from Univeristy of Hawaii with a Biology degree and have become a passionate environmental activist since I moved here. Although I am not from here, I've spent almost 8 years of my life here and im only 24 so most of what I consider home is here in Oahu. I have learned the biodiversity, ecology, and biology of these islands and it is sad to see what has happened to this place. Having probably the worst title in the world, Endangered Species Capital of the World, ive realized I want to help save this place and advocate for policies and changes that will make a difference. I believe HB2657 can do this.

I support HB2657, which would make Hawai'i coal-free by 2023, because I want the Hawaiian islands to use its renewable resources that are much less harmful to our Earth. Coal has such a variety of negative impacts to our Earth and our lives. It is very dangerous to our public health, the air that we breathe as well as the people who work and deal with these emissions. The toxic waste that comes from burning coal is also very harmful to our health as well as it is put into landfills.

This also promotes the idea of renewable energy and puts us a few steps closer to our goal of 100% renewable energy, which I hope to see in my life time (please). As we promote these practices, we are setting a ripple effect that will create new ideas and legislature on how to better protect our Earth and our home.

Mahalo,



Josh Frost - President • Patrick Shea - Treasurer • Kristin Hamada  
Nelson Ho • Summer Starr

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

Relating to a Coal-Free Hawaii  
Testifying in Support

Aloha Chair and members of the committee,

The Pono Hawai'i Initiative (PHI) **supports HB2657 Relating to a Coal-Free Hawaii**, which will help Hawai'i transition to a clean energy economy powered by 100% renewable energy by prohibiting coal power purchase agreements (new, modified or renewed) by June 2020 and prohibiting the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generating facilities by December 2022.

These two steps will eliminate the use of coal in Hawai'i for electricity generation and will help create a cleaner climate for the entire state.

For all these reasons, we urge you to move this bill forward, lets help Hawai'i reach its clean energy future!

Mahalo for the opportunity,  
Gary Hooser  
Executive Director  
Pono Hawai'i Initiative



**Hawaiian  
Electric**

**TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION**

**H.B. 2657**

**Relating to a Coal-Free Hawaii**

Thursday, January 30, 2020  
8:30am, Agenda Item #1  
State Capitol, Conference Room 325

Chris Lau  
Manager, Corporate Energy Planning  
Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc.

Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and Members of the Committee:

My name is Chris Lau and I am testifying on behalf of Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. (Hawaiian Electric), offering comments on H.B. 2657, Relating to a Coal-Free Hawaii.

Hawaiian Electric currently has one contract for an independent power producer (AES Hawaii) to provide coal-fired generation and the contract for this facility is set to expire in September 2022. The Company has no plans to extend or renew the contract for this facility. Thank you for this opportunity to testify.



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**Chair Nicole Lowen**  
**Vice Chair Tina Wildberger**

**House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection**

**Thursday, January 30, 2020**  
**8:30 AM**

**TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HB2657 RELATING TO A COAL-FREE  
HAWAI'I**

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, Members of the House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection,

My name is Jun Shin. I am a Sophomore at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. I currently serve the Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair for the Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA). YPDA advocates for public policies that reflect the values of young people throughout the State of Hawai'i. YPDA is in **Strong Support** of **HB2657**, Relating to a Coal-Free Hawai'i.

Burning coal is harmful to both the environment. It contributes heavily to greenhouse gas emissions and as the Union of Concerned Scientists have pointed out, "When coal is burned it releases a number of airborne toxins and pollutants. They include mercury, lead, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen oxides, particulates, and various other heavy metals. Health impacts can range from asthma and breathing difficulties, to brain damage, heart problems, cancer, neurological disorders, and premature death."<sup>1</sup> This is both an environmental issue and a public health issue as well. In the face of a climate crisis, this current model of doing business is simply not sustainable.

The power purchase agreement between AES Hawaii Power Plant (Our last coal power plant) and Hawaiian Electric Company is set to expire in 2022, we need to let that agreement naturally come to an end in 2022 as originally intended. Hawai'i is already setting an example with its ambitious goal of being powered by 100% renewable energy. AES can help make a meaningful contribution to our future by scaling down their coal-burning, and turning to clean energy projects that don't harm communities. If we are to take on climate change and its catastrophic effects on our society, economy, and natural resources, clean and renewable energy will be very important.



