

RECEIVED OCS
25 NOV 6 PM3:20

RICHARD T. BISSEN, JR.
Mayor

JOSIAH K. NISHITA
Managing Director

JOHN STUFFLEBEAN, P.E.
Director

JAMES A. LANDGRAF
Deputy Director



DEPARTMENT OF WATER SUPPLY
COUNTY OF MAUI
200 SOUTH HIGH STREET
WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793
<http://www.mauicounty.gov/water>



November 5, 2025

Honorable Richard T. Bissen, Jr.
Mayor, County of Maui
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

11-6-25
Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Tom Cook, Chair
Water and Infrastructure Committee
Maui County Council
200 South High Street
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Cook:

**SUBJECT: BILL 160 (2025), AUTHORIZING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL
AGREEMENT FOR THE WAI MAOLI: FRESH WATER INITIATIVE
(WAI-19)**

Thank you for your letter dated October 31, 2025. Department of Water (DWS) provides the following response to your questions:

1. What is the Council's deadline to act on Bill 160 (2025)?

Response:

The deadline is December 31, 2025, with some flexibility if an extension is needed.

"By Water All Things Find Life"

2. Which entities have executed the Memorandum Of Understanding, to date? Has any entity declined to execute the agreement?

Response:

No one has declined to execute the agreement.

The following have not yet signed and are in the process of obtaining approvals including:

- Kauai Department of Water Supply
- Hawaii Community Foundation
- Queen Emma Land Trust
- Department of Health
- Department of Land and Natural Resources

The following parties have already signed:

- Honolulu Board of Water Supply
- County of Hawaii Department of Water Supply
- Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity
- ITC Water Management, Inc.
- Kamehameha Schools
- Mark Fox, Former Fresh Water Council Member
- Michael Buck, Aloha Foundation Trustee

3. Please estimate the amount of any financial obligation the County would be assuming under the MOU and explain.

Response:

There is no obligation to provide financing under this MOU. However, there may be opportunities to share modest facilitation costs and limited travel expenses related to meeting attendance.

4. Please confirm whether the Department would return to the Council, for approval by ordinance, of any "specific and separate written agreement executed by the Member(s) and Resource Participants" for the commitment of resources, as noted in Miscellaneous Condition 5.

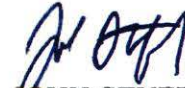
Response:

There is no written agreement on the table currently. If one were to be proposed, we would discuss the appropriate process to follow at that point.

Honorable Tom Cook, Chair
Water and Infrastructure Committee
Maui County Council
November 5, 2025
Page 3

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this agenda item. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John Stufflebean".

JOHN STUFFLEBEAN, P.E.
Director