

MAR 16 2026

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION TO ENSURE THAT
CERTAIN CONDITIONS ARE MET BEFORE APPROVING ANY
INFRASTRUCTURE, OPERATIONS, MAINTENANCE, FUEL, OR OTHER
COSTS RELATING TO SUPPLYING AND USING LIQUEFIED NATURAL
GAS.

1 WHEREAS, the State must ensure that any consideration of
2 importing natural gas into Hawaii is conducted in a manner that
3 protects ratepayers, advances clean energy goals, and safeguards
4 long-term economic and environmental interests; and
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6 WHEREAS, proponents of natural gas have asserted that its
7 use would reduce electricity costs and greenhouse gas emissions
8 relative to imported petroleum; and
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10 WHEREAS, sufficient, transparent, and verifiable evidence
11 has not been provided to substantiate these claims; and
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13 WHEREAS, long-term investments in natural gas
14 infrastructure may expose ratepayers to significant financial
15 risks, including stranded asset costs, fuel price volatility,
16 and long-term contractual obligations that could inflate
17 electricity costs; and
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19 WHEREAS, Hawaii has established a statutory mandate to
20 achieve one hundred percent renewable portfolio standards by
21 2045; and
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23 WHEREAS, substantial new investment in fossil fuel
24 infrastructure may undermine progress toward this goal and
25 divert capital, policy focus, and market signals away from the
26 development of indigenous, renewable energy sources; now,
27 therefore,
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1 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-third
2 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2026, the
3 House of Representatives concurring, that the Public Utilities
4 Commission is requested to ensure that the following conditions
5 are met before approving any costs of infrastructure,
6 operations, maintenance, fuel, or other costs relating to
7 supplying and using liquefied natural gas:

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- 9 (1) All liquefied natural gas infrastructure costs shall
10 be fully amortized no later than 2045, and utility
11 customers shall not be obligated to pay the costs of
12 any stranded investments;
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- 14 (2) Any power purchase or fuel supply agreement shall not
15 include any volumetric commitments or take-or-pay
16 requirements for fuel supplies and shall include
17 provisions for supplies declining to zero no later
18 than 2045;
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- 20 (3) Any power purchase or fuel supply agreement shall not
21 result in increased costs for customers in the
22 counties of Hawaii, Kauai, or Maui, including costs
23 arising from downstream effects of changing fuel
24 supplies or suppliers for those counties; and
25
- 26 (4) Any approval shall include protections for customers
27 from fuel price volatility, including but not limited
28 to provisions for the utility to share in fuel price
29 changes, which shall begin at no less than ten percent
30 and shall increase over time in line with declining
31 fuel supply volumes; and
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33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
34 is requested to deny any costs related to liquefied natural gas
35 if more cost-effective, non-fossil-fuel alternatives are
36 available to a utility or if approving the power purchase or
37 fuel supply agreement would commit a utility to purchasing a
38 greater amount of liquefied natural gas than necessary to
39 accommodate the maximum amount of renewable energy on the grid;
40 and
41



1 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
2 is requested to consider the effects of approving the use of
3 liquefied natural gas on renewable energy development and
4 deployment, including risks and costs of diverting attention and
5 resources away from maximizing present and future cost savings
6 from renewable energy sources when making determinations of the
7 reasonableness of costs pertaining to electric or gas utility
8 system capital improvements and operations; and
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10 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Public Utilities Commission
11 is requested to consider the risks and costs of stranded assets
12 and the risks and costs of reliance on a single fuel supply or
13 monopoly supplier when making determinations of the
14 reasonableness of costs pertaining to electric or gas utility
15 system capital improvements and operations; and
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17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
18 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Director of Commerce
19 and Consumer Affairs; Executive Director of the Division of
20 Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer
21 Affairs; Chief Energy Officer of the Hawaii State Energy Office;
22 Chairperson of the Public Utilities Commission; and President
23 and Chief Executive Officer of Hawaiian Electric.
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OFFERED BY: 

