

BF Committee

From: begoniabarry@gmail.com on behalf of Barbara Barry <gardenmeister@msn.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 11:17 AM
To: BF Committee
Subject: B-F 1 taxes

Aloha Chair and County Council,

I am writing to ask you to deny the .23 per gallon tax on biodiesel in Maui County 2019 proposed budget. It should not be taxed at the same rate as fossil fuels. That doesn't even make any sense.

Biodiesel provides a ripple effect of benefits for Maui County and the entire state! Biodiesel is:

- Locally made, keeping revenues in the local economy.
- 100% renewable, biodegradable and non-toxic.
- Reduces emissions by 86% compared to petroleum diesel.
- Reduces the state's reliance on imported petroleum fuel.
- Creates local jobs.
- Supports diversified, sustainable agriculture on Maui through our company's farming operation that's growing sunflowers and other biofuel crops for FOOD and FUEL and other high value products – creating jobs in agriculture and supporting energy security AND food security in the state.
- Diverts waste oils from the Maui County landfill. Last year alone in Maui County, our company diverted 284,000 gallons of used cooking oil and 975,000 gallons of grease trap waste from the landfill, recycling this waste product for use in the production of our biodiesel.
- Saves Maui County restaurants money. Before our company began, restaurants had to pay \$1 to \$2 per gallon to have their used cooking oil properly removed and disposed of; since 2010 we have collected it at no charge. That's at least \$285,000 we saved local restaurants in 2017 alone and over \$1.5 million in the past 8 years.

Why is the Mayor penalizing a local industry that reduces waste in our landfills, supports local jobs, produces 100% renewable, biodegradable fuel as well as creating beauty on our island? Why would he think this was a smart idea? Please don't be shortsighted like the Mayor. This is a terrible idea.

Mahalo,
Ms. Barbara Barry
Ha'iku

BF Committee

From: Barbara Barry <begoniabarry@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 12:30 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: Maui Nui Botanical Gardens 2019 County Funding

Aloha Chair and Council Members,

I am writing in support of the continued funding of the Maui Nui Botanical Garden in the 2019 Maui County Budget. These public gardens are a treasure of horticultural and cultural information/education that serves our local community and the tourist industry very well and must be fully funded in 2019.

As a member and plant lady, I support these gardens and want Maui County to do the same,

Mahalo,

Ms. Barbara Barry

Ha'iku

BF Committee

From: Bobby and Gael Ito <itofarmandnursery@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 12:43 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: Keep Maui Nui Botanical Gardens Open!

April 4, 2018

Aloha,

My name is Gael Pualani Ito, a Maui resident for near 50 years, born on Kaua'i, and retired farmer along with my husband Robert Ito from Kula. I had the privilege on March 24, 2018, to see our 4 year old granddaughter and her class performing at the Ho'omau 2018, benefitting Punana Leo o Maui; her class being the Hawaiian Immersion Preschool. It was a joyous day!

Our family on both sides are intent on preserving the Hawaiian language and culture, as well as the plants native to our land. Maui Nui Botanical Garden is the perfect place to do so in regard to plants of Hawaii. They have the location, interest and expertise to cultivate the botanical heritage so precious to our community.

My background is that I am a horticulturist researcher, graduate of University of Hawaii Manoa; and was the person responsible for contacting Dr. Susan Schenck of Hawaii Agriculture Research Center about the year 2005, asking for over 20 varieties of sugarcane native to Hawaii or early varieties from Polynesia. We brought in a box of sugarcane stalks from the Hawaiian Sugar Planters Association breeding station in Maunawili, Oahu. The staff at Maui Nui Botanical Garden planted and nurtured them. Most varieties we brought in are still there and thriving. Some are very rare.

