



# HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE STATE OF HAWAII

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Testimony of  
**MARK B. GLICK, Chief Energy Officer**

before the  
**SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM**

Thursday, February 8, 2024  
1:01 PM  
State Capitol, Conference Room 229 and Videoconference

Providing Comments on  
**SB 3010**

## **RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee, the Hawai'i State Energy Office (HSEO) offers comments on SB 3010 that requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to direct the Hawai'i State Energy Office, and work with utility companies and other renewable energy developers, on all applicable planning, leasing, and permitting processes to expedite the development of renewable energy resources.

HSEO appreciates the intent of the measure to broaden the title of section 196-41 from "renewable portfolio standards," which pertains to electricity generation, to a broader scope, that of "renewable energy projects and renewable portfolio standards," in other words, fuel production.

However, the section on page 2, lines 16-20, pertaining to DBEDT directing HSEO to work with utility companies and other renewable energy developers is unnecessary, as such activities are authorized by the Legislature directly to the Hawai'i State Energy Office and Chief Energy Officer in Hawai'i Revised Statutes (HRS) Sections 196-71 and 196-72 (emphasis in "bold" added):

Section 196-71, subsection (a), states, "The purpose of the Hawaii state energy office shall be to promote energy efficiency, **renewable energy**, and clean transportation to help achieve a resilient clean energy economy."

Section 196-71, subsection (b), states, "The Hawaii state energy office shall... Provide analysis and planning to actively develop ... **renewable energy** ... with the legislature, public utilities commission, **state agencies, and other relevant stakeholders... Provide renewable energy... project deployment facilitation** to assist private sector project completion ... **Engage the private sector ... to achieve renewable energy ... goals...**"

Finally, section 196-72, subsection (d), states that the chief energy officer shall "Facilitate the **efficient, expedited permitting** of energy efficiency, **renewable energy**, clean transportation, and energy resiliency projects by coordinating and aligning state and county departments and agencies to support, expedite, and remove barriers to deployment of energy initiatives and projects."

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

TESTIMONY OF  
LEODOLOFF R. ASUNCION, JR.  
CHAIR, PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
STATE OF HAWAII

TO THE  
SENATE COMMITTEE ON  
ENERGY, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, AND TOURISM

Thursday, February 8, 2024  
1:01 p.m.

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and Members of the Committee:

**MEASURE:** S.B. No. 3010  
**TITLE:** RELATING TO RENEWABLE ENERGY.

**DESCRIPTION:** Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to direct the Hawaii State Energy Office, and work with utility companies and other renewable energy developers, on all applicable planning, leasing, and permitting processes to expedite the development of renewable energy resources.

**POSITION:**

The Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) offers the following comments for consideration.

**COMMENTS:**

The Commission appreciates the intent of this measure to direct the Hawaii State Energy Office to help facilitate development of renewable energy resources to achieve the State’s efforts to achieve its renewable energy goals. The Commission recognizes that more streamlined processes for planning, leasing, and permitting would promote the production of clean electricity and understands that generators of renewable energy play an important role in the State’s transition to renewable energy. Additional support on these issues could attract new and more developers to the state, which would lead to a more robust market and better outcomes for ratepayers.

The Commission observes that there may be issues to work out to further develop the State’s renewable energy resources and achieve the intent of this measure to facilitate the private sector’s attainment of renewable portfolio standards. The Commission respectfully defers to the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism and the Hawaii State Energy Office as to the implementation of this measure.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.



**Testimony to  
The Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism  
February 8, 2024  
1:01 PM  
Conference Room 229 & VIA videoconference  
Hawaii State Capitol  
  
SB 3010**

Chair DeCoite, Vice Chair Wakai, and members of the committee,

Hawaii Gas **supports SB 3010**, which requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to direct the Hawaii State Energy Office, and work with utility companies and other renewable energy developers, on all applicable planning, leasing, and permitting processes to expedite the development of renewable energy resources.

Since 1904, Hawaii Gas has been a pioneer in the gas industry. Hawaii Gas is again at the leading edge of our industry given our integration of both renewable natural gas (RNG) and hydrogen into our fuel supply mix and distributing it through our utility pipeline system. Hawaii Gas plays a vital role in Hawaii's energy portfolio by providing clean, reliable, and cost-effective energy to over 70,000 customers on all islands, all of whom depend on the company for water heating, cooking, drying, and other commercial and industrial applications. Hawaii Gas continues to look towards new, innovative, and economic ways to incorporate renewable energy sources while also reducing our greenhouse gas emissions.

