SYLVIA LUKE Lt. Governor



JAMES J. NAKATANI Executive Director

STATE OF HAWAI'I AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION 235 S. Beretania Street, Suite 205 Honolulu, HI 96813 Phone: (808) 586-0186 Fax: (808) 586-0189

TESTIMONY OF JAMES J. NAKATANI EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AGRIBUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

BEFORE THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:30 a.m. Conference Room 211 Videoconference

SENATE BILL NO. 833 S.D. 1 RELATING TO WAHIAWA IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Chair Dela Cruz, Vice Chair Keith-Agaran and Members of the Committee:

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill No. 833 S.D. 1. The Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC) supports this measure, which requires the Office of the Governor to negotiate the State's fee simple acquisition of the Wahiawa irrigation system on the island of Oahu. The measure also authorizes and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness Development Corporation, and Department of Land and Natural Resources to purchase, repair, and maintain the Wahiawa irrigation system and the associated spillway.

There are other stakeholders besides agriculture that have a vested interest in the Wahiawa Irrigation System known as Lake Wilson. Though the intent of this measure is to preserve the Wahiawa Irrigation System, the lake currently serves as a state freshwater recreational resource and there is the substantial matter of health and safety to the community as the dam has functioned as flood mitigation for residents and businesses downstream. The dam and spillway are facing ongoing regulatory and legal challenges, which has been confirmed in discussions with the State Attorney General's Office. We strongly believe the acquisition of Lake Wilson and the irrigation system should be a policy decision made and coordinated by the Office of the Governor to address and resolve any long-standing issues collectively. We support appropriating funds to repair and expand the spillway associated with the Wahiawa irrigation system and to bring the spillway into compliance with all relevant dam safety requirements. These are critical safety issues that needs to be addressed immediately.

We request the measure be amended to include the property owned by Dole Food Company, Inc. as Wahiawa Water Company, Inc. and Sustainable Hawaii Inc. and allow the Governor's office to decide on the final property of the purchase. The following TMKs are requested to be added to the measure.

TMK (1) 7-3-005-005
TMK (1) 7-3-013-003
TMK (1) 7-1-001-013
TMK (1) 7-1-001-017
TMK (1) 7-1-012-003
TMK (1) 7-1-012-004
TMK (1) 7-1-012-007

We would also like to note that we support this bill provided that its passage does not replace of adversely impact priorities indicated in our Executive Budget. Thank you for your consideration of our testimony.

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR I KE KIA'ĂINA

SYLVIA LUKE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR | KA HOPE KIA'ĀINA





STATE OF HAWAI'I | KA MOKU'ĀINA 'O HAWAI'I DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES KA 'OIHANA KUMUWAIWAI 'ĀINA

P.O. BOX 621 HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Testimony of DAWN N. S. CHANG Chairperson

Before the Senate Committee on WAYS AND MEANS

Wednesday, February 15, 2023 10:30 AM State Capitol, Conference Room 211, Via Videoconference

In consideration of SENATE BILL 833, SENATE DRAFT 1 RELATING TO THE WAHIAWA IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Senate Bill 833, Senate Draft 1 proposes to require the Office of the Governor to negotiate the State's fee simple acquisition of the Wahiawa Irrigation System on the Island of Oahu, which includes the Wahiawa reservoir, Wahiawa dam, and ditch system; authorize and appropriate moneys for the Department of Agriculture (DOA), Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC), and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) (collectively, "Departments") to purchase, repair and maintain the Wahiawa Irrigation System and associated spillway; and appropriates funds four full time equivalent (4.0) FTE positions for DLNR. The Departments offer the following comments on this measure.

The Departments appreciate the importance of Wahiawa Irrigation System to agriculture irrigation, flood control, wastewater management, and public recreation in central O'ahu. DLNR is also grateful to the Senate Committee on Water and Land for including in Senate Draft 1 an appropriation to DLNR to manage and maintain its portion of the irrigation system, i.e. the reservoir lands, including creating 4 full time equivalent (FTE) positions. As the amount was left blank, DLNR respectfully requests that the appropriation provide DLNR with an amount of \$500,000.00 to cover the expenses described above. Without this funding, the DLNR cannot proceed with its part of the acquisition as it simply does not have the resources to manage this area.

