



LATE

Hawaii Solar Energy Association

Serving Hawaii Since 1977

**TESTIMONY OF THE HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION
IN REGARD TO GM 3, RELATING TO THE CONFIRMATION AND
CONSIDERATION**

OF

JAMES P. GRIFFIN

FOR THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

AT THE

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND
HEALTH**

ON

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29TH, 2017

Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the committee, my name is Will Giese and I represent the Hawaii Solar Energy Association, Inc. (HSEA)

HSEA **supports** the nomination of Dr. James P. Griffin as Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission. Founded in 1977, the Hawaii Solar Energy Association is a non-profit organization comprised of installers, contractors, distributors, manufacturers, auditors, and financers of solar water heating and photovoltaic systems. The majority of our member companies are locally owned and operated, making HSEA the leading voice of Hawaii's solar industry. The HSEA has been involved as a policy maker and technical advisor on a variety of issues regarding solar energy in the state for decades.

In the course of our organization's experience our staff and members have been and continue to be regularly involved in conversations with the Commission and various stakeholders. Many of our current members and staff have had the great pleasure to work with Dr. Griffin as well as his team of dedicated and knowledgeable policy and research staff. Dr. Griffin himself has been instrumental in shaping policy regarding Hawaii's energy future and will no doubt be a valuable asset in the years to come as Hawaii transitions to a clean and sustainable energy economy.

Dr. Griffin's extensive experience as a researcher, policy-maker, and educator both in Hawaii and on the mainland has already proven to make Hawaii one of the most progressive states in energy policy. Not only that, but his ability to create and lead an outstanding team of research professionals that still work to inform the Commissioner's and their staff stands as a testament to his character.

The HSEA is proud to have individuals like Dr. Griffin working in our state and we are honored to recommend him to a full term with the Commission. We urge this Committee and the Senate to confirm Dr. Griffin's nomination as Commissioner.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.



Hawai'i Energy

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1132 Bishop Street, Suite 1800 • Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813 • HawaiiEnergy.com • P: (808) 839-8880 • F: (808) 441-6068

Before the State Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Tuesday, August 29, 2017, 10:00 A.M., Room 229

Dear Honorable Committee Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Tokuda, and Members of the State Senate
Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health,

Thank you for this opportunity to submit written testimony. On behalf of the Hawai'i Energy program, we would like to testify in strong **support** of the confirmation of Dr. James Griffin as a Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission (PUC) Commissioner.

Hawai'i Energy works to empower island families and businesses on behalf of the PUC to make smart energy choices in order to reduce energy consumption, save money, and pursue a 100% clean energy future for our state.

Dr. James Griffin brings over 20 years of knowledge and experience in energy and policymaking. In 2001, Dr. Griffin worked as energy policy staff for Representative Hermina Morita as the clean energy space started to accelerate. Dr. Griffin then pursued a tenure-track Researcher at the Hawai'i Natural Energy Institute (HNEI) until 2012, leading numerous important research efforts such as renewable energy integration challenges on our island electrical grids. In 2012, Dr. Griffin willingly took on an important role with the PUC, serving as its Chief of Policy and Research where he actively worked on numerous complex dockets before the PUC. In 2016, he returned to HNEI to continue with the important work needed to accomplish our ambitious clean energy goal.

The Hawai'i Energy program has worked with Dr. Griffin both in his time with the PUC and with HNEI. Dr. Griffin understands the importance of energy efficiency its importance for Hawai'i to reach 100% clean energy and has been advocate for efficiency along with renewable energy.

In each of his roles, Dr. Griffin has been involved in many of the proceedings and dockets before the Commission. This working knowledge and background is extremely important to maintain momentum in these continuing dockets. Very few people have the background and the experience Dr. Griffin possesses. It is for these reasons the Hawai'i Energy program strongly supports the confirmation of Dr. Griffin as PUC Commissioner.

Thank you again for the opportunity to testify and **support** Dr. Griffin's nomination.

Brian Kealoha
Executive Director
Hawai'i Energy

Yvette Maskrey
Residential Program Director
Hawai'i Energy

LATE

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Senator Rosalyn H. Baker, Chair

Senator Jill N. Tokuda, Vice Chair

Tuesday, August 29, 2017 10 a.m.

