

From: [Edward Burdick](#)
To: [LPCtestimony](#)
Subject: General Plan
Date: Friday, January 17, 2025 3:22:15 PM

Dear Council Members,

Big Island is a mostly rural County with limited development potential due to topography, expensive energy supplies, and limited infrastructure including roads, water, sewage, power, and healthcare.

In fact, Hilo would only make #28 in size compared to a small State of Washington.

The General Plan for 2045 reads like a UN Agenda 2030 outline with some local flavor. It is my contention that the UN Agenda applies mostly to metropolitan areas to which Big Island has none. Based on this premise, the plan for Big Island should not adopt UN Agenda speak but be crafted with local input based on Big Island's unique needs and challenges.

There is an entire section dealing with climate change. The fact that climate is changing is nothing new to mankind but the thought of attempting to change climate by any action taken by Big Island residents and government is an act of wasteful spending and folly. If Big Island were to achieve a so-called net zero target, it would have exactly zero impact on Earth's climate. There are many examples now around the world where attempts to try and achieve net zero are causing energy prices to soar and electric grids to become less sustainable.

Germany, UK, and even the State of CA are moving toward unsustainable energy distribution with their current mix of "renewables". The current fire in one of the world's largest battery plants in California spells out the extreme risk and high cost of using solar with battery backups.

One of the primary goals for Big Island should be viable, sustainable, lower cost alternatives for electricity production as this alone will open doors for other sustainable development.

This means moving away from misinformation on solar and wind and looking at more reliable modular nuclear and natural gas options. Without moving in the direction as a first step, there is no such thing as sustainability. There is no safe way to store solar power at scale and the risks are very high. Please observe what the tech companies are doing in conjunction with their new data centers.

Regards,

John Burdick
92-8470 King Kamehameha Blvd
PO Box 7966
Ocean View, HI 96737

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