On the day of Ho'omau 2018, the first thing our little granddaughter said when it was time to relax was, "I want to see the plants!" This made my heart soar, as most of us on both sides of our family - the maternal family being Hawaiian - love our plants!! So we walked to the area where plants were sold, and bought a few, then she just wanted to walk the garden. This proves what a treasure Maui Nui Botanical Garden is!

Please keep the funding going so that our offspring can learn of and delight in the plants growing there. The education offered is priceless!

Mahalo for your time and consideration.

Aloha,

Gael and Robert Ito
Kula, Maui

BF Committee

From: Clif Hasegawa <clifhasegawa@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 1:57 PM
To: Riki Hokama; Mike White; Alika A. Atay; Robert Carroll; Elle Cochran; Stacy S. Crivello; Donald S. Guzman; Kelly King; Yukilei Sugimura; Patrick Wong; BF Committee
Cc: Tommy Russo; "Anthony Pignataro"; "Joe Bradley"; "Lee Imada"; Maui Tomorrow; Maui Causes; Rodney Yap; Wendy Osher; Debra Lordan; editor@mauiNOW.com; "Jen Russo"; Sam Small; Mark Sheehan; Albert Perez; Lucienne de Naie; Andrew Walden; "Patti Epler"; "Chad Blair"; "Todd Simmons Civil Beat"
Subject: Testimony Opposing Biodiesel On_Road Fuel Tax - Agenda Item - Maui County Budget and Finance Committee
Attachments: Testimony Opposing On-Road Fuel Tax on Biodiesel.pdf

MAUI COUNTY BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Council Member Riki Hokama, Chair

Council Member Mike White, Vice-Chair

Council Member Alika Atay

Council Member Robert Carroll

Council Member Elle Cochran

Council Member Stacy Crivello

Council Member Don S. Guzman

Council Member Kelly T. King

Council Member Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

Dear Committee Chair Hokama, Committee Vice Chair White, Committee Member Atay, Committee Member Carroll, Committee Member Cochran, Committee Member Crivello, Committee Member Guzman, Committee Member King and Committee Member Sugimura,

Our Testimony in Opposition and supporting reasons are submitted for the record of the Budget and Finance Committee and your consideration.

Thank you very much

Aloha

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clifton M. Hasegawa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "C" and "H".

Clifton M. Hasegawa
President and CEO
Clifton M. Hasegawa & Associates, LLC
1322 Lower Main Street A5
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793
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Email: clifhasegawa@gmail.com
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**BUDGET AND FINANCE
TESTIMONY IN OPPOSITION
18 CENT PER GALLON ON-ROAD TAX ON BIODIESEL

MAUI COUNTY BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE**

Council Member Riki Hokama, Chair
Council Member Mike White, Vice-Chair
Council Member Alika Atay
Council Member Robert Carroll
Council Member Elle Cochran
Council Member Stacy Crivello
Council Member Don S. Guzman
Council Member Kelly T. King
Council Member Yuki Lei K. Sugimura

The Public Trust mandates that the Mayor and Maui County Council promote and advance the public interest and countywide strategic priorities.

Mayor Alan Arakawa's proposal to establish an 18 cent per gallon on-road fuel tax on biodiesel as being an on-road fuel tax on petroleum diesel and gasoline, both fossil fuels, underscores Mayor Arakawa's sense of fairness and equal treatment.

MAYOR ALAN ARAKAWA'S PROPOSAL IS HOWEVER MISGUIDED

BIODIESEL PRODUCED IN HAWAII IS NOT A FOSSIL FUEL

BIODIESEL is a biofuel made from plant- or animal-based fats and can run in a regular diesel engine. In fact, Rudolf Diesel's original prototype engine ran on peanut oil. **BIODIESEL** uses a chemical process called transesterification to covert fats like vegetable oil and rendered animal fats into a clean-burning, biodegradable fuel.

BIODIESEL packs nearly the same energy content as regular diesel, but burns much, much cleaner. Pure biodiesel (aka B100) produces 75 percent fewer emissions than regular diesel.