DLNR further notes that there will be significant ongoing challenges to manage this area and that future recurring funding will be required. Given the significant management responsibilities that will involve multiple DLNR divisions, even 4 FTE positions may not be sufficient staff resources to adequately manage

DAWN N.S. CHANG CHAIRPERSON BOARD OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

> LAURA H.E. KAAKUA FIRST DEPUTY

M. KALEO MANUEL DEPUTY DIRECTOR - WATER

AQUATIC RESOURCES BOATING AND OCEAN RECREATION BUREAU OF CONVEYANCES COMMISSION ON WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT CONSERVATION AND COASTAL LANDS CONSERVATION AND RESOURCES ENFORCEMENT ENGINEERING FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE HISTORIC PRESERVATION KAHOOLAWE ISLAND RESERVE COMMISSION LAND STATE PARKS this area. Specifically, additional officers from DLNR's Division of Conservation and Resources Enforcement (DOCARE) will be required to respond to homeless and other enforcement issues.

- a. DLNR estimates that it would be responsible for managing approximately 206.5 additional acres resulting from this acquisition.
- b. DLNR understands that as many as 50 homeless people occupy various areas of the parcels and a commitment of substantial resources will be required to manage the area to provide clean, safe recreational opportunities to the public.¹
- c. In addition to addressing the homeless issue, DLNR will need to manage the submerged land areas and approximately 20 miles of shoreline for public use by regularly removing trash, debris and other hazards, including aging Eucalyptus trees that abut the adjacent residential properties.
- d. To be effective, DOCARE may need to establish an office in the area to ensure 24/7 operations.

DOA and ADC request the appropriation of sufficient funds to ensure that ongoing maintenance, repairs, and operations can be performed during and subsequent to the performance of the mitigation, repair, and construction work required to bring the dam and spillway into compliance with DLNR's Dam Safety Program.

For background, Wahiawa Dam was constructed in 1905 to create a great reservoir basin to capture waters in Kaukonahua Stream from the Koolau Mountains for a massive irrigation system for Central O'ahu farming that continues to this day. The system generated hydroelectric energy and has received R2 wastewater from the nearby treatment plant of the City and County of Honolulu. Since 1957, through a cooperative agreement with Castle & Cooke, Inc., DLNR has managed a public fishing area on Wahiawa reservoir and constructed and manages a boat ramp at the 66-acre Wahiawa State Freshwater Park.

The Wahiawa Irrigation System, which includes Lake Wilson, has a critical role in the economy of Hawaii by providing an essential input for agricultural production in the Wahiawa-Waialua-Haleiwa area. Like for many other types of infrastructure such as roads, airports, harbors and power grid, the economic impact of an irrigation system is most crucial in the service it provides that makes possible for other economic activities to take place and thrive.

DLNR's Dam Safety Program regulates dams in Hawai'i to ensure landowner compliance with dam safety laws and regulations. The Wahiawa Dam does not meet current dam safety standards and needs significant repairs to bring it into compliance. These deficiencies were first identified in the 1978 United States Army Corps of Engineers dam safety report. The current landowner was notified by DLNR's Dam Safety Program to remedy these issues in 2009 and has not taken all necessary actions to remediate the dam and bring it into compliance.

The Departments agree that subject to the appropriation of sufficient funding and negotiations with the current owners of the pertinent lands covered by this measure, that: DLNR may acquire and manage the parcels identified by the measure excluding the parcels on which the dam facility including the spillway are situated and the irrigation system infrastructure that serves to deliver water (dam, spillway, outlet

¹ DLNR also understands that there are more homeless in the general vicinity that may migrate to the subject parcels once they become publicly accessible.

works, ditches, etc.); ADC may acquire and manage the irrigation system infrastructure needed for water delivery; and DOA may acquire and manage the dam and spillway and the parcels on which the dam, spillway and appurtenant features are situated. The Departments acknowledge that acquisition and control of the Wahiawa Irrigation System by the State serves critically important public purposes for the State. The Wahiawa State Freshwater Park is adjacent to the subject parcels and DLNR's Division of Aquatic Resources uses the reservoir for recreational fishing programs that serve about 1,500 fishers annually. The irrigation system provides essential water infrastructure for agricultural users in the region who are engaged in activities that support local food production and is a key component in achieving the State's food sustainability goals.

