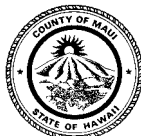


Council Chair  
Alice L. Lee

Vice-Chair  
Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Councilmembers  
Kauanoë Batangan  
Tom Cook  
Gabe Johnson  
Tamara Paltin  
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Shane M. Sinenci  
Nohelani U'u-Hodgins



Director of Council Services  
David M. Raatz, Jr., Esq.

Deputy Director of Council Services  
Richelle K. Kawasaki, Esq.

**COUNTY COUNCIL**  
COUNTY OF MAUI  
200 S. HIGH STREET  
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793  
[www.MauiCounty.us](http://www.MauiCounty.us)

March 24, 2026

Mr. John Stufflebean, Director  
Department of Water Supply  
County of Maui  
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Mr. Stufflebean:

SUBJECT: **MAUI'S LONG-TERM RECOVERY OPERATIONS** (DRIP-9(4))

At its meeting of March 18, 2026, the Council's Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee discussed Maui's long-term recovery operations, including Lahaina's recovery efforts.

In 2024, you noted that the water distribution systems served by the Lahaina and Mahinahina Water Treatment Facilities are connected and water can be transmitted from the Mahinahina system to the Lahaina system.

If water flow was transmitted from the Lahaina system to the Mahinahina system at the time of the August 2023 Maui wildfires, would the drinking water in the Mahinahina system have been compromised because of the connection? Please explain.

May I further request you transmit your response to [drip.committee@mauicounty.us](mailto:drip.committee@mauicounty.us) by **March 31, 2026**. To ensure efficient processing, please include the Committee item number in the subject line.

Should you have any questions, please contact me or the Committee staff (Jarret Pascual at ext. 7141, or Yvette Bouthillier at ext. 7758).

Sincerely,

*Tamara A.M. Paltin*

TAMARA PALTIN, Chair  
Disaster Recovery, International Affairs,  
and Planning Committee

drip:ltr:009(4)aws01:jpp

cc: Mayor Richard T. Bissen, Jr.

## DRIP Committee

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**From:** DRIP Committee  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 24, 2026 10:57 AM  
**To:** John Stufflebean  
**Cc:** DRIP Committee; James A. Landgraf; 'Linda Kimura'; 'Michelle Santos'; 'Zeke Kalua'  
**Subject:** please read attached letter; reply by 3/31/26 re: MAUI'S LONG-TERM RECOVERY OPERATIONS (DRIP-9(4)). . .  
**Attachments:** 009(4)aws01signed.pdf

**Mr. Stufflebean:** Please refer to the attached letter from the Disaster Recovery, International Affairs, and Planning Committee Chair, dated March 24, 2026, and reply by **March 31, 2026**.

**Mayor's Office (attention: Michelle Santos and Zeke Kalua):** Please forward the attached letter to Mayor Bissen for his information.

Mahalo,  
DRIP Committee