Conference Room 229

State Capitol, 415 South Beretania Street

Regarding: GM 3

Consideration and confirmation to the Public Utilities Commission, Gubernatorial Nominee,
JAMES GRIFFIN, for a term to expire 06-30-2022:

TESTIMONY OF CARL FREEDMAN, HAIKU DESIGN AND ANALYSIS

IN SUPPORT OF CONFIRMATION OF JAMES GRIFFIN

My name is Carl Freedman. I live on Maui and currently work actively as a consultant to the Public Utilities Commission and the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum. Over a period of over 25 years, I have worked on matters before the Hawaii PUC, as a public interest stakeholder and as a consultant, at various times representing a spectrum of clients, including the Division of Consumer Advocacy, several large utility customers, Hawaii regulated utilities, the Rocky Mountain Institute, and most recently, directly advising the Commission. I have presented expert testimony, participated in evidentiary hearings or worked directly for the PUC under the tenure of six of Hawaii's eight Hawaii PUC chairs.

I currently directly advise the PUC Commissioners and staff on a range of subjects, including resource planning and procurement, ratemaking mechanisms, and policy matters generally. I worked as a consultant reporting directly to Dr. Griffin during his tenure as Chief of Policy and Research at the Commission.

I am testifying today in support of James Griffin's confirmation. There is no doubt that Dr. Griffin has the expertise, experience and integrity to serve as an excellent commissioner. In addition to having an unsurpassed understanding of the technical issues associated with Hawaii's electrical utility grids and transition challenges, Dr. Griffin has a sound understanding of the economic, financial, regulatory and administrative aspects of the Commission's duties and responsibilities. Importantly, Dr. Griffin takes his role very seriously and has a diligent commitment to "doing the right thing" for the best interests of the public interest. By my observation, Dr. Griffin has a good working relationship with and is highly respected by all of the Commission staff.

I am certain that James Griffin, if confirmed, will be an excellent commissioner, and will serve the interests of the State of Hawaii competently, diligently and honorably.

Respectfully submitted,

Carl Freedman, Haiku Design & Analysis

4234 Hana Hwy., Haiku, Maui, Hawaii 96708



SENATE COMMITTEE ON CONSUMER PROTECTION AND HEALTH

Tuesday, August 29, 2017 10AM Room 229

Testimony in SUPPORT GM3

Nomination of Dr. James Griffin to Public Utilities Commission

Aloha Chairwoman Bakers and members of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Health,

On behalf of our 20,000 members and supporters, the Sierra Club of Hawai'i urges your committee to support the confirmation of Dr. James Griffin to the Public Utilities Commission. Dr. Griffin has the expertise and institutional knowledge to shepherd Hawai'i through the next phase of our clean energy transition.

Dr. Griffin has dedicated his professional career to advancing the transition to clean energy. He currently serves as the Interim Commissioner for the Public Utilities Commission and is directly involved in the creation of PUC policy regarding the implementation of Hawai'i's 100% renewable energy goals. Previously, Dr. Griffin served as the Chief of Policy at the PUC. He has also served as senior staff to the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, the RAND Corporation, and then-Energy Committee Chairwoman Representative Hermina Morita. His professional education includes graduate degrees in economics, public policy-making, and environmental management, including a doctoral thesis on integrating high amounts of renewable energy onto the grid.

Dr. Griffin is well-respected in his field as a collaborative policymaker. The PUC and the state of Hawai'i would benefit immensely from having his expertise and guidance on the Commission. Dr. Griffin is eminently qualified to serve as a commissioner and maintain Hawai'i's status as a leader in clean energy.

Thank you for considering Dr. Griffin's nomination to the PUC.

Sincerely,

Marti Townsend
Chapter Director

LATE

SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

April 29, 2017
10:00 a.m., Room 229
(*Testimony is 8 pages long*)

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF GM 3

Aloha Senators,

Hawai'i is in the middle of an exciting transformation to a new, clean energy future. Visionary legislative commitments to 100% renewable energy, reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, mandatory energy efficiency standards; electric grid modernization, and large-scale rooftop solar adoption means Hawai'i is showing the world how to transform the power sector. This transformation has already produced significant benefits, like adding \$350 to \$600 million to Hawai'i's economy and lowering the average ratepayer bill by more than 10% on Maui, O'ahu, and the island of Hawai'i.