[Emphasis Supplied]

Source: Biofuels vs. Fossil Fuels By Dave Roos. HowStuffWorks.com. August 20, 2012, accessed April 4, 2018 <https://auto.howstuffworks.com/fuel-efficiency/biofuels/biofuel-fossil-fuel.htm>

MAYOR ALAN ARAKAWA'S STAND ON FOSSIL FUELS

IN HISTORIC MOVE, HAWAII ISLAND LEADERS PLEDGE TO TRANSITION GROUND TRANSPORTATION TO 100 PERCENT RENEWABLE BY 2045

North American Clean Energy

December 13, 2017, accessed April 4, 2018

<http://www.nacleanenergy.com/articles/29513/in-historic-move-hawai-i-island-leaders-pledge-to-transition-ground-transportation-to-100-percent-renewable-by-2045>

Leaders from all four counties in Hawai'i gathered to pledge to transition all ground transportation in their counties off of fossil fuels by 2045, according to Blue Planet Foundation.

Honolulu Mayor Kirk Caldwell, Maui County Mayor Alan Arakawa, Kauai County Mayor Bernard P. Carvalho Jr., and Hawaii County Managing Director Wil Okabe, in the place of Mayor Harry Kim, set the target today. By signing the proclamations, the leaders have pledged to transform Hawaii's public and private ground transportation to 100 percent renewable fuel sources by 2045.

"This goal has been one of the key missing pieces in our clean energy puzzle," said Jeff Mikulina, executive director of Blue Planet Foundation—a nonprofit committed to solving the climate change challenge by clearing the path for 100% clean energy.

While electricity generation has decreased over the past decade due to the success of the public-private partnership to achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2045, gasoline and diesel use in vehicles has increased.

Setting a fossil fuel-free target is critical in the face of climate change. Ground transportation accounts for more than one-quarter of Hawaii's imported **FOSSIL FUEL** consumption and greenhouse gas emissions.

Today's announcement guides Hawaii toward more economical modes of transportation for residents, as operating and **MAINTAINING AN ELECTRIC VEHICLE COSTS ABOUT ONE-THIRD LESS THAN OPERATING A COMPARABLE VEHICLE POWERED BY FOSSIL FUEL**.

The 100 percent renewable transportation proclamations were signed on the Polynesian voyaging canoe Hokule'a, which recently finished its worldwide Malama Honua voyage. The voyage's call to action was resiliency and sustainability in the face of a changing climate.

THE MAYORS OF HONOLULU AND MAUI ALSO PLEDGED TO TRANSITION ALL OF THEIR FLEET VEHICLES TO 100 PERCENT RENEWABLE POWER BY 2035.

The four counties are the first in the nation to announce a shared commitment for such a bold goal. The proclamation builds off the historic 2015 state law that mandates 100 percent of Hawaii's electricity be generated by renewable sources by 2045 — the nation's first such benchmark.

The proclamations coincide with the state's recent commitment to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement, which seeks to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and keep global warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius.

"We believe this goal will send a market signal that Hawai'i is open for investment in a clean, affordable, and modern transportation future," said Mikulina. "Hawaii just put an expiration date on **FOSSIL FUELS**."

[Emphasis Supplied]

MAYOR ALAN ARAKAWA INCLINATION TOWARDS ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Mayor Alan Arakawa's proposal to establish an 18 cent per gallon on-road fuel tax on biodiesel as being an on-road fuel tax on petroleum diesel and gasoline, both fossil fuels, on fairness and equal treatment is further underscored as Mayor Arakawa drives a gasoline power and an electric vehicle.