The Departments note that the State must perform its due diligence for the acquisition. Some of the items required would be a survey map and description, title reports for all the parcels, and a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) to determine whether any hazardous materials or other contaminants are present of the parcels, and a Phase II ESA if necessary. The Departments also note that Parcel (1) 7-3-007:001 which consists largely of the Lake Wilson submerged lands, also appears to have portions of the irrigation system infrastructure, such as a portion of the dam and the outlet works located on it. As the measure contemplates the fee simple acquisition of these improvements by DOA, subdivision of this parcel may be required to achieve the intent of this measure.

Finally, the Departments note that the final land acquisitions will be determined during negotiations and are subject to review and approval by the boards of the respective agencies.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment on this measure.

SYLVIA LUKE Lt. Governor



SHARON HURD Chairperson, Board of Agriculture

MORRIS M. ATTA Deputy to the Chairperson

State of Hawai'i DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE KA 'OIHANA MAHI'AI 1428 South King Street Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814-2512 Phone: (808) 973-9600 FAX: (808) 973-9613

TESTIMONY OF SHARON HURD CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF AGRICULTURE

BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

February 15, 2023 10:30 AM CONFERENCE ROOM 211, VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE

SENATE BILL NO. 833 SD1 RELATING TO THE WAHIAWA IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Chairpersons Gabbard and Inouye and Members of the Committees:

Senate Bill 833 SB1 proposes to require the Office of the Governor to negotiate the State's fee simple acquisition of the Wahiawa Irrigation System on the island of Oahu, which includes the Wahiawa reservoir, Wahiawa dam, and ditch system; and authorize and appropriate moneys for the Department of Agriculture (DOA), Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC), and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) (collectively, "Departments") to purchase, repair and maintain the Wahiawa Irrigation System and associated spillway. **DOA SUPPORTS this measure and offers the following comments and amendments.**

DOA appreciates the importance of the Wahiawa Irrigation System, Wahiawa Dam and Lake Wilson Reservoir to agriculture irrigation, flood control, wastewater management, and public recreation. However, this bill does not include the request the appropriation of sufficient funds to ensure that ongoing maintenance, repairs, and operations can be performed during and after the performance of the mitigation, repair, and construction work required to bring the dam and spillway into compliance with DLNR's Dam Safety Program. DOA estimates that the operation and maintenance costs of the Wahiawa Dam and Spillway during the period following acquisition to the completion of construction of all dam and spillway construction to be \$1,500,000 per year.

DOA requests that a new Section be added to Part III of SB 833 to read as follows:

SECTION X. There is appropriated out of the general revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$1,500,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the same sum or so much thereof as may



necessary for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the be Department of Agriculture to operate and maintain the Wahiawa Dam and Spillway following the acquisition of such, until the completion of the construction of necessary improvements to the Wahiawa Dam and Spillway, time upon which ownership will transfer to the Agribusiness Development Corporation.

Subject to negotiations with the current owners of the pertinent lands covered by this measure, that: DLNR shall acquire and manage the parcels identified by the measure excluding the parcel on which the spillway is situated and the irrigation system infrastructure that serves to deliver water (dam, spillway, ditches, etc.); ADC shall acquire and manage the irrigation system infrastructure needed for water delivery together with and subsequent to appropriate repair and rehabilitation, the dam, spillway, appurtenant features, and the land on which they are situated; and DOA shall acquire and manage the dam and spillway and the parcel on which the spillway is situated, until the appropriate and necessary repairs and rehabilitation are completed, at which time, those assets and responsibilities will be transferred to ADC.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this measure.



February 10, 2023

Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair Senate Committee on Ways and Means

Comments in Support of SB 833, S.D. 1 Relating to Wahiawa Irrigation System (Requires the Office of the Governor to negotiate the State's fee simple acquisition of the Wahiawa irrigation system on the island of Oahu. Authorizes and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture [DOA], Agribusiness Development Corporation [ADC], and Department of Land and Natural Resources [DLNR] to purchase, repair, and maintain the Wahiawa irrigation system and the associated spillway. Appropriates funds for the DLNR to manage and maintain its acquired portion of the irrigation system and to establish four full-time equivalent [4.0 FTE] positions for the DLNR. Effective 7/1/2050.)

