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ADRIENNE W.L.H. WONG, P.E., LEED AP  
 Maui Branch Manager

October 30, 2017

Honorable Elle Cochran, Chair  
 Infrastructure and Environmental Management Committee  
 Maui County Council  
 200 South High Street, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor  
 Wailuku, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Cochran:

**Subject: Moratorium on Sand Mining of Central Maui Inland Sand ;**

I am writing in opposition to the proposed moratorium on sand mining in the Central Maui inland area. I represent 65 employees of Austin, Tsutsumi & Associates, Inc., of which 14 live and work on Maui.

This proposed bill targets areas that contain Maui County infrastructural systems such as existing water tanks (maintained by the Department of Water Supply); wastewater pump stations and sewerlines (maintained by Wastewater Reclamation Division); and electrical substations (maintained by Maui Electric Company). It also targets areas planned for affordable housing for our local residents, parks for our keiki, and a future Maui County baseyard. We are **opposed** to this subject moratorium for the following reasons:

1. **It will impact Maui County's ability to repair damaged/inadequate infrastructure.** Sand is a critical component in the repair of roadway infrastructure, drainage, sewer, water, and electrical systems. Repairs cannot be done where sand needs to be exported from inland Central Maui areas to the construction site. By creating this moratorium, it would prohibit Maui County from making necessary repairs and would create public safety issues in our infrastructure.
2. **It will worsen affordable housing needs for our local residents.** By creating this moratorium, it will halt plans in key areas already slated for development, to provide much needed affordable housing for our community.
3. **It will impact the health and wellbeing of our keiki if our parks cannot be maintained due to this moratorium.** Including parks in this moratorium will prohibit Maui County from making necessary repairs, which would close down parks, thus limiting the areas our keiki can play and exercise.
4. **It will undermine the local construction industry.** By creating this moratorium, local contractors will not be able to export sand from the Central Maui inland area needed for

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various construction projects, thus limiting them from providing services to the community, and crippling their ability to make a living.

Please note that the Maui County permit processing requires permittees, by law, to have the State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources' **State