State support is critical in delivering renewable energy projects in the energy, transportation, and aviation sectors, which can help to achieve the state's decarbonization policy goals.

The facilitation to expeditiously develop renewable energy resources is urgently needed in the planning, leasing, and permitting processes to navigate redundant and delayed processes that often hinder the efficient delivery of renewable energy projects, which ultimately affects the ratepayers and consumers. This focused approach will not only help attract greater investment in clean energy infrastructure but also create jobs, stimulate economic growth, and bolster energy resilience statewide.

We urge you to support SB 3010, which will help accelerate Hawaii's journey towards a cleaner, more sustainable energy future.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Statement of  
**Brigadier General Stanley J. Osserman Jr. (USAF Ret.), President**  
Tigershark, LLC  
Before the  
**Senate Committee on Energy, Economic Development and Tourism**  
8 February 2024  
1:01 pm  
State Capitol Conference Room #229  
In consideration of  
**SB3010**  
**Relating to Renewable Energy**

Chair DeCoite

4 February 2024

Vice Chair Wakai and Distinguished Committee Members:

I stand in support this bill.

As the former director of the Hawaii Center for Advanced Transportation Technologies (HCATT; 2013 to 2019), Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), I continue to serve our state by promoting clean, renewable energy solutions. This testimony is NOT being given for compensation of any kind by any corporate or commercial entity. I am presenting to you today as a concerned “Life-Long” citizen of the State of Hawaii with extensive professional experience in energy systems, retail and wholesale business, military matters, international commerce, aviation, construction, maritime operations, and public safety, among others. My goal is to help our government leaders make good strategic choices.

Although Climate Change and Carbon Sequestration are the “hot topics” today, we are not managing the transition away from fossil fuels well, at all, and the fact is, over a decade of focus on Climate Change, and we are nowhere near where we should be in terms of reducing use of fossil fuels in Hawaii on our grid or for transportation!

In 2015 I asked the DBEDT Director if he would do what SB3010 proposes. His response was that, “Coordinating other agencies wasn’t his job!”, I disagreed, and nothing was done to facilitate businesses trying to navigate the complex regulatory and financial world of growing new businesses to meet new challenges, like clean energy

SB3010 helps us speed up the necessary and complex growth in clean firm electrical power to, not only have clean electricity, but make clean hydrogen which can be used to make

synthetic liquid “bridge fuels” for aircraft engines, vehicles, and gas turbines (in ships and power plants) as well as fuel cell electric transportation.

Private power producers have been hamstrung by complex and cumbersome processes to develop distributed power generation and using wheeling of electricity to help Hawaii address the complex challenges that lie ahead. SB3010 is a good start.

Brigadier General, Stanley J. Osserman Jr. (USAF Ret.)

President, Tigershark, LLC

**SB-3010**

Submitted on: 2/6/2024 3:36:53 PM

Testimony for EET on 2/8/2024 1:01:00 PM

<b>Submitted By</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Testifier Position</b>	<b>Testify</b>
Dylan P. Armstrong	Individual	Support	Written Testimony Only

Comments:

Sens. DeCoite and Wakai, Chair and Vice Chair  
Committee on Energy, Economic Development & Tourism

RE: SB 3010

Dear Senators,

I support SB 3010 which is intended to:

Requires the Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism to direct the Hawaii State Energy Office, and work with utility companies and other renewable energy developers, on all applicable planning, leasing, and permitting processes to expedite the development of renewable energy resources.

Hawai‘i is caught at a crossroads where it must simultaneously lead a nation failing to adapt to a currently happening environmental emergency, when all of the available sources of renewable energy entail controversies.

- Photovoltaic solar
- Wind (turbine)
- Geothermal
- Wave
- Gasification by pyrolysis (biomass)
- Hydrogen

And the additional category considerations of nuclear energy and grid electrification entail massive ethical and security concerns.

This emergency is too intricate and politicized for its energy (climate mitigation) component be left to the whims of the legislature and administrative agencies in an uncoordinated way. Therefore it makes sense for DBEDT via HSEO to lead on renewable development and management.

In summary, I support.

Thank you for your consideration.  
Dylan P. Armstrong