

441(3)

AH Committee

From: County Clerk
Sent: Tuesday, September 24, 2019 8:07 AM
To: AH Committee
Subject: FW: Written Testimony re: Makila Farms AH-1(3)
Attachments: IMG_2853.jpg; IMG_2854.jpg

From: Shauna Buckner <sbuck315@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019 9:45 AM
To: County Clerk <County.Clerk@mauicounty.us>
Subject: Fw: Written Testimony re: Makila Farms AH-1(3)

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: Shauna Buckner <sbuck315@yahoo.com>
To: county.council@mauicounty.us <county.council@mauicounty.us>; kelly.king@mauicounty.us <kelly.king@mauicounty.us>; Tamara A. Paltin <tamara.paltin@mauicounty.us>; Shane M. Sinenci <shane.sinenci@mauicounty.us>; tasha.kama@mauicounty.us <tasha.kama@mauicounty.us>; mike.molina@mauicounty.us <mike.molina@mauicounty.us>; riki.hokama@mauicounty.us <riki.hokama@mauicounty.us>; yukilei.sugimura@mauicounty.us <yukilei.sugimura@mauicounty.us>; alice.lee@mauicounty.us <alice.lee@mauicounty.us>; keani.rawlins@mauicounty.us <keani.rawlins@mauicounty.us>
Cc: Shauna Buckner <sbuck315@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, September 23, 2019, 12:39:17 PM PDT
Subject: Written Testimony re: Makila Farms AH-1(3)

Aloha Council Members,

I was preparing to write a letter to you regarding my opposition to the Makila Farms Project (AH-1(3)) and then I read an op ed in the Lahaina News from September 19 (volume 39, #38) that captured my thoughts exactly, so I'm sharing it with you to echo the same sentiment - see below.

I've also attached the latest letter from the West Maui Land Company that I just received regarding the ongoing lack of water for our farm (fruits and flowers or various varieties) in Launiupoko. This is a serious matter of great concern...and I say again: SHOW ME THE WATER.

Let's be realistic about our water

I am a concerned West Maui farmer. It's time to be realistic about development on the dry areas of West Maui.

Several developments have been proposed under the guise of "Affordable" or "Workforce" housing (which is certainly needed), but the fundamental problem of availability of WATER in this area of Maui is far from answered or assured.

Stream waters for irrigation have been virtually shut off by the Commission for Water Resource Management (CWRM). Some wells are being drilled to "supplement" surface water, but as it has been said many times, "only so many straws can drink from the same cup."

Let's look at the facts: the climate is getting warmer, West Maui is getting drier, the need for irrigation water is increasing, individual wells are producing less than they were only ten years ago and more wells are being drilled into the same aquifer, Launiupoko and Olowalu have been under severe water restrictions for over 18 months, and we have had the worst wildfires in living memory.

No one knows when we will reach the limits of what precious water the West Maui Mountains can provide, yet developers continue to placate us with statements like, "we have plenty of water," and "we will just drill new wells."

Promises and pie-in-the-sky statements will not put out the fires when the hills are burning and we have no water.

What will the water situation look like in the next ten to 20 years, when the ground water is tapped out? The, we will be in a state of emergency, and we will be out of options.

We cannot wait until farms and nurseries go derelict, homes and properties dry up, streams dry to a trickle and locals move away.

The Maui County Council must consider all these facts when evaluating development proposals in this dry zone. There are plenty of good places to build that have reliable water.

It is the Council's fiduciary duty to deny any such proposal until the availability of additional water now, and decades into the future, is proven (not hinted at) and place a moratorium on any new development, whether affordable, ranches or luxury, in this dry area until proven water resources are available and in place. [NAME WITHHELD BY REQUEST]

Mahalo for your time and consideration. Please do the right thing and disapprove/deny this proposal and all other development proposals in Launiupoko and Olowalu until we have proven water resources.

Best regards,

Shauna Buckner
Full-time Launiupoko resident

WEST MAUI LAND COMPANY, INC.

LAUNIPOKO - OLONALI - PAHALA - KAHOOLA - MAUI

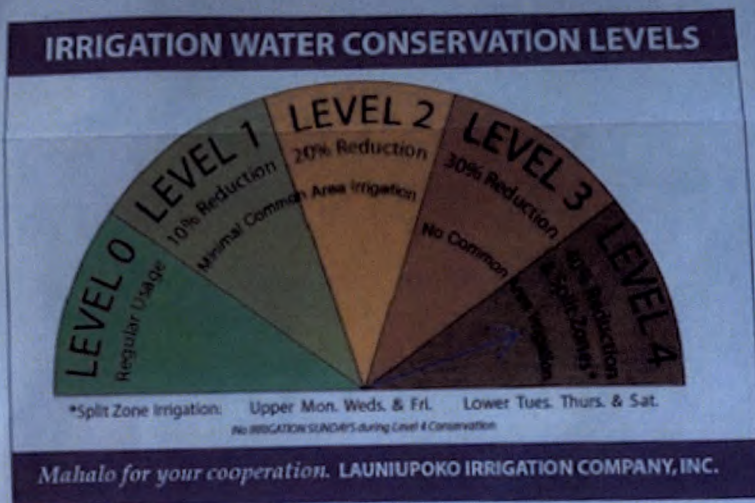
305 E. Wailea Ave., Suite 100
Kahului, Maui, Hawaii 96732

Phone: (808) 877-4202
Fax: (808) 877-9409

Notice

September 16, 2019

Level 4 Irrigation Conservation



Launiupoko Irrigation Company, Inc. (LIC) has experienced an increase in irrigation water use over the past few months and is unable to keep up with the demand. Low water levels impact customers at higher elevations more than those at lower elevations. To ensure a more equal distribution of water during drought conditions, LIC will be implementing Level 4 Irrigation Conservation measures until further notice. The Level 4 Conservation plan splits the area into two zones with different days for water delivery. Zone 1 will have irrigation water delivery available Mon., Weds. & Fri. and Zone 2 on Tues., Thurs. and Sat. See attached map for Zone 1 & 2 locations. Mahalo to the customers who have made real efforts to conserve water, and for everyone's continued cooperation on using this shared resource.