While talking about clean energy and the environment, we simply cannot forget the social and economic justice components involved in this permit application. Toxic coal ash is being sent to the PVT Landfill in Nānākuli, joining a stockpile of other materials burned by the AES Hawaii Power Plant. This creates a public health crisis for both the plant workers and residents, especially considering the PVT Landfill being 750 feet from residential areas and schools where people raise families and keiki go to learn. The Wai‘anae community consists of many Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders, groups of people that have for generations faced disenfranchisement in crucial areas such as economic stability, and access to natural resources. Socioeconomic and sociopolitical factors have led to negative consequences such as severe health disparities.<sup>2</sup> These communities must not be left behind, and their concerns for their environment should not be ignored. A green future is one in which formerly disenfranchised communities are able to participate in and prosper in a transition to a green economy, while also having opportunities to play an integral role in decision making processes that affect their lives, and their health and wellbeing.

Young Progressives Demanding Action is in **Strong Support** of **HB2657**. Please pass this bill through your committee.

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify,

Jun Shin,  
Environmental Justice Action Committee Chair  
Young Progressives Demanding Action (YPDA)  
P.O. Box 11105  
Honolulu, HI 96828  
Cell: 808-255-6663  
Email: junshinbusiness729@gmail.com  
CC: action@ypdahawaii.org

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.ucsusa.org/clean-energy/coal-impacts>

<sup>2</sup> <http://mauiolanetwork.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/SNRA3.pdf>



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183 Pinana St., Kailua, HI 96734 • 808-262-1285 • [info@350Hawaii.org](mailto:info@350Hawaii.org)

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection  
From: Brodie Lockard, Founder, 350Hawaii.org  
Date: Thursday, January 30, 2020, 8:30 am

**In strong support of HB 2657**

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members:

350Hawaii.org strongly supports HB 2657.

Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel and the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the world. It's hideous that it's still being used to make electricity anywhere, especially in Hawaii.

The United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2018 "Special Report on 1.5 Degrees Celsius" found that we must stop burning coal for electricity generation globally. Burning it also emits mercury, a leading cause of preventable birth defects like brain damage and cerebral palsy.

Hawaii's lone coal plant needs to go away forever. It's great that HECO says it won't extend its contract, but HECO could change its mind. AES could swing a deal with another power utility. AES, or someone else, could even open another coal plant in the state.

We need a state law that kills off coal in Hawaii for good.

Brodie Lockard  
Founder, 350Hawaii.org

**LATE**



## ELEMENTAL EXCELSIOR

### Written Statement of Elemental Excelsior before the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection

In consideration of **HB 2657**  
**RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII**  
January 30, 2020

#### Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and Members of the House Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection:

Elemental Excelsior respectfully **submits our support** of HB 2657 which:

1. Prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022.
2. Prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

Elemental Excelsior is a Honolulu-based non-profit organization that supports climate positive startup companies that are helping solve Hawai'i's most urgent environmental problems. Each year, we select 15-20 companies annually that best fit our mission and fund each company up to \$1 million. To date, we have awarded \$36 million to 99 companies resulting in over fifty demonstration projects in Hawai'i & the Asia Pacific.

In April 2018, Elemental Excelsior commissioned a study entitled *Transcending Oil: Hawai'i's Path to a Clean Energy Economy*. The study found that in Hawai'i, transitioning to renewable energy is cheaper than sticking with fossil fuels like oil and coal. The faster we go, the cheaper it will be.

#### We support HB 2657 for the following reasons:

1. **It aligns with Hawai'i's commitment to the Paris Climate Accord:** While Hawai'i is on track to meet its share of America's 2025 target under the Paris Agreement, the state needs to accelerate its clean energy transition and phase off its use of fossil fuels like coal and oil in order to maintain progress towards the Paris Agreement's long-term goals.
2. **It will increase investments in clean energy:** Transitioning off fossil fuels like coal can bring an additional \$2.9 billion in new investments for our state. <sup>1</sup>
3. **It will provide thousands of new good-paying jobs:** By transitioning to clean energy and off of fossil fuels like coal, Hawai'i can create as many as 3,500 additional jobs that pay \$3-7 more per hour than Hawai'i's \$20 median wage. <sup>2</sup>
4. **It provides an opportunity for innovation:** Robust policy alignment with clean energy attracts innovation and positions Hawai'i to compete globally for talent and

<sup>1</sup> Larsen, J., Mohan, S., Herndon, W., Marsters, P., & Pitt, H. (2018, May 01). *Transcending Oil: Hawai'i's Path to a Clean Energy Economy*, p.22, Retrieved from <https://rhq.com/research/transcending-oil-hawaii-path-to-a-clean-energy-economy/>

<sup>2</sup> *Transcending Oil*, p. 1

investment. To date, we've deployed over \$30 million in project based funding to support the deployment of 28 clean technology projects in Hawai'i.<sup>3</sup>

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony on this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Aki Marceau', written in a cursive style.

