
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO EXPLORE, THROUGH ITS DOCKET PROCESS, THE FEASIBILITY OF RELOCATING ABOVE-GROUND ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION LINES AND DISTRIBUTION LINES UNDERGROUND IN HIGH-RISK AREAS ON THE ISLAND OF MAUI.

1 WHEREAS, above-ground electric transmission lines and
2 distribution lines exist in high-risk areas on the island of
3 Maui; and

4
5 WHEREAS, these high-risk areas are areas with reasonably
6 foreseeable high winds, wildfires, or other natural adverse
7 events that have historically occurred; and

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9 WHEREAS, these risks could trigger road closures,
10 especially roads that provide access to critical infrastructure,
11 such as hospitals; and

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13 WHEREAS, one possible solution would be to relocate above-
14 ground electric transmission lines and distribution lines
15 underground; now, therefore,

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17 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
18 Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
19 of 2022, the Senate concurring, that the Public Utilities
20 Commission is requested to explore, through its docket process,
21 the feasibility of relocating above-ground electric transmission
22 lines and distribution lines underground in high-risk areas on
23 the island of Maui; and

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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
26 is requested to include in its assessment:
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- 1 (1) The amortized costs of relocating above-ground
- 2 electric transmission and distribution lines
- 3 underground;
- 4
- 5 (2) The risk of damage to the above-ground lines from
- 6 reasonably foreseeable high winds, wildfires, or other
- 7 natural adverse events that have historically
- 8 occurred;
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- 10 (3) The risk of damage to the above-ground and underground
- 11 lines from projected sea level rise in the area where
- 12 lines are located; and
- 13
- 14 (4) The risk posed to the surrounding area from damage to
- 15 the above-ground lines, including but not limited to:
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- 17 (A) The potential for igniting wildfires; and
- 18
- 19 (B) Road closures, especially roads that provide
- 20 access to critical infrastructure, such as
- 21 hospitals; and
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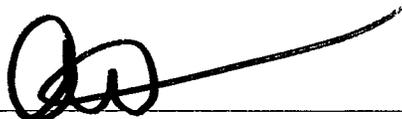
23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
 24 is requested to submit a report to the Legislature no later than
 25 twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of
 26 2023 regarding its assessment; and

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 28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if relocating above-ground
 29 electric transmission lines and distribution lines underground
 30 in high-risk areas on the island of Maui is deemed feasible, the
 31 Public Utilities Commission is requested to include proposed
 32 plans and associated deadlines for this relocation in its report
 33 to the Legislature; and

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 35 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
 36 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the
 37 Public Utilities Commission.

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 40

OFFERED BY: _____



MAR 11 2022

