

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
LAND USE COMMITTEE

February 16, 2018

Committee
Report No. 18-21

Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Land Use Committee, having met on January 24, 2018, makes reference to General Communication 17-8, from Sharon M. Suzuki, President, Maui Electric Company, Limited (“MECo”), transmitting an annual status report as required by Condition 6 of Ordinance 2879 (2000). Ordinance 2879 granted a Change in Zoning to facilitate the development of the Waena Power Generating Station.

Condition 6 requires MECo to provide an annual update on its status in developing the power-generating needs of the island of Maui, and the feasibility of alternative energy sources besides the use of fossil fuels and MECo’s ongoing conservation measures.

Your Committee received updates from Ms. Suzuki and two other MECo representatives on the Waena, Maalaea, and Kahului Power Generating Stations and renewable energy programs available to the community.

MECo representatives said the Waena Power Generating Station gained approval from the Public Utilities Commission to acquire 40 megawatts of firm generation capability and permission to allow partners to use the station to generate additional variable energy. They added that the Public Utilities Commission approved three new renewable energy programs in late 2017 called “Customer Grid Supply Plus,” “Smart Export,” and the “Community Based Renewable Energy Program,” as well as a portfolio of demand response programs to increase the availability of renewable energy to the public.

The representatives highlighted the diversity of Maui’s renewable energy sources. In addition to fossil fuels, Maui currently relies on three wind farms, a hydroelectric generating station, and 11,000 rooftop solar

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systems. MECo forecasts the development of 5.7 megawatts of solar energy capacity in 2018 in addition to the existing 82.4 megawatts. Moreover, as noted in General Communication 17-8, two of the engines at the Maalaea Power Generating Station are powered by biodiesel for system startup and shutdown.

Your Committee voted 6-0 to recommend filing of the communication. Committee Chair Carroll and members Atay, Crivello, Guzman, Sugimura, and White voted "aye." Committee Vice-Chair Hokama and members Cochran and King were excused.

Your Land Use Committee RECOMMENDS that General Communication 17-8 be FILED.

This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.



ROBERT CARROLL, Chair