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 10:30 a.m.; State Capitol, Conference Room 211 & Videoconference

The Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii (LURF) is a private, non-profit research and trade association whose members include major Hawaii landowners, developers, and utility companies. LURF's mission is to advocate for reasonable, rational, and equitable land use planning, legislation and regulations that encourage well-planned economic growth and development, while safeguarding Hawaii's significant natural and cultural resources, and public health and safety.

LURF appreciates the opportunity to express its **support of SB 833**, **S.D. 1**, and of the various agricultural stakeholder groups who defend the goals of viable agricultural operations and the conservation and protection of agriculture, including important agricultural lands (IAL) in Hawaii.

SB 833, S.D. 1. This bill proposes to authorize the DOA, DLNR, and ADC to acquire the Wahiawa irrigation system, on terms negotiated and agreed upon by the office of the governor, and to purchase, repair, and maintain the associated spillway; and to appropriate funds for the DLNR to manage and maintain its acquired portion of the irrigation system, and establish 4.0 FTE positions for the DLNR.

Senate Committee on Ways and Means February 10, 2023 Page 2

LURF's Position. Well-functioning irrigation systems are vital to Hawaii's agricultural industry to ensure that the State's agricultural crops receive a reliable and consistent supply of water to support and maintain productivity. LURF understands that the Wahiawa irrigation system, which was originally built by the Wahiawa Sugar Company, was created with a dam and freshwater reservoir, and that the dam is essential to agriculture since water in the reservoir provides irrigation to farmers in Wahiawa, Waialua, and Haleiwa. In order to ensure that these local farmers may continue to receive a dependable supply of water for crops, funding is necessary to improve, repair and maintain the Wahiawa irrigation system.

Local farmers and ranchers who rely on irrigation systems to service their agricultural lands consider such resources critical to conduct their agricultural operations and to sustain their businesses. These agricultural stakeholders believe measures such as SB 833, S.D. 1 will greatly assist by providing funding and support necessary to make improvements to irrigation systems for the long-term betterment of the State's agricultural industry and are relying on legislation such as this to help them work toward the expansion of diversified agriculture; promote the agricultural self-sufficiency of the State; and to protect water as a valuable and significant resource.

For the above reasons, LURF **<u>supports</u> SB 833, S.D. 1**, and respectfully urges your favorable consideration.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments in support of this matter.



NORTH SHORE NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 27

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD SUITE 108 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817 TELEPHONE: (808) 768-3710 • FAX: (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET: http://www.honolulu.gov/nco

February 12, 2023

COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS Senator Donovan M. Dela Cruz, Chair

Senator Gilbert S.C. Keith-Agaran, Vice Chair

Re: SB 833 etter Regarding Support for Transfering the Wahiawa Reservoir and Irrigation System to the State of Hawaii

Aloha Committee Chair Dela Cruz and Committee Members:

The North Shore Neighborhood Board #27 strongly supports the transfer of the Wahiawa reservoir and irrigation system to the State of Hawaii.

The irrigation water and system is of vital importance to the farmers in our community and without it, they will have to shutdown which will threaten our food security. The land around Wahiawa and the North Shore is some of the best in the state for growing crops. We urge your committees to support SB833 to allow continued agricultural use of the land.

Mālama Kathleen M. Pahinut

Chair, North Shore NB #27



Email: communications@ulupono.com

SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS & MEANS Wednesday, February 15, 2023 — 10:30 a.m.

Ulupono Initiative <u>supports</u> SB 833 SD1, Relating to the Wahiawa Irrigation System.

Dear Chair Dela Cruz and Members of the Committee:

My name is Micah Munekata, and I am the Director of Government Affairs at Ulupono Initiative. We are a Hawai'i-focused impact investment firm that strives to improve quality of life throughout the islands by helping our communities become more resilient and self-sufficient through locally produced food; renewable energy and clean transportation; and better management of freshwater and waste.

Ulupono <u>supports</u> SB 833 SD1, which requires the Office of the Governor to negotiate the State's fee simple acquisition of the Wahiawa Irrigation System on the island of Oahu and authorizes and appropriates funds for the Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness Development Corporation, and Department of Land and Natural Resources to purchase, repair, and maintain the Wahiawa Irrigation System and the associated spillway.