Aki Marceau  
Managing Director, Policy & Community

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<sup>3</sup> Elemental Excelerator 2019 Impact Report



# SIERRA CLUB OF HAWAI'I

## HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

January 30, 2020    8:30 AM    Room 325

**In SUPPORT of SB2657:** Relating to a coal-free Hawai'i

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Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members of the committee,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i **strongly supports HB2657**, which prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022 and prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

Not only is burning coal responsible for one third of US carbon emissions, but it is also leading to as many as 13,000 premature deaths every year and more than \$100 billion in annual health costs.<sup>1</sup> Several principal emissions result from coal combustion, including<sup>2</sup>:

- Sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), which contributes to acid rain and respiratory illnesses
- Nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>), which contribute to smog and respiratory illnesses
- Particulates, which contribute to smog, haze, and respiratory illnesses and lung disease
- Carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), which is the primary greenhouse gas produced from burning fossil fuels (coal, oil, and natural gas)
- Mercury and other heavy metals, which have been linked to both neurological and developmental damage in humans and other animals
- Fly ash and bottom ash, which are residues created when power plants burn coal

Hawai'i has only one coal-fired power plant remaining in service, it is the AES plant on O'ahu which has a power purchase agreement that is already set to expire in 2022. Passage of this bill ensures that Hawai'i will be "coal-free by 2023", solidifying plans to transition Hawai'i from dirty energy and encouraging AES and Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) to redirect its focus to clean energy and battery storage projects. We know that both AES and HECO are capable and pursuing large-scale clean energy projects throughout the state. Recently in April 2019, HECO solicited 900 megawatts of clean energy RFP's, including solar and wind generation and

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<sup>1</sup> <https://content.sierraclub.org/coal/about-the-campaign>

<sup>2</sup> [https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.php?page=coal\\_environment](https://www.eia.gov/energyexplained/index.php?page=coal_environment)

renewables plus storage, in anticipation of the AES coal plant closure in 2022. Pending approval from the Public Utilities Commission, the first projects would come online by 2022.<sup>3</sup>

The closure of the coal plant is also an environmental justice and equity issue. Toxic coal ash produced for all O'ahu ratepayers is currently being dumped at the PVT Landfill in Nānākuli, exposing workers and nearby communities to a wide range of health risks. Public health needs to be a priority and no single community should suffer the burden of our energy or waste management facilities. It is time to end the use of coal in Hawai'i to address this inequitable burden on our westside neighbors.

HB2657 furthers Hawai'i's commitment to 100% clean energy by 2045 and sets another example of the legislature's leadership to mitigate the harmful effects of climate change in a way that is equitable and just.

Thank you very much for this opportunity to provide testimony in **strong support of HB2657**.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jodi Malinoski".

Jodi Malinoski, Policy Advocate

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 7:50:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
David Mulinix	Our Revolution Hawaii	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**



## HB 2657, RELATING TO A COAL-FREE HAWAII

JANUARY 30, 2020 · HOUSE ENERGY AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION COMMITTEE ·  
CHAIR REP. NICOLE E. LOWEN

**POSITION:** Support, with amendments.

**RATIONALE:** IMUAlliance supports and suggests an amendment for HB 2657, relating to a coal-free Hawai'i, which prohibits the issuance or renewal of covered source air permits for coal-burning electricity generation facilities after 12/31/2022 and prohibits the approval of a new, modified, or renewed power purchase agreement for electricity generated from coal after 6/30/2020.

According to a report produced by the Hawai'i Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Commission, global sea levels could rise more than three feet by 2100, with more recent projections showing this occurring as early as 2060. In turn, over the next 30 to 70 years, approximately 6,500 structures and 19,800 people statewide will be exposed to chronic flooding.

Additionally, an estimated \$19 billion in economic loss would result from chronic flooding of land and structures located in exposure areas. Finally, approximately 38 miles of coastal roads and 550 cultural sites would be chronically flooded, on top of the 13 miles of beaches that have already been lost on Kaua'i, O'ahu, and Maui to erosion fronting shoreline armoring, like seawalls.

