

From: [Jeannette Soon-Ludes](#)
To: [Planning WPC Testimony](#)
Subject: Special permit application by Teppy Mountain LLC (PC-SPP-2024-000075)
Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 3:07:29 PM

Aloha kākou ,

I am writing in strong opposition to the special permit application by Teppy Mountain LLC (PC-SPP-2024-000075).

Hawaii imports an astounding amount of our food, upwards of 90%. If the ships stopped tomorrow we would have seven days of food available on grocery shelves. Many of us -- myself included -- are working arduously across the food system to change that. Our collective efforts are reviving traditional foodways that sustained my ancestors for generations; cultivating introduced vegetables, fruits, and animal products in honor of our multicultural communities; and striving to revive our agricultural lands in the wake of the destructive sugar industry. This work is done by our communities on behalf of our communities. It is work that takes up the kuleana of feeding 'āina and kaiāulu, today and for the coming generations.

Agricultural zoned land is a way for the County to ensure the precious resource of arable land is reserved for feeding our communities. The land parcel subject to the proposed special permit application is located in what the draft County of Hawai'i General Plan 2045 designates as Productive Agricultural land. Developed through years of community involvement, the draft plan rightly prioritizes agricultural production in areas with high potential for sustained agricultural yields. I affirm the reservation of Productive Agricultural land for the purposes intended -- to feed our communities -- and, for this reason, strongly oppose the special permit application.

The draft General Plan 2045 also affirms the principles of the traditional Hawaiian ahupua'a framework. This wisdom tells us that the health of our shorelines are an indicator of all that happens upland of the coast. I trust the wisdom of my ancestors to lead us collectively toward healthy 'āina, kaiāulu, and 'ohana. I affirm the incorporation of the ahupua'a framework into cultural impact assessments for land use determinations and, for this reason, strongly encourage deeper scrutiny into Tippy Mountain LLC's special permit application for the likely adverse impacts to the ahupua'a subject to the proposed activities.

For these reasons, I strong oppose the special permit application by Teppy Mountain LLC (PL-SPP-2024-000075). Mahalo for your consideration.

Me ke aloha pumehana,
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