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**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**County of Kaua'i, State of Hawai'i**

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March 16, 2017

State of Hawaii Department of Health  
Wastewater Branch  
919 Ala Moana Blvd., Room 309  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Attention: Sina Pruder, Chief

Subject: 2007 Environmental Assessment Reaffirmation

Dear Ms. Pruder,

The County of Kaua'i, Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division (DPW) is poised to take the next step in the phased expansion of the Kekaha Landfill Facility (KLF). The project is based on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for which the County issued a finding of no significant impact (FONSI) November 7, 2007 and accepted by the Office of Environmental Quality Control on November 23, 2007. We have prepared this letter to inform you that DPW has reviewed the prior FONSI and has concluded that the finding remains valid.

In anticipation of the need to laterally expand KLF, the County prepared an EA to evaluate the lateral expansion projects. As provided in the EA, the KLF is located 1.3 miles northwest of the town of Kekaha on the southwest side of the Island of Kaua'i and identified with Tax Map Keys 1-2-002:009 and 1-2-002:001. This facility is situated on approximately 98 acres of land adjacent to Kaumuali'i Highway approximately 1,700 feet from the shoreline of the Pacific Ocean. KLF is comprised of two distinct refuse fill areas identified as Phase I and Phase II. Phase I operations began in 1953 and continued until operations ceased on October 8, 1993. Phase I varies in elevation from 10 to 50 feet mean sea level (msl). Phase II began operations on October 9, 1993 and was originally permitted to reach an apex elevation of 37 feet above msl, which should have allowed municipal solid waste (MSW) filling operations through 2003. However, due to additional MSW resulting from Hurricane Iniki, it quickly reached capacity and was expanded vertically in 1998 to accommodate more MSW by increasing the apex elevation to 60 feet above msl. A second vertical expansion of Phase II was approved in 2005 to allow an apex elevation of 85 feet above msl. A third vertical expansion of Phase II was approved in 2013 to allow an apex elevation of 120 feet above msl. The EA further stated that Phase II was projected to reach its capacity in July 2009 and the proposed action that contemplated KLF's lateral expansion to include three cells. Cell 1 would expand the Phase II area into the existing leachate lagoon and adjacent acreage. Cell 2 would expand the Phase II area into the valley area between the closed Phase I landfill and the existing Phase II landfill. Cell 3 would expand the Phase II fill area

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directly over the closed Phase I landfill area. On November 7, 2007 the County issued a FONSI for the KLF. After community input the Cell 3 expansion was removed from consideration. The County completed construction in 2011 for Cell 1 (which is currently in use) of the KLF lateral expansion. The County has secured the funding from Clean Water State Revolving fund and applied for a Solid Waste Management permit with the Department of Health Solid and Hazardous Waste Branch to design and construct Cell 2. Although the November 2007 EA indicated the construction of Cell 2 would occur in December 2011 with completion in May 2012, DPW revised schedule assumes that the expansion of Cell 2 construction would begin mid 2018 and completed early 2020 being approximately 10 years behind schedule at this time. See Page 2-7 of the EA.

The County had AECOM prepare an Engineering Report (ER) in 2016 for the Cell 2 Lateral Expansion, which concluded that the expansion of Phase II is feasible and in conformance with regulatory requirements. The existing EA will not be greatly impacted by the ER. Below is a comparison between the design basis of the 2007 EA and the 2016 ER.

2007 EA Design Basis	2016 ER Design
Proposed Cell 1 Expansion (530,000 cy; 3.4 years).	Cell 1 expansion is already built.
Cell 3 vertical expansion to Elev. 85' over closed Phase I and Phase II.	Vertical expansion to Elev. 120'. Not over Closed Phase I. (Only Cell 2 overlay on Phase I sideslope.)
Additional Capacity -- 1,550,000 cubic yards.	Additional Capacity: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cell 1 already built.</li> <li>• Cell 2 and Vertical – 947,500 cubic yards</li> </ul>
Design compacted waste density – 1,400 lb/cy	Design compacted waste density – 1,300 lb/cy

DPW, as the accepting agency, has taken a "hard look" at the character of the project to determine whether any change to the anticipated environmental impacts of the proposed action become apparent such that "an essentially different action" is being proposed. The DPW has reviewed the current project scope in comparison to the November 2007 EA, and finds that the construction of Cell 2 does not change the size, scope, intensity, use, location, or construction timeline of the project as originally represented.

If you should have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at (808) 241-4906.

Sincerely,



KEITH SUGA  
 CIP Manager

Concur,



LYLE TABATA  
 Acting County Engineer