Furthermore, according to research conducted by Michael B. Gerrard from Colombia Law School, modern-day slavery tends to increase after natural disasters or conflicts where large numbers of



people are displaced from their homes. In the decades to come, says Gerrard, **climate change will very likely lead to a significant increase in the number of people who are displaced and, thus vulnerable, to human trafficking.** While the Paris Climate Agreement of 2015 established objectives to limit global temperature increases and several international agreements are aimed at combating modern-day slavery, it is highly uncertain whether they will be adequate to cope with the scale of the problem that is likely to occur as a result of climate change.

As we work to reduce carbon emissions and stave off the worst consequences of climate change, we must begin preparing for the adverse impact of sea level rise on our shores. We are now quantifying the speed at which we must act. We cannot continue to develop the 25,800-acre statewide sea level rise exposure area—one-third of which is designated for urban use—without risking massive structural damage and, potentially, great loss of life.

Accordingly, our state must stop using coal to generate energy. Coal-fired power generation continues to be the single largest source of carbon emissions, accounting for 30 percent of all energy-related carbon dioxide emissions, according to the International Energy Agency. Coal is also the single largest source of global temperature increase, according to the IEA.

Moreover, the United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's "Special Report on 1.5 Degrees Celsius," released in 2018, found that limiting the Earth's warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, believed to be a threshold to avert the most devastating effects of climate change by many scientists, would entail completely eliminating the use of coal for electricity on a global scale.

Coal is currently used to generate electricity on the island of O'ahu at the AES Hawai'i Power Plant in Kapolei. Yet, the power purchase agreement between AES and the Hawaiian Electric Company is set to expire in 2022. HECO has already declared that it does not intend to extend the contract because the 180-megawatt power plant is inflexible and ill-suited for a small island electricity grid that increasingly relies on renewable energy.

Hawai'i is a national and global leader in clean energy policy and generation. To maintain that status and advance our community's efforts to combat climate change, we must abolish coal from our state's energy supply and electrical grids.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 4:01:43 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Brenda Coston	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 7:15:10 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Tawn Keeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 5:47:19 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lynn Aaberg	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

It makes utmost sense to eliminate coal from our energy diet. Coal fired power plants are among the most heavy Carbon polluting sources, the major cause of our global climate crisis. Additionally, burning coal produces other dangerous toxins. This is an important part of our becoming leaders in climate crisis solutions by supporting the electric company in their transition away from fossil fuel sources. Please vote in favor.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 8:10:45 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jan Barosh	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 8:59:04 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
william metzger	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 8:30:52 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Janet Pappas	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 9:00:55 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
J Riverstone	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 7:19:36 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Meredith Buck	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I support this bill.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 11:08:02 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Caroline Kunitake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Please support HB2657.

Mahalo,

Caroline Kunitake

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 9:04:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
yuko ishimura	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, Members of the Committee,

My name is Yuko Ishimura and a mother of two young children. We all live together in the valley of Pā•lolo. I support HB2657, which would make Hawai'i coal-free by 2023. It is already a known fact that burning coals is detrimental to our health. It emits toxins into the air making us more vulnerable to cancers, asthma, and other health issues of today. It also emits tons of carbon dioxide contributing to global warming. Just like any mothers would, I would like to see my boys grow healthy and live their lives fully on this land they were fortunate to be born.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 5:26:18 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB2657. The burning of fossil fuels is a major component of climate change, which is already occurring.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB2227 which would help to enforce minimum energy standards. We need all the help we can get when it comes to mitigating climate change, which is already occurring.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB1846. Energy efficiency will help mitigate climate change, which is already occurring.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB2404. Recycling grants will greatly help Hawaii's problematic landfill issues. It will also help mitigate climate change, which is already occurring.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB1934. Job creation will not only greatly help with Hawaii's problematic landfill issues, but it will also help mitigate climate change, which is already occurring.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB2492. Phasing out hydrofluorocarbons will help mitigate climate change, which is already occurring.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB2301. The electrification of state-run vehicles will have an enormous positive impact on Hawaii's carbon footprint.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB1845. Funding for electric vehicle charging systems will have an enormous positive impact on Hawaii's carbon footprint.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB1863. A study to provide recommendations for electric vehicle infrastructure will help Hawaii continue to be a leader in climate change mitigation.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

+++

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support HB2699. Clean ground transportation will have an enormous positive impact on Hawaii's carbon footprint.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my testimony.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 7:26:10 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Benton Kealii Pang, Ph.D.	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 2:55:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Randy Ching	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger and members of the committee,

I support HB2657. We should end coal burning as soon as possible. Coal is dirty -- the worst fossil fuel when it comes to greenhouse gas emissions. Hawaii has many sources of clean energy and does not need to rely on coal. Let's keep our money circulating locally. There is no need to export our money to places like Australia and Indonesia.

