
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO WATER RESOURCES.

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

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that protection of the
2 environment and underground sources of drinking water is in the
3 best interest of public health and safety and a requirement of
4 section 7 of article XI of the Hawaii State Constitution.

5 The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility is a field-
6 constructed underground storage tank system on Oahu that is
7 owned and operated by the United States Department of the Navy
8 and located approximately 2.5 miles northeast of Pearl Harbor.
9 The Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility consists of twenty
10 underground storage tanks that are located one hundred feet
11 above Oahu's sole-source groundwater aquifer -- the southern
12 Oahu basal aquifer -- which is the principal source of drinking
13 water for the island. Twenty underground storage tanks, as well
14 as pipelines and other infrastructure, were constructed during
15 the early 1940s, and since then, multiple fuel releases have
16 occurred, impacting the environment and threatening public
17 health.



1 The legislature further finds that the location of the
2 twenty-seven thousand gallons of fuel released from tank No. 5
3 in January 2014 into the rocks and groundwater beneath the Red
4 Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility is still unknown. In May 2021,
5 the department of health found that approximately one thousand
6 six hundred gallons of jet fuel from supply piping were released
7 into the environment. Additionally, on November 20, 2021, a
8 reported fuel release and recovery of approximately fourteen
9 thousand gallons of a mixture of fuel and water occurred. This
10 fuel release flowed from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility
11 to occupied structures, including the homes of residents in
12 military housing through their water pipelines. The department
13 of health conducted an analysis on the amount of fuel
14 contaminants at different points in time and different locations
15 that showed the fuel contamination could travel away from the
16 Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility toward different geological
17 locations and existing city and county of Honolulu board of
18 water supply wells. The total petroleum hydrocarbon in the
19 Navy's Red Hill monitoring well 2 and other monitoring wells
20 exceeded existing department of health environmental action
21 limits for gross contamination and drinking water toxicity.



1 Furthermore, the lack of data collected by the Navy's sparse
2 monitoring well network makes it inadequate to evaluate the
3 possibility that fuel releases from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel
4 Storage Facility could migrate to and impact critical drinking
5 water receptors like the city and county of Honolulu board of
6 water supply's Halawa shaft and Aiea and Halawa wells.

7 The legislature also finds that on November 29, 2022, a
8 reported one thousand one hundred-gallon spill of
9 polyfluorinated alkyl substance containing aqueous film forming
10 foam at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility occurred. The
11 persistence of polyfluorinated alkyl substance in the
12 environment poses undesirable health effects and a serious risk
13 to Oahu's drinking water aquifer.

14 The purpose of this Act is to appropriate funds as a grant-
15 in-aid to the city and county of Honolulu board of water supply
16 to:

17 (1) Site and install monitoring wells, after consultation
18 with the department of health and the commission on
19 water resource management, to collect important data
20 needed to understand the condition of the groundwater
21 aquifer underneath and surrounding the Red Hill Bulk



1 Fuel Storage Facility and its implications to Oahu's
2 drinking water supply; and
3 (2) Design and construct an exploratory well to meet
4 future potable water requirements for the metropolitan
5 area on Oahu.

6 SECTION 2. There is appropriated out of the general
7 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so
8 much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and
9 the same sum or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal
10 year 2024-2025 as a grant-in-aid to the city and county of
11 Honolulu board of water supply to plan, design, and construct,
12 after consultation with the department of health and the
13 commission on water resource management, seven monitoring wells
14 and an exploratory well on Oahu.

15 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the city and
16 county of Honolulu board of water supply for the purposes of
17 this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect on June 30, 3000.

19



Report Title:

Honolulu Board of Water Supply; Drinking Water; Construction;
Wells; Appropriation

Description:

Appropriates funds as a grant-in-aid to the City and County of Honolulu Board of Water Supply to plan, design, and construct, after consultation with the Department of Health and the Commission on Water Resource Management, seven monitoring wells and an exploratory well. Effective 6/30/3000. (SD1)

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