

July 20, 2017

Aloha Chair Kelly King and committee members,

My name is Charlton "Kana" Wallace. I come from a family that has been on Molokai for generations. Needless to say, I was also born and raised here, in Kapa'akea Homestead. My father worked in Waikolu to get the Molokai Irrigation System. The MIS was a big deal then and it's a big deal now. I was shocked when I saw that its history was summed up in one line awkwardly placed in a paragraph. This really doesn't do it justice.

Please take this revision into consideration:

The Moloka'i Irrigation System (MIS) is a water system that takes surface water from Waikolu Valley and pumps it into a 1.4 billion gallon reservoir in Kualapu'u. This system was constructed in 1957 to serve the Hawaiian Homestead farmers in central Molokai. In 1975, the State executed a twenty-year lease agreement with Kaluako'i Corporation, now Moloka'i Ranch, to transport water from their Well 17 in Kualapu'u to their pump station in Mahana. Their last lease agreement ended in 2006, and Molokai Ranch is prohibited from entering into a new long-term agreement until it conducts an environmental study. MIS water usage has remained constant over the years; however, the system has experienced water shortages due to persistent drought conditions.

As I stated above, I grew up in Kapa'akea. When I was young, the County told us that the Kapa'akea Cemetery was only temporary, a place holder until they found a permanent location. Instead of finding a more appropriate location, they expanded the cemetery once, and then again. With the stream that comes down Kapa'akea Gulch and the rising sea levels, the County should seriously be thinking about what to do about this situation. My proposed revision here is small, compared to what the County really needs to consider regarding the Kapa'akea Cemetery. On page 116, Issue 2, after the word capacity, you should add "and may be affected by sea level rise."

Mahalo,

Kana Wallace

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