ON ELECTRIC BUSES FOR MAUI COUNTY

It's a very quiet bus and the only thing you can really hear while riding it is the air conditioning. We are excited at the possibility of making cleaner modes of public transportation available for our riders. Mahalo to Proterra for making their bus available to us for this short testing period. ~ Mayor Alan Arakawa

We plan on testing other electric buses in the near future to find out what works best for our community. The buses costs \$700,000 each, about \$100,000 more than regular petroleum-powered buses. However, the fuel cost savings projected for an expected 12-year life for the bus is \$400,000. Currently, county buses consume 250,000 gallons of gas a year. ~ Maui County Transportation Director Don Medeiros

Sources:

1. The Maui News. April 4, 2018

<http://www.mauinews.com/news/local-news/2018/04/all-electric-bus-to-make-test-runs-on-maui-bus-routes/>

2. Maui Now. April 3, 2018

<http://mauinow.com/2018/04/03/all-electric-bus-on-three-day-maui-test-run/>

3. Hawaii News Now. April 3, 2018

<http://www.hawaiinewsnow.com/story/37869895/states-first-electric-bus-ready-for-test-run-on-maui>

4. Pacific Business News. April 3, 2018

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2018/04/03/maui-to-test-all-electric-proterra-catalyst-bus.html>

County of Maui pledged to transition to transition all of their fleet vehicles to 100% clean energy by 2035. "Details are not necessary today. It is nonetheless essential that we set these goals. The point is to put more pressure on the auto industry to make a full shift to zero-emissions vehicles in the coming decades. The industries and technologies will adjust to shift the way we power our vehicles. ~ Mayor Alan Arakawa

Source: CleanTechnica. December 14, 2017

<https://cleantechnica.com/2017/12/14/hawaii-counties-made-fossil-fuel-free-commitment-ground-transportation/>

In conclusion,

Admirable are Mayor Arakawa's goals to impart and infuse business vision, business strategy, sense and sensibility to the major auto makers and the auto industry “to make a full shift to zero-emissions vehicles”.

Realistically, is it the business of Maui County Government to endorse, embrace, adopt, promote and advance Mayor Arakawa's lofty goals and thereby marginalizing, if not abandoning, Maui County Government's Constitutionally mandated responsibility, duty and obligation to promote and advance the Public Trust for and in behalf of the People of Maui County?

We say absolutely not!

What sayeth the Maui County Council?

Respectfully submitted,



Clifton M. Hasegawa

President and CEO

Clifton M. Hasegawa & Associates, LLC

1322 Lower Main Street A%

Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Mobile: (808) 491-5481

Email: clifhasegawa@gmail.com

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/cliftonhasegawa>

BF Committee

From: david mollena <mollena.david@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 2:13 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: bf-1

My name is David Mollena,
Please don't add a 23 cent per gallon on road fuel tax for biodiesel.
It will be a devastating blow to the company's fuel sale and potentially
Hurting jobs.
Pacific bio diesel is a locally made, sustainable, community based renewable
Fuel. That helps maui county and our neighbor Island fight climate change.
Pacific biodiesel is achieving a clean energy future for us all.
I'm glad to part of pacific biodiesel team. It's a job of full potential and
Meaningful to be part of something to help achieve a clean energy for
All of our future generation.
So I'm asking please don't add a 23 cent tax per gallon.

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows 10

BF Committee

From: Joy Galatro <jgalatro@biodiesel.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 3:02 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: TESTIMONY RE: Biodiesel Tax in Mayor's Proposed FY 2019 Budget for the County of Maui – BF1
Attachments: Pacific Biodiesel Testimony 4-4-18.pdf

Aloha. Attached please find our written testimony related to the Biodiesel Tax in the Mayor's Proposed FY 2019 Budget for the County of Maui.

Mahalo.

