

Testimony to the Hawaii County Environmental Management Commission

June 23, 2021

Aloha Chair Adams and Commissioners,

The Department of Environmental Management is approved to spend another \$31,528,000 this year on Ka'u alone - to pay more tax dollars to the same outside contractors who keep providing AWFUL advice.

A sample of the awful advice:

- 1) The Pahala condemnation of prime ag land (6/14/21 on Page 4) is proceeding on property that has KNOWN burial lava tubes that Eddie Andrade told you about at the EA meetings and Brown and Caldwell blew off in the FEA.
- 2) Since DEM declares that there is "No federal level NEPA EA" required because of NO FEDERAL involvement, why does DEM continue to rely on outside contractors who think State DOH can do a Section 7 Endangered Species Act consultation for Naalehu (bottom of page 4) instead of seeking the requisite Section 10 compliance?

Finally, please ask **how many of the DEM WWD CIP "shovel-ready projects" triggering HEPA/NEPA have the FEA/EIS in place? Not to mention the Section 10 ESA clearance?**

Mahalo for your attention to my concerns.

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