Ulupono supports funding for critical agricultural infrastructure across the State. The Wahiawa Irrigation System provides critical water access to local producers in the region. The system also provides recreation to the local community under the jurisdiction of the Department of Land and Natural Resources. It is prudent for the State to acquire the Wahiawa Irrigation System to support both recreation and production agriculture, therefore some sort of collaborative agreement across multiple state departments may be necessary. Having such an important system abandoned, or sold to a private entity, may have drastic ripple effects to local agriculture and communities alike. We support keeping this water resource within the purview of the State and maintaining affordable water access island-wide.

It is important to note that there are other maintenance and repair projects proposed in the Hawai'i Department of Agriculture's CIP Budget that also merit strong consideration by the Legislature. Agricultural water system infrastructure (irrigation systems) is an essential component of our state's efforts to achieve its goals of increasing local food production and food security. This is affirmed in the DOA's 2019 Agricultural Water Use and Development Plan (AWUDP), which documents how Hawai'i's agricultural industry relies on these water systems to deliver inexpensive water to meet and expand agricultural production even during times of drought. The DOA has identified agricultural water systems as the most important infrastructural requirement needed to expand Hawai'i's diversified agriculture industry. However, most of the large-scale irrigation systems in the state are or will soon be more than 100 years old.

Investing in a Sustainable Hawai'i



Additionally, according to the Association of State Dam Safety Officials' latest Dam Safety Performance Report, more than a third of Hawai'i's dams are rated either in poor or unsatisfactory condition.

In the AWUDP, the DOA estimates the five-year cost of repairs and maintenance for Hawai'i's most critical agricultural water systems at approximately \$168 million - of that amount, about \$90 million is needed specifically for DOA-managed agricultural water systems over that same period. This is substantial for our small state, requiring an average of more than \$33 million per year for five years. While the price tag to repair and maintain these systems may seem high, the cost to replace these plantation-era water systems would be in the billions of dollars. More importantly, continuing to let these systems fall into disrepair puts Hawai'i's food security at risk, particularly the food security of the next generation who will be forced to adapt to a hotter and dryer planet.

Climate Change in Hawai'i

The importance of well-maintained agricultural water systems becomes even greater when the impacts of climate change on Hawai'i's food security are considered. In April 2021, Hawai'i became the first state to declare a climate emergency, when the State Legislature passed <u>Senate Concurrent</u> <u>Resolution 44 SD1 HD1</u>, which also requested "statewide collaboration toward an immediate just transition and emergency mobilization effort to restore a safe climate."

The people of Hawai'i are seeing first-hand local impacts consistent with the effects of climate change: rising air temperatures; decreased rainfall and stream flow; increased rain intensity; increased frequency of drought; and increased frequency of powerful storms. For example:

- Since 1950, temperatures across the Hawaiian Islands have been on the rise, ranging from increases of 0.2 to 0.4 degrees Fahrenheit per decade;
- The annual total precipitation measured at Hilo International Airport decreased by nearly 20 inches since 1950—the most among Hawai'i's four major airports;
- Rain intensity is becoming as much a destructive factor as drought, with the amount of rain falling in the very heaviest downpours from 1958 to 2007 increasing by approximately 12%;
- The area in Hawai'i burned annually by wildfires has increased four-fold in recent decades, according to University of Hawai'i wildland fire researcher Clay Trauernicht; and
- Powerful storms are anticipated to become more frequent, as warmer climates tend to amplify existing weather patterns and variability, according to Hawai'i's state climatologist, Pao-Shin Chu.

These are each detrimental to local food production on their own; and yet, as an isolated island state we are also susceptible to climate change impacts far from our shores due to Hawai'i's continuing over-reliance on food from imports.

Irrigation Infrastructure IS Part of Climate Change Adaptation

For international and domestic food producers, meeting the global demand of a projected 10 billion people by 2050—an increase of 2.3 billion people over just a quarter of a century—will become increasingly challenging as the Earth's climate continues to warm. Some estimate this will require an increase in global food production of 60%, if we are to ensure enough food for all.



In the Biden Administration's fact sheet outlining the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, the White House highlighted investments in **infrastructure to make communities more resilient to the impacts of climate change, including** "funds to protect against droughts and floods..."

Irrigation plays an essential role in increasing food production and is an effective method of climate change adaptation. Globally, irrigated land represents only 16% of arable land, but produces 44% of total crop production. For most crops, irrigation can double or triple crop yields. For example, irrigated crop yields for corn, soybean, and wheat are 165%, 75%, and 140% higher than rain-fed yields. In regards to climate change adaptation, irrigation systems mitigate the impact of decreasing rainfall, increasing frequency of drought, and increasing temperatures; and irrigation can help capture more rainfall during storm events, so that water can be used in the future.

