



*Dedicated to the conservation of coastal and marine environments,  
emphasizing stewardship of the natural resources of Hanauma Bay*

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
Rep. Nicole E. Lowen, Chair Rep. Elle Cochran, Vice Chair

DATE: TIME: PLACE:  
NOTICE OF HEARING  
Thursday, March 23, 2023 9:30 AM  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE Conference Room 325

Re: Strong Support for HCR196 / HR201

Aloha Chair Lowen, Vice Chair Cochran, and Committee Members,

Friends of Hanauma Bay **strongly supports HCR196 / HR201** urging the Government of Japan to halt its plans to dump wastewater from the Fukushima - Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean.

Really - who in the world supports this? What is Japan thinking?

Mahalo for the opportunity to testify in strong support of NOT dumping wastewater from a nuclear power plant disaster into the Pacific Ocean, and for your unanimous support of this Resolution.

With Aloha,  
Lisa Bishop  
President  
Friends of Hanauma Bay

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 10:23:41 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Testify
Inga Gibson	Animal Welfare Institute, For the Fishes	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

March 23, 2023, 930a

House Committee on Environmental Protection

**RE: SUPPORT FOR HCR 196/HR 201 URGING THE GOVERNMENT OF JAPAN TO HALT ITS PLANS TO DUMP WASTEWATER FROM THE FUKUSHIMA-DAIICHI NUCLEAR POWER PLANT INTO THE PACIFIC OCEAN.**

Dear Chair Lowen and EEP Committee Members,

Please accept our testimony in **support of HCR 196/HR 201** urging the Government of Japan to halt plans to dump wastewater from the Fukushima Nuclear Power plant into the Pacific Ocean.

Per the testimony of Dr. Robert Richmond, one of five scientists engaged by the Pacific Islands Forum to serve on an independent, expert panel to review documents, plans and data provided by the Japanese Government and the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), we share the below concerns:

- The decision by Japan to release the Advanced Liquid Processing System (ALPS)-treated water into the Pacific Ocean is political in nature. Substantial funds have already been invested in pursuing this approach, and all indications are that the Japanese Government is not considering other options, even those that may be better for their own people and economy in the long term.
- Multiple stressors acting in concert are affecting the health of the oceans and those who depend on its living resources: climate change, overfishing, eutrophication, plastics, pesticides, heavy metals, and radionuclides. So, this problem should be considered as a further contribution to cumulative impacts of environmental stressors on ocean and human health.
- The contributions of the Pacific Island nations, states and territories to the present problems are minimal, yet their burden is substantial, now and for future generations. This is the context in which Japan’s plans should be examined in the big picture: The islands have nothing to gain, did not contribute to the present crisis, and yet have much to lose.

- Pledges to adhere to presently established and accepted standards do not mean the activity will, in fact, be safe for the health of the ocean and all who depend on it for its ecological, economic, and cultural values.

Given the current threats to our shared oceans and marine ecosystems it is premature and too great of a threat to move forward with this plan, where the impacts could be potentially catastrophic and irreversible. Please see below links for more information on this critical issue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.

Inga Gibson, Policy Director, Pono Advocacy

On behalf of

Animal Welfare Institute

For the Fishes

More:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/04/1089852>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/comment/sorry-sorry-sorry-as-the-nuclear-radiation-crisis-at-fukushima-deepens-at-least-tepco-know-the-script-8778017.html>

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287514.shtml>

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287107.shtml>

<https://www.globaltimes.cn/page/202303/1287425.shtml>

<https://time.com/6250415/fukushima-nuclear-waste-pacific-islands/>

# UNIVERSITY OF HAWAI'I AT MANOA

Kewalo Marine Laboratory  
Pacific Biosciences Research Center  
41 Ahui Street, Honolulu, HI 96744

March 21, 2023

Committee on Energy and Environmental Protection  
House of Representatives, 32<sup>nd</sup> Legislature  
State of Hawaii

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

I am submitting this testimony in support of the resolutions from the Hawaii State Legislature (HCR 191/HR 196, HCR 196/HR201) urging the Government of Japan to halt the planned release of treated, radioactively contaminated cooling water from the Fukushima-Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant into the Pacific Ocean, as the safety of this activity remains in question.

I am one of the five scientists engaged by the Pacific Islands Forum to serve on an independent, expert panel to review documents, plans and data provided by the Japanese Government and the Tokyo Electric Power Company (TEPCO), to support their planned release of the Fukushima wastewater beginning in the Spring or Summer of this year (2023). After careful review of the materials provided, numerous discussions with the Japanese scientists, and a recent set of face-to-face meetings in Japan, including a visit to the Fukushima site, it is my opinion, and that of my colleagues, that there are insufficient scientific proof and support for this to go forward at this time. We unanimously recommend that the present plan for imminent release be halted until key data are provided and analyzed, alternatives be given due consideration and a scientific consensus on the best way forward be reached.

