

PUBLIC NOTICE
HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
STATE REVOLVING FUND (SRF) LOAN PROGRAM
FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT WITH FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT OR
MITIGATED FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
FOR
Wailua WWTP NPDES Compliance Improvements
C150055-10
COUNTY OF KAUAI
DOCKET NO. 24-WW-SRF-05

The County of Kauai, Department of Public Works (“County”) prepared a Final Environmental Assessment (FEA) Determination of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) on May 14, 2024 for the above-proposed project.

Project Description:

The Proposed Action includes improvements to the existing WWTP processes, rehabilitation of the recycled water force main, and improvements to the ocean outfall diffusers.

Planned WWTP process improvements include modifications to the aeration basins, clarifiers, filter bay, and chlorine contact tank; installation of a second effluent filter and an on-site hypochlorite generation system; odor control system; replacement of the effluent pumps; electrical upgrades; and site work to include trenching, grading, and the construction of new site access roads. Additionally, the construction of a new headworks and primary filters, re-purposing of existing equalization basins for additional secondary treatment, and modifications to the solids handling processes. This includes new solids thickening and storage that will support trucking thickened solids to the Līhu‘e WWTP for biosolids stabilization in place of disposal at the Kekaha Landfill.

The golf course will maintain irrigation with R-2 recycled water, conveyed through a 10-inch asbestos cement force main, nearing its design life. Rehabilitation will employ trenchless methods like cured-in-place pipe or pipe slip lining to minimize excavation, focusing mainly on bends or corners. Launching/receiving pits at these locations will provide access for rehabilitation equipment. The rehabilitated force main will continue linking the WWTP to the golf course's irrigation holding pond, storing 1.9 million gallons of effluent. From there, effluent is pumped to the irrigation system, managed by an automated control system at the clubhouse or manually by staff.

The modification of the existing ocean outfall involves the addition of rubber spool diffuser risers attached to the flanged ends of the existing outfall diffusers. The diffuser risers are preliminarily estimated to be 2 feet high, but their height may be adjusted during the final project design. This action will increase the height off the bottom of the diffuser outlets, reducing the likelihood of sand covering the outlets. All equipment and materials will be transported to the Project site by a work vessel, which will be anchored near the outfall. The anchor locations will be verified by divers to be free of living coral. The dive team will access the diffusers, remove debris from the flange faces of the three open diffusers, and attach the rubber spool pipe risers. Only hand tools will be used during the installation process

A public comment period was held from September 23, 2023 to October 23, 2023 and there were forty-two (42) comments received and addressed.

Based on the information and recommendation that was provided by the County, the State of Hawai'i, Department of Health (DOH) concurs with the County's recommendation and approves the FEA/FONSI, in accordance with Chapter 343 of the Hawai'i Revised Statutes, Chapter 11-200 of the Hawai'i Administrative Rules, 40 CFR §35.3140(b)(3)(i) (for CWSRF projects). However, this decision may be reconsidered if a discovery of information concerning the potential environmental impacts of the project occurs.

The documentation to support this decision will be on file at the DOH, Environmental Management Division, in Pearl City, Hawai'i, and is available for public review upon request.

This notice is hereby given on this 18h day of December, 2024, by authorization of Kenneth S. Fink, MD, MGA, MPH, Director of Health.