Please pass HB2657. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Randy Ching

Honolulu (makikirandy@yahoo.com)

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 1:24:51 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
pat gegen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 1:25:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Liam	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

I like how you are going for a coal free Hawaii.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 8:00:51 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Julie Stowell	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 9:42:28 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Spencer Hyde	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Passing HB2657 will not only improve the health of our citizens and environment, but also show to the people that the state is serious about its goal to reach 100% renewable energy by 2045. Please pass HB2657. Mahalo.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 1:24:15 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 1:20:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Lucas McSweeney	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/28/2020 1:24:04 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Bradley Pratt	Individual	Support	No

Comments:



**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/27/2020 11:04:13 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Dyson Chee	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 9:51:27 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Karen Shimizu	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 9:57:49 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Kate Whittingham	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I am writing in support of House Bill 2657 to ban coal fired power plants in Hawaii by 2023. Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel-both in terms of greenhouse gases and impacts on human health. As a coastal community, Hawaii is already feeling the effects of climate change and greenhouse gases are a leading contributor. Additionally, it is completely unjust to subject one community to the devastating health affects of coal, such as the Waianae community on Oahu. There are so many financially feasible alternatives to coal, many of which have already been implemented around the islands. There is absolutely no excuse to renew the contract with AES. We must ban coal fired plants forever. Doing so will help to create a better climate for ourselves and our future generations. Please support the passing of Bill 2657 to ban coal fired plants in Hawaii.

Mahalo for your support,

Kate

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 10:38:10 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Nanea Lo	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Hello,

My name is Nanea Lo. I am a lifelong resident of Hawai'i on the island of O'ahu. I am also a masters student at the University of Hawai'i at MÄ• noa in the Department of Urban and Regional Planning. I am in full support of banning the use of coal in Hawai'i. We need to do better for our island and its people to make sure that we practice sustainable energy ways and usage. Please support this bill.

Me ke aloha 'Ä• ina,

Nanea Lo

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 10:51:28 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

Please protect our fragile environment, mahalo!

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 11:17:27 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 11:54:59 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
noel kent	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Coal, in the age of global climate crisis, is a deadly form of energy carrying huge costs in terms of greenhouse gases. Other places are banning its use and we should join them moving towards a sustainable energy system. Hawai'i needs to move beyond coal for energy. Noel K

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 12:02:19 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Jennifer Milholen	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

It is time for a coal-free Hawai'i!



**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 1:46:23 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Chia Tan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 2:43:45 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Colleen Soares	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I support HB 2567. Passage of HB 2567 would help ensure that the AES Hawaii and HECO contract will not be extended after 2022. Coal is the dirtiest form of energy and Hawaii needs to stop coal burning to help secure the future of our beautiful land and people. More specifically, this is also a justice issue. The Waianae Coast community is directly impacted by the use of toxic coal ash at the PVT landfill. It is an injustice that one community should suffer the burden of any energy or waste management facilities. Public health needs to be a priority. We need a Coal-Free Hawai'i.

Thank you for your time and service.

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 3:23:31 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Present at Hearing</b>
Joshua Brown Clay	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 3:58:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

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

Comments:

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 4:22:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Soo San Schake	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha,

I strongly support the passage of this measure. A coal-free Hawaii would ensure a cleaner safer future for all residents. This will help move Hawaii to its goal of 100% renewable engery by 2045. We must act now to ensure that Hawaii meets this goal. As a long time resident of Hawaii I am deeply concerned about the future of our islands. We must protect our states natural beauty and livelihood for generations to come. Coal burning is not in line with a sustainable, cleaner future that many residents in Hawaii strongly support. Also investing in renewable energy could potentially create more jobs and revenue for Hawaii.

Mahalo.

**LATE**

**LATE**

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 4:33:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
William Caron	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Aloha Representatives,

Climate chaos is the single greatest threat to the world, and perhaps nowhere is that threat more pronounced than in the Pacific where our island neighbors to the south and west are already suffering from the dramatic impact of sea level rise on their economies and societies. It is absolutely critical that Hawai'i aggressively transition to a Green economy and a Green future in which sustainability - the ability to sustain life into the future - is prioritized above all else. All projects of all kinds ought to be measured against their potential to negatively or positively impact our ability to be sustainable. When measured this way, projects like a coal-fired power plant are clearly out-of-step with our dire need to green ourselves.