Joy Galatro

Marketing Director
PACIFIC BIODIESEL
Direct (808) 866-5104
Main (808) 877-3144
www.biodiesel.com

renewable / sustainable / community-based



40 Hobron Avenue
Kahului, Hawaii 96732
(808) 877-3144
www.biodiesel.com

April 4, 2018

Maui County Council
Kalana O Maui Building
200 South High Street
Eighth Floor
Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

RE: Biodiesel Tax in Mayor's Proposed FY 2019 Budget for the County of Maui - BF1

As the state of Hawaii propels forward to a 100% renewable energy future, Maui County could be shifting to reverse, again. ***The Mayor is proposing a 23-cent per gallon on-road tax for Biodiesel in the County's 2019 fiscal year budget.*** Currently there is no on-road tax for biodiesel thanks to the County Council approving a 100% exemption of the tax in the FY 2018 Budget.

We need your help to ensure Maui County maintains its support of renewable fuels and continues to support Climate Change solutions. This significant tax increase would be extremely detrimental to our business and would penalize our customers who are doing the right thing by choosing to drive on renewables. Pacific Biodiesel is **strongly against** this tax for these key reasons:

- **In a state committed to renewables, this tax sends the wrong message – it's taxing the solution (renewable fuels) at the SAME rate as the problem (fossil fuel).** There is no proposed increase to the 23-cent per gallon on-road tax for gasoline or petroleum diesel in the Mayor's FY 2019 Budget. However, biodiesel – a 100% renewable, biodegradable, non-toxic, locally made fuel – would be taxed at the same rate as gasoline or petroleum diesel – imported fossil fuel! And, biodiesel would be taxed at a HIGHER rate than Ethanol, Methanol and Liquefied Petroleum Gas (all proposed at 11.5 cents per gallon). Where is the support for renewables in this tax strategy? If the County was simply trying to increase revenue, it could increase its current on-road tax rate on fossil fuel by a fraction of a penny per gallon to generate in one year the approximate \$75,000 in revenue that would be generated by this devastating 23-cent per gallon tax increase on biodiesel sold in Maui County (based on our last 12 months of sales).
- **All renewables should be treated equally.** Electric vehicles continue to be exempt from road taxes of any kind, giving them a market advantage over biodiesel. We recommend maintaining the 100% tax exemption on biodiesel until an equitable on-road tax strategy for renewables is developed. This could include, for example, a tax based on total vehicle miles traveled versus liquid fuel consumed or implementing a 5% biodiesel mandate for all diesel fuel sold in Maui County. Many communities and states have enacted such mandates to help build a stable market demand for biodiesel. Over time the mandated percentage can increase. The point is to keep moving forward towards more renewables in the system in a fair manner.

(continued)

- **Maui County would NOT be walking the talk of support for a 100% renewable Hawaii by implementing this 23-cent tax on biodiesel:**
 - Hawaii is the first state in the nation to mandate being powered by 100% renewable energy by 2045. Additionally, all of the State's Mayors – including Maui County's Mayor – committed earlier this year to a shared goal of 100% renewable ground transportation by 2045. Biodiesel is an important part of the transportation renewables mix in the state. With this 23-cent per gallon on-road tax on biodiesel tax, **Maui County would be the ONLY county in the state to tax biodiesel at the same rate as fossil diesel.** The county where our company was founded and is headquartered would literally be the least supportive county in the state for biodiesel.
 - In this excerpt from the "Introduction" section of the Mayor's FY 2019 Budget Proposal document, Pacific Biodiesel is highlighted: "While the December 2016 closure of the 36,000-acre HC&S sugar operation added uncertainty to Maui's economy, the County is optimistic that the repurposing of agricultural lands will enable the expansion of small farms, as well as the enlargement of Kula Agricultural Park, and facilitate a variety of uses including energy crops, food crops, and grazing lands to support the local cattle industry. There is consensus that these developments will be important in increasing Maui's sustainability and resilience. In one recent initiative that captured the public imagination, Pacific Biodiesel, which is utilizing 267 acres of agricultural lands for biofuel crops, showcased sunflowers among other oil-producing plants that can be turned into biodiesel fuel, food-grade vegetable oil for restaurants, and oils for beauty products, animal feed, soil amendments and fertilizers...." **Why would Maui County show support for our company's "important" sustainable agriculture operation on Maui, yet implement a tax that significantly jeopardizes our business and its many economic and environmental benefits to the in the County?**