According to research by The Nature Conservancy, climate change will bring increased moisture deficits across the United States. Nationally, the total area irrigated will need to increase by 11-54 million acres (an increase of 19-94%) by 2090 in order to maintain food production.

The DOA's AWUDP plan concludes: "The investment into these agricultural water systems is the key to provide adequate water to continue to grow diversified agriculture. As the saying goes, ...without water there is no agriculture..., which is the reason these agricultural water systems were originally constructed—and why they need to be maintained for another 100 years."

We strongly agree. For generations to come, local food production will depend on these systems and their ability to provide water for local farmers and ranchers. This represents a singular opportunity to make Hawai'i more self-sufficient and resilient.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.

Respectfully,

Micah Munekata Director of Government Affairs



P.O. Box 253, Kunia, Hawai'i 96759 Phone: (808) 848-2074; Fax: (808) 848-1921 e-mail info@hfbf.org; www.hfbf.org

February 15, 2023

HEARING BEFORE THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS

TESTIMONY ON SB 833, SD1 RELATING TO THE WAHIAWA IRRIGATION SYSTEM

Conference Room 224 & Videoconference 1:00 PM

Aloha Chair Dela Cruz, Vice-Chair Keith-Agaran, and Members of the Committee:

I am Brian Miyamoto, Executive Director of the Hawai'i Farm Bureau (HFB). Organized since 1948, the HFB is comprised of 1,800 farm family members statewide and serves as Hawai'i's voice of agriculture to protect, advocate and advance the social, economic, and educational interests of our diverse agricultural community.

The Hawai i Farm Bureau supports SB 833, SD1, which requires the Office of the Governor to negotiate the State's fee simple acquisition of the Wahiawa irrigation system on the island of Oahu and authorizes and appropriates moneys for the Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness Development Corporation, and Department of Land and Natural Resources to purchase, repair, and maintain the Wahiawa irrigation system and the associated spillway.

The Wahiawa Irrigation System is critical for Oahu farmers and ranchers that depend on it for their operations. Water availability is a basic necessity for farmers and ranchers to maintain and expand their production, particularly in times of drought manifested on many islands as a result of a changing climate. Moreover, a reliable water supply is a key factor when Hawai'i's farmers and ranchers are making decisions to start new or to expand existing operations.

The Dole Food Company has listed the Wahiawa Irrigation System for sale. We can't afford to lose this critical agricultural water source. No farming entity can afford the \$20,000,000 listed price. We are concerned about the potential impact on farmers if a private individual or entity purchases the system. They may raise water rates or even discontinue supplying water to farmers.

Oahu growers, especially those in Waialua and Haleiwa, need the reliable source of water that the Wahiawa Irrigation System provides, to continue to produce cabbage, bell pepper, tomato, cucumber, taro, eggplant, okra, papaya, citrus, avocado, banana, dragon fruit, watermelon, and green onion, and to expand production to better serve our communities.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of this measure.

ТМК	Ownership	Acres	Description	Agency
71012007	Sustainable Hawaii	0.67	Irrigation Tunnel	ADC
71012004	Sustainable Hawaii	28.56	Tunnel/ditches	ADC
71012014	Sustainable Hawaii	30.02	Spillway/dam	DOA
71012003	Sustainable Hawaii	47.15	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
71001017	Sustainable Hawaii	7.77	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
71001013	Sustainable Hawaii	28.94	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73013003	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	5.71	Dam outlet works/lower spillway/tunnels	ADC
73012002	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	1.68	Dam control valves/tunnels	ADC
73012006	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.35	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73011003	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	1.32	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73011006	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.09	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73011007	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.80	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73010003	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.72	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73008001	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.75	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73001019	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.60	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
74001003	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	3.55	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
74012001	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	1.93	Adjacent to Wahiawa Freshwater park/ inundated	DLNR
73007001	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	178.65	Dam, lake, inundated shoreline	DLNR
73006023	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	0.43	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73005005	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	2.18	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR
73001003	Dole/Wahiawa Water Co	7.81	Lake and shoreline inundated	DLNR