This era of significant change requires strong leadership, particularly at the commission in charge of regulating Hawai'i's electrical grid. We need individuals who understand the complex economic, technical, social, and environmental issues involved in providing electricity to Hawai'i's people.

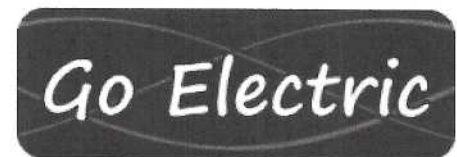
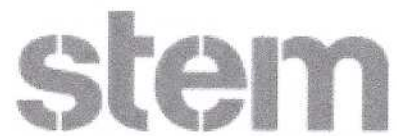
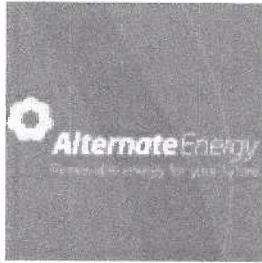
Dr. James P. Griffin provides this leadership. For more than two decades, Dr. Griffin has been involved in energy policymaking in Hawai'i. Dr. Griffin began his career as an aide and eventual energy policy staff for then-Representative Hermina Morita in 2001 and 2003. His experience and influence in clean energy policy grew as a tenure-track Researcher at the Hawaii Natural Energy Institute, where, among other work, he led research on a smart grid development project on Maui. In 2012, he served as the Chief of Policy and Research at the Public Utilities Commission until 2016. Dr. Griffin is also a consummate scholar, holding several advanced degrees in a variety of fields including economics, public policy, environmental analysis, and policy analysis. His doctoral thesis analyzed the feasibility of supplying 25% of the energy delivered to American consumers from renewable sources by 2025. The strength of his background is indisputable.

Hawai'i needs leaders like Dr. Griffin to meet the challenge of navigating Hawai'i's exciting energy transformation. We urge the Senate to confirm Dr. James P. Griffin's nomination as a Public Utilities Commissioner.

Mahalo,

The following 100% clean energy supporters:

Signed by the following companies:



And signed by the following residents:

First Name	Last Name	City	ZIP Code
Curtiss	Ako	Honolulu	96816
Bradley	Albert	Paia	96779
Sister Rose	Aranita	Honolulu	96819
Ryan	Baniaga	Kalaheo	96741
Andrew	Barnes	Makawao	96768
Linna	Beavin	Honolulu	96813
Walter	Billingsley	Honolulu	96825
Patricia	Bishaw	Kapolei	96707
Bonnie	Blacklidge	Haiku-pauwela	96708
Elmen	Bloedel	Kihei	96753
Jonathan	Boyne	Honolulu	96822
Dr. Joanna	Bressler	Waipahu	96797
John	Broussard	Kamuela	96743
Chad	Bundy	Kihei	96753
Annette	Bunting	Waikoloa	96738
Joanne	Burkhardt	Hanapepe	96716
Frank	Carpenter	Kailua-kona	96740
Ferdinand	Casabay	Honolulu	96817
Justin	Case	Honolulu	96813
Boonthai	Chantavy	Kapolei	96707

John	Cheever	Honolulu	96821
Chad	Christopher	Hauula	96717
Steven	Clements	Hilo	96720
Brice	Conquest	Honolulu	96816
Helga	Costello	Keaau	96749
S.	Crawford	Holualoa	96725
L.	Cummings	Lahaina	96761
Richard	Davis	Keaau	96749
Paul	Eggel	Honokaa	96727
American	Electric	Mililani	96789
Alternate	Energy	Honolulu	96819
Bob	Ernst	Mountain View	96771
Alan	Ewell	Honolulu	96822
Barry	Finkenberg	Kailua-kona	96740
Richard	Frankel	Honolulu	96825
Edward	Frazer	PÄhoa	96778
Ronald	Fujiyoshi	Hilo	96720
Richard	Furst	Honolulu	96821
Adam	Garcia	Honolulu	96822
Cynee	Gillette-Wenner	Volcano	96785
Philip	Haisley	Honolulu	96816
Donald	Hall	Ewa Beach	96706
Lawrence	Hall	Honolulu	96821
Der	Hawa	Honolulu	96821

