



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

News Release

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**STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND CITY & COUNTY OF
HONOLULU SETTLE MAILI'ILI STREAM ENFORCEMENT CASE**

HONOLULU -- The Hawai'i State Department of Health (DOH) and the City and County of Honolulu have signed a settlement agreement bringing one of the largest and most controversial water pollution cases in Hawai'i to a close.

DOH fined the city for violations of the Clean Water Act regarding the alleged placement of 257 truckloads of concrete waste in Maili'ili Steam, Wai'anae, in 2008 and 2009. The city was ordered to pay a \$1,735,000 administrative penalty. A DOH Hearings Officer found that the city had violated the law and upheld the fine amount. The city appealed that decision to the First Circuit Court.

Under the settlement agreement, the city will pay \$1.2 million to support water quality improvements on the Wai'anae Coast. In addition, the city has agreed to construct \$200,000 worth of new projects, bringing the settlement agreement to a total value of \$1.4 million.

The penalty payment will be used to:

- fund a computerized environmental information sharing project to better allow the public to track and investigate permitted facilities in their communities;
- develop a Maili'ili Watershed Management Plan that will facilitate the funding of future projects to protect leeward O'ahu water quality; and

(more)

- fund community-based water quality improvement projects in the Maili'ili area that are consistent with the new watershed plan.

The city will invest \$200,000 to install stormwater control projects to improve water quality in the Maili'ili area. Projects could include the construction of swales, pervious pavement, stormceptors or trash removal devices.

This settlement agreement resolves the DOH administrative Hearings Officer's order and the city's court appeal.

The public has until May 14, 2012, to comment on the proposed settlement and may submit written comments to: Mr. Alec Wong, P.E., State Department of Health, Environmental Management Division, P.O. Box 3378, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96801.

The proposed settlement may be reviewed or copied at the DOH Clean Water Branch, 919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 301, Honolulu, Hawai'i 96814, and is also available at:
<http://hawaii.gov/health/environmental/water/cleanwater/pubntcs/index.html>.

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