This legislature must therefore act now to require for-profit power companies like AES and utilities like HECO to immediately begin phase-out of fossil fuel sources like the coal plant in Waianae and replace them with phase-in of green energy sources.

However, we must also take into consideration the intersection of environmental, social and economic justice and the impact that even well-intentioned green energy projects can have on communities when implementation of these projects is not planned out in consultation and communication with communities, or when underserved and disenfranchised communities are asked to bear the lion's share of the impact from this transition. This is what is being done to disproportionately Kanaka Maoli communities from Waianae to Kahuku and throughout the state. We must ensure that our transformation to a green economy is a just transformation.

Mahalo!

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 7:09:47 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 7:14:16 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Linda Morgan	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Strong support for HB2657

Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel and needs to be eliminated everywhere, especially in Hawaii. It makes no sense to generate electricity here by burning coal, The one coal plant in Hawaii should be closed ASAP. Instead we need to greatly increase our use of renewable sources. With all the sun and wind we routinely have, solar and wind generation is how we should generate our power.

**LATE**



**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 8:11:11 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Matthew Geyer	Individual	Support	Yes

## Comments:

Simply put, To stop and reverse climate change we need to burn less things. Coal is the dirtiest of all the fossil fuels, so stopping coal is necessary if we want to leave a decent world for our children. This is an urgent issue that needs to be taken care of immediately. Every day we continue to burn coal comes at a cost of our health and the health of generations to come.

Thankyou for supporting this bill to stop burning coal in Hawai'i.

**LATE**

**LATE**

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 8:26:28 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Noel Morin	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members:

I strongly support HB 2657.

It's really a no-brainer that Hawaii should finally eliminate its dependency on coal for energy generation. I was, frankly, surprised and appalled when I learned that we were still depending on coal, the dirtiest fossil fuel that exists and the biggest source of CO2 emissions in the world. It is also a source of toxic emissions, including mercury, a neuro-toxin. Importantly, there are cheap, infinitely cleaner renewable energy options that exist today. Let's pave a wider and smoother road for these options instead.

Our remaining coal-burning plant must be deprecated, and we must prevent another one from ever being enabled. I appreciate HECO's declaration that it will not extend the AES contract, but we must ensure that there is no opportunity for the contract to be extended or for another one to be created.

We need legislation that that forever eliminates coal power generation in Hawaii.

Sincerely,

Noel Morin

Hilo

808 987-7428

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 10:22:17 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Nandoskar	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

Coal is yesterday, renewables are the present and future. Let's wean ourselves off of coal quickly as if our lives depend upon it--because they do! Please support HB2657.

Mahalo for your consideration.

**LATE**

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/29/2020 10:32:09 PM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

**LATE**

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Anne	Individual	Support	No

## Comments:

I strongly support HB 2657.

Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel and the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the world. It's hideous that it's still being used to make electricity anywhere, especially in Hawaii.

The United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2018 "Special Report on 1.5 Degrees Celsius" found that we must stop burning coal for electricity generation globally. Burning it also emits mercury, a leading cause of preventable birth defects like brain damage and cerebral palsy.

Hawaii's lone coal plant needs to go away forever. It's great that HECO says it won't extend its contract, but HECO could change its mind. AES could swing a deal with another power utility. AES, or someone else, could even open another coal plant in the state.

We need a state law that kills off coal in Hawaii for good.

**LATE**

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 7:55:37 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Lori	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

**LATE**

**HB-2657**

Submitted on: 1/30/2020 8:00:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 1/30/2020 8:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
helen raine	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

To: The House Committee on Energy & Environmental Protection

From: Helen Raine

Date: Thursday, January 30, 2020, 8:30 am

In strong support of HB 2657

Dear Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Wildberger, and members:

I strongly support HB 2657.

Coal is the dirtiest fossil fuel and the largest source of carbon dioxide emissions in the world. It's hideous that it's still being used to make electricity anywhere, especially in Hawaii.

The United Nation's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change's 2018 "Special Report on 1.5 Degrees Celsius" found that we must stop burning coal for electricity generation globally. Burning it also emits mercury, a leading cause of preventable birth defects like brain damage and cerebral palsy.

Hawaii's lone coal plant needs to go away forever. It's great that HECO says it won't extend its contract, but HECO could change its mind. AES could swing a deal with another power utility. AES, or someone else, could even open another coal plant in the state.

We need a state law that kills off coal in Hawaii for good.

Helen Raine