- **A tax on biodiesel will have a negative ripple effect on Pacific Biodiesel's economic impact here in Maui County and throughout the state.** Our company began here on Maui in 1995. We are a local company creating local jobs and producing our fuel locally in Hawaii that's sold entirely in Hawaii, keeping revenue in the state. Our locally made biodiesel:
 - Is 100% renewable, biodegradable and non-toxic.
 - Reduces emissions by 86% compared to petroleum diesel.
 - Supports energy security and helps reduce the state's reliance on imported petroleum fuel.
 - Creates local jobs. Pacific Biodiesel currently has 100 employees statewide with 20 of those employees right here in Maui County.
 - Diverts waste oils from the Maui County landfill. Last year alone in Maui County, our company diverted 284,000 gallons of used cooking oil and 975,000 gallons of grease trap waste from the landfill, recycling this waste product for use in the production of our biodiesel.
 - Saves Maui County restaurants money. Before our company began, restaurants had to pay \$1 to \$2 per gallon to have their used cooking oil properly removed and disposed of; since 2010 we have collected it at no charge. That's at least \$285,000 we saved local restaurants in 2017 alone and over \$1.5 million in the past 8 years.
 - Supports diversified, sustainable agriculture on Maui through our farming operation that's growing sunflowers and other biofuel crops for food AND fuel AND other high value products – creating jobs in agriculture and supporting energy security and food security in the state.

Pacific Biodiesel
Page 3 of 3
April 4, 2018

Pacific Biodiesel is proud to be headquartered in Maui County. We love our community and we are excited to begin many exciting new projects here because we're able to invest back into our company thanks to support for renewables. However, it is discouraging to have to continually defend biodiesel as an effective, economically beneficial renewable fuel to Maui County. We've already experienced the fluctuating impact of enactment and exemption of Maui's biodiesel fuel tax over the past few years: since the tax was 100% exempted in 2016, we have added several new jobs in Maui County. In contrast, when the 9-cent per gallon tax was enacted in 2015, we saw our Maui County fuel sales drop by 12%. This tax will undeniably cause a negative impact on our business and likely jeopardize local jobs if we were forced to close our Hobron pump station in Kahului because customers could not afford to pay 23 cents more per gallon for the biodiesel they WANT to use.

Councilmembers, please stand with us as we stand up for our locally made, sustainable, community-based renewable fuel that helps Maui County and our entire state fight climate change and achieve a clean energy future! **We urge you to vote to amend the proposed increase of 23-cents per gallon tax on biodiesel back to zero.**

If you have any questions or would like to discuss further, please don't hesitate to contact us:
Bob King, President – 283-4102
Joy Galatro, Marketing Director – 866-5104

BF Committee

From: adah askew <adahmaui@yahoo.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 3:57 PM
To: BF Committee
Cc: LEHUANANI HUDDLESTON-HAFOKA
Subject: Please support Kihei Youth Center's \$276,054 FY 2019 request

Adah Askew, MA
P.O. Box 1470 Kihei, HI 96753
808-635-2492

April 4, 2018

Chairman Riki Hokama
County of Maui
Budget and Finance Committee

Dear Chairman Riki Hokama and Budget and Finance Committee:

Thank you for supporting the Kihei Youth Center for the past 35 years. I humbly ask that you consider supporting them for the upcoming 2019 fiscal year, in the amount of \$276,054. Your support will allow the Kihei Youth Center to continue to provide a safe and positive place for the youth of Maui.

As a retired school principal in Hawaii, a former home-based family therapist here on Maui, and a practicing clinical counselor, I recognize first-hand the value of putting youth first. As members of the Maui community it is our job, our kuleana to insure a safe, healthy, and enjoyable community for the youth of Maui.