Claudia	Herfurt	Hanalei	96714
Dr. L.M.	Holmes	Honolulu	96817
Danny	Horne	Kapolei	96707
Thanh	Huynh	Honolulu	96821
Aaron	Isgar	Honolulu	96825
Carol	Johnson	Kailua-kona	96740
Annette	Kaohelaul	Honolulu	96825
Andy	Kass	Kapaa	96746
Sonja	Kass	Kapaa	96746
John	Kechloian	Koloa	96756
Michael	Kelly	Mountain View	96771
Marcia	Kemble	Honolulu	96822
Kathryne	Kent	Honaunau- napoopoo	96726
Earl	Kim	Honolulu	96813
Dave	Kisor	PÄhoa	96778
Gerald	Klappert	Kihei	96753
Douglas	Kreider	Kaneohe	96744
Theodore	Lamdgraf	Honolulu	96813
Cindy	Lance	Honolulu	96822
Ronnie	Lanier	Ewa Beach	96706
Jane	LaVoie	Maunaloa	96770
Laurie	Leland	Honolulu	96816
Cindy	Lenzi	Lahaina	96761
Eric	Leventhal	Kihei	96753

Jeanne	Lindberg	Hilo	96720
Brodie	Lockard	Kailua	96734
William	Lyon	Haleiwa	96712
Michelle	Matson	Honolulu	96815
Lucia	Maya	Makawao	96768
Gordon	McDonald	Volcano	96785
MD	McGAff	Waimea	96743
Daniel	McRoberts	Naalehu	96772
Patrick	Merrill	Makawao	96768
Diana	Miller	Keaau	96749
Julian	Miller	Princeville	96722
Charles	Moore	Lahaina	96761
Kara	Moran	Honolulu	96821
Robert	Moran	Honolulu	96821
Gene	Napoletano	Ewa Beach	96706
John	Naylor	Makawao	96768
Eugene	O'Brien	Wahiawa	96786
Alex	Oshiro	Honolulu	96822
Hilaria	Panglao	Pahala	96777
Virginia	Parish	Ewa Beach	96706
Dorothy	Parr	Makawao	96768
Lesley	Patton	Kapaau	96755
Kathy	Phillips	Honolulu	96826
Belinda	Quach	Honolulu	96817

Ninua	Quirk	Pāhoa	96778
Nancy	Robberson	Kula	96790
Sharon	Rowe	Honolulu	96822
Steven	Ruddell	Kilauea	96754
Roy	Runyeon	Kailua-kona	96740
Paul	Sanderson	Ninole	96773
Ron	Schranz	Kihei	96753
Rosalina	Serai	Honolulu	96816
Joseph	Shaw	Waipahu	96797
Esther	Shibata	Honolulu	96814
Suzanne	Shriner	Honaunau- napoopoo	96726
Rene	Siracusa	Pahoa	96778
Lilinoe	Smith	Kalaheo	96741
Madeleine	Soder	Honolulu	96816
David	Sofio	Honolulu	96816
Linda	Sola	Makawao	96768
Eileen	Stensrud	Hilo	96720
Ann	Strong	Keaau	96749
Sister Gyongyi	Szirom	Keaau	96749
Titus	Tan	Honolulu	96816
Travis	Tarumoto	Kailua-kona	96740
Jane	Taylor	Waimea	96743
Derek	Terawaki	Kihei	96753
Ariel	Tergeoglou	Laupahoehoe	96764

Rob	Thomas	Kaneohe	96744
Flora	Thong	Honolulu	96818
Anne	Thurston	Princeville	96722
Terry	Tokuda	Kailua-kona	96740
Tlaloc	Tokuda	Kailua-kona	96740
Marti	Townsend	Honolulu	96819
Dale	Trefz	Waimea	96743
Thomas	Tribble	Ewa Beach	96706
Jay	Turkovsky	Pāhoa	96778
Vinayak	Vinayak	Kihei	96753
Jan	Waechli	Kula	96790
Evan	Weber	Kailua	96734
Ed	Wiggers	Honolulu	96814
Mark	Wilson	Honolulu	96822
Pete	Wilson	Pāhoa	96778
Gary	Wiseman	Kahului	96732
Alvin	Wolf	Kapaa	96746
David	Worth	Hilo	96720
Jason	Youn	Honolulu	96822
John	Young	Waikoloa Village	96738
Robert	Zeller	Ocean View	96737
Dr. Susan	Caswell	Abingdon	61410



SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, CONSUMER PROTECTION, AND HEALTH

Attn: Chair Rosalyn H. Baker & Vice Chair Jill N. Tokuda

RE: GM3, Testimony in Support of Confirmation of James Griffin as
Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission

August 29, 2017, 10:00 a.m.
Conference Room 229

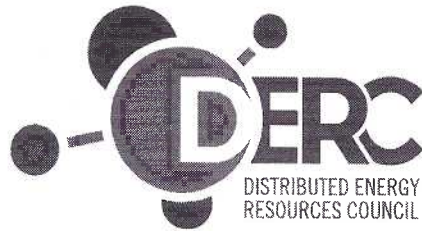
Aloha Chair Baker & Vice Chair Tokuda:

Earthjustice supports the confirmation of James Griffin as Commissioner of the Public Utilities Commission. Earthjustice's Mid-Pacific Office has engaged for almost a decade on clean energy issues in Hawai'i, through numerous Commission proceedings. Our attorneys have regularly practiced before with the Commission and associated with its Commissioners and staff, as well as the many parties and stakeholders in this arena. We are thus well familiar with Dr. Griffin's work, skills, temperament, and character; his key contributions to the Commission's work to date; and his top qualifications to lead the Commission and Hawai'i's clean energy policy and regulatory direction going forward. Based on our direct, long-running experience, we give Dr. Griffin our full recommendation.

As this Committee is assuredly aware, Dr. Griffin has decades of scholarly, policy, and regulatory experience and achievements in the energy field, including years of work as the Commission's Chief of Policy and Research during a time that the Commission established itself, and the State of Hawai'i, as leaders in the nation in transitioning our electric system from fossil fuels to clean energy. The challenges of this ongoing transformation, along with the need for timely, effective, and independent leadership from the Commission, are only increasing as we advance further to our 100 percent renewable goal. Hawai'i is fortunate to have leaders in thought, action, and example like Dr. Griffin to meet these challenges and fulfill the Commission's critical public-interest function. We thus respectfully urge this Committee and the Senate to confirm Dr. Griffin's nomination as Commissioner.

Very truly yours,

Isaac H. Moriwake
Kylie W. Wager



Before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, and Health
Tuesday, August 29, 2017 10 a.m. Room 229
GM 3: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to Public Utilities Commission.

Aloha Chair Baker, Vice Chair Tokuda, and members of the Committee,

On behalf of the Distributed Energy Resources Council of Hawaii (“DER Council”), I would like to testify in strong support for the confirmation of James Griffin as commissioner for the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission. The DER Council is a nonprofit trade organization formed to assist with the development of distributed energy resources and smart grid technologies which will support an affordable, reliable, and sustainable energy supply for Hawaii.

As a nonprofit trade organization with intervener status in several energy dockets currently before the commission, we have a keen interest in ensuring that the commission operates as effectively and efficiently as possible to provide timely and well-informed decisions. As of today, the DER Council awaits the decisions from the commission on both the DER docket and the DR docket, in addition to several other important matters which impact distributed resources. These dockets are complex and stand to have a significant impact on Hawaii’s direction and progress towards our clean energy goals, in addition to the impact on local industry and renewable energy choices available to customers.

Dr. James Griffin has extensive experience in the energy field, in addition to hands-on experience with the energy dockets currently before the commission. We believe that Dr. Griffin’s confirmation as commissioner would ensure a seamless and effective transition that will allow the commission to continue their work on the many complex dockets currently under review. In addition, Mr. Griffin has always acted with a high degree of professionalism and fairness, and we believe that he is well-respected by all stakeholders involved in the regulatory process.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify
Leslie Cole-Brooks
Executive Director
Distributed Energy Resources Council of Hawaii