Context for consideration at the policy level:

- The decision by Japan to release the Advanced Liquid Processing System (ALPS)-treated water into the Pacific Ocean is political in nature. Substantial funds have already been invested in pursuing this approach, and all indications are that the Japanese Government is not considering other options, even those that may be better for their own people and economy in the long term.
- Multiple stressors acting in concert are affecting the health of the oceans and those who depend on its living resources: climate change, overfishing, eutrophication, plastics, pesticides, heavy metals, and radionuclides. So, this problem should be considered as a further contribution to cumulative impacts of environmental stressors on ocean and human health.
- The contributions of the Pacific Island nations, states and territories to the present problems are minimal, yet their burden is substantial, now and for future generations. This is the context in which Japan's plans should be examined in the big picture: The islands have nothing to gain, did not contribute to the present crisis, and yet have much to lose.
- Pledges to adhere to presently established and accepted standards do not mean the activity will, in fact, be safe for the health of the ocean and all who depend on it for its ecological, economic, and cultural values.

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41 Ahui Street, Honolulu, HI 96744

Specific issues that remain and must be addressed:

- Only a subset of the 1,000+ storage tanks and 62 radionuclides present have been adequately sampled, leaving data gaps of concern.
- The changing radionuclide concentrations in the tanks remains unresolved and concerning, as does the assumption of the sum of the ratios  $<1$ .
- The Radiological Environmental Impact Assessment (REIA) needs to consider all exposures including accidental ones, and deficiencies in this document remain.
- TEPCO has not fully characterized what is in the holding tanks prior to treatment using the ALPS. This is a concern if there is any incident where a tank leaks, as have occurred previously and in determining the efficacy of the ALPS system.
- This is not a laboratory-based chemistry experiment; it is a planned release of over 1.3 million tons of treated, radioactively contaminated water into a shared ocean, rich in plant and animal life, for over 40 years, with both transboundary and transgenerational implications.
- The base assumption that “dilution is the solution to pollution” does not hold up, as radionuclides can be taken up, accumulated, concentrated, and transferred through the food web, including to people eating affected seafood.
- Comparisons to external radiation exposure (e.g. during airplane flights) are irrelevant, as internal exposure via ingestion of contaminated seafood is of far greater concern, as skin can mostly block beta particles, but cellular DNA, RNA and signal proteins have no such protection. Such sublethal health effects are not adequately addressed in the ongoing discussions of potential impacts of the release on human health.
- The Panel believes that in 2023, following the recent approval of the United Nations treaty for ocean protection signed by 170 nations, that releasing additional pollutants into the sea is contrary to the current thinking. This is an opportunity to revisit the standards for the release of radionuclides into the oceans, the environmental impacts, and the cumulative effects of ionizing radiation on plants, animals, and people.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert H. Richmond, Ph.D.  
Research Professor

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 5:20:01 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Andrew Crossland	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I **strongly support** this Resolution.

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/21/2023 10:31:33 PM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Sherry Pollack	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I strongly support this resolution and add my voice to the international consensus that continued use of the ocean for dumping waste is simply not sustainable.

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 6:55:47 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mele Stokesberry	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I and the board and members of Maui Peace Action are horrified by Japan's plans to dump radioactive water from the Fukushima disaster into the ocean. They **MUST** deal with it some other way. That plan is unthinkable and would have consequences for the health and life of peoples around the Pacific, including us.



**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 8:02:48 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Lynda Williams	Individual	Support	Remotely Via Zoom

Comments:

Dear Representatives,

I write in strong SUPPORT of HRC196. It is imperative and urgent that the US and Hawaii demand that Japan not dump its radioactive waste water into the Pacific ever.

The scientific fact is that dilution is not the solution to radioactive pollution because NO DOSE IS SAFE. It only takes one beta decay and bad luck to induce cancer or mutations that can be passed down to future generations. It is not the right of Japan to increase the risk of cancer in humans or in the marine life or to poison the ocean ecosystem. Tritium has a short half life which means it is MORE ACTIVE and MORE DANGEROUS than longer lived radioactive isotopes. Japan has other alternatives, primarily to build more containers in the abandoned exclusion zone of the Fukushima prefecture. The ONLY reason to dump radioactive water into the Pacific ocean is to save money.

If Japan dumps the radioactive waste water into the Pacific it will circulate throughout the closed system of the global ocean ecosystems -they can not contain it in Japan. Hawaii waters will become mixed with the radioactive waters and it is not the right of Japan to poison Hawaii waters.

The ocean is a global commons and Japan does not have the right to dump radioactive waste water into the Pacific Ocean. Please do EVERY in your power to stop them.

Thank you,

Lynda Williams

Physicist

Hilo

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:03:44 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Mary True	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

This is simply to let you know that I strongly support this condemnation. Japan needs to come up with another solution. Dumping their poison into our ocean is unacceptable on so many levels.

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 9:15:57 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Ann Insillio	Individual	Oppose	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

I oppose this bill.

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 10:03:23 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Anthony Allen	Individual	Support	In Person

Comments:

Urge Japan not to dump radio active water into the Pacific. Support this bill!

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/22/2023 11:14:48 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Shannon Rudolph	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Support

**HCR-196**

Submitted on: 3/23/2023 6:52:53 AM

Testimony for EEP on 3/23/2023 9:30:00 AM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
M. Llanes	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

With regard to HCR 196, I support the bill in requesting that Japan not pollute our shared waters. Frankly, what are they thinking? I do not know. Their actions affect you and all of us.

Mahalo,

MeleLani Llanes