Your support is valued, and is very important to the continued mission of the Kihei Youth Center. Should you wish to contact me, I may be reached at the following number: 808-635-2492.

Respectfully,
Adah Askew, MA
Event Manager
Maui Arts and Cultural Center

BF Committee

From: Doug McLeod <dkkproperties@hawaii.rr.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 4:43 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: BF-1 testimony

Aloha Chair White, Chair Hokama, and Councilmembers:

Many people active on Maui in the energy sector have come up to me to ask some variation of this question: 'why is the County DEM trying to buy electricity at twice the market price?' They are asking about the plans of DEM to purchase electricity at 29 cents per kilowatt hour for use at the Kahului Wastewater Treatment Plant.

I am writing as a former County employee in opposition to DEM's proposed increase in the sewer fee for residents. When I worked for the County there was an understanding that a Department would not seek to raise taxes or otherwise increase base fees unless they had made a good faith effort to control their costs. That is not occurring with regard to DEM's planned purchase of energy from Anaergia. The Department prepared a very unusual RFP spec, received only one bid, and continues to ignore the vociferous opposition to locating this project in a tsunami zone next to a bird sanctuary.

If DEM was proposing to spend millions of dollars to buy gasoline at \$ 8 gallon (twice the current market price) based on a single bid from Anaergia I am sure the Council would add a budget proviso prohibiting the purchase of fossil fuel at above market prices. You should do the same for renewable energy purchases from Anaergia. The taxpayers deserve better than a single bid that no one in the energy sector believes to be in the public interest.

As a few factual data points I would compare Anaergia's 29 cent price with the 11-13 cent pricing from two projects on Kauai for battery plus solar, the 18.7 cent pricing proposed for Molokai, and the 11.8 cent price approved for the solar farms about to power up in Kihei and Lahaina.

Doug McLeod
Makawao, HI

BF Committee

From: Michael Cone <mscone@mac.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 6:31 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: BF-1

Dear Committee members,

It has not gone unnoticed that BF-1 is a rather strange proposal. It looks more like a personal attack against Pacific Biodiesel rather than a move to support sustainable energy solutions in Hawaii, which is our State mandate. This road tax only affects Pacific Biodiesel customers, a company ahead of the curve on sustainable energy generation and recycling. What's the problem with supporting a new industry with the intention of moving Maui towards greater self sufficiency? Pacific Biodiesel deserves a tax break, not a tax.

Otherwise, why would you try to undermine if not destroy a cutting edge Maui small business?

Normally, when new industries get going they are given tax breaks to develop new infrastructure which is an enormous long term commitment. A road tax on biodiesel would essentially kill that arm of the company, but more importantly remove a sustainable energy resource from Maui. Whether or not that's Arakawa's intention it makes absolutely no sense. You can see why it looks personal, and even if it's not this bill has no place on your floor.

Sincerely,
Michael Cone
808-283-2887

BF Committee

From: Amy Tamura Muramatsu <amy.muramatsu5@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, April 04, 2018 9:06 PM
To: BF Committee
Subject: Budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens

April 4, 2018

Budget and Finance Committee, Maui County Council Budget Chairman, Riki Hokama
200 South High St., 8th Floor
Wailuku, HI 96793

Honorable Members of the Council:

Please support Mayor Arakawa's FY2019 budget request for Maui Nui Botanical Gardens.

The Gardens have been a big influence on me, opening my eyes to the diversity, beauty, and ecological advantages of Hawaiian Native Plants. The Gardens have taught me how to choose native plants for landscaping my home in Pukalani, educating me on species, locations, and care. Several of my large, healthy, beautiful shade trees came from the Gardens' Arbor Day tree give-away. The Gardens have helped me to transform the barren pineapple land (not even weeds would grow!) into a green and beautiful landscape.

Sincerely,

Amy Muramatsu
84 Ala Apapa Place
Pukalani 96768