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COUNTY COUNCIL

COUNTY OF MAUI 200 S. HIGH STREET WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793 www.MauiCounty.us

March 25, 2024

- TO: The Honorable Lorraine R. Inouye, Chair, and Members of the Committee on Water and Land
- FROM: Alice L. Lee

Council Chair

SUBJECT: HEARING OF MARCH 27, 2024; TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SCR203 AND SR179, RELATING TO REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO INVENTORY AND MAP **EXISTING R-1 WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND RESERVOIRS IN MAUL** COUNTY

I **support** these resolutions to request that the Office of Planning and Sustainable Development inventory and map existing R-1 water-delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County.

I am providing this testimony in my capacity as an individual member of the Maui County Council.

I support these resolutions for the following reasons:

- 1. Recurring droughts have caused Maui County to struggle with water shortages, especially in Upcountry Maui and in West Maui.
- 2. If R-1 water-delivery systems can be identified, progress can be made toward water conservation.
- 3. Using former plantation reservoirs to store R-1 water will allow West Maui to have easier access to fresh water for agricultural and firefighting.

Thank you for your consideration.

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STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR

> SYLVIA LUKE LT. GOVERNOR

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Statement of MARY ALICE EVANS, Interim Director

before the SENATE COMMITTEE ON WATER AND LAND Wednesday, March 27, 2024 1:00 PM State Capitol, Conference Room 229

in consideration of SCR 203 / SR 179 REQUESTING THE OFFICE OF PLANNING AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TO INVENTORY AND MAP EXISTING R-1 WATER DELIVERY SYSTEMS AND RESERVOIRS IN MAUI COUNTY

Chair Inouye, Vice Chair Elefante, and members of the Senate Committee on Water and Land:

The Office of Planning and Sustainable Development (OPSD) **appreciates the intent of SCR 203 and its companion SR 179**, requesting OPSD to inventory and map existing R-1 water delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County. OPSD offers the following comments.

The Statewide GIS Program in OPSD regularly gathers data from federal, State, and county agencies and makes more than 400 data layers available to the public through its geospatial open data portal.

However, some agency data is intentionally not shared with OPSD due to the sensitivity of the data or because of security concerns. The R-1 water delivery systems data from Maui County and the regulated and non-regulated dams data from DLNR fall into this category. To the extent that sensitivity and security concerns can be addressed, OPSD can complete the subject inventory and mapping as requested.

An alternative is to request that R-1 water delivery systems and reservoirs in Maui County are included in the non-public Critical Infrastructure system currently being planned by the Office of Homeland Security in the Department of Law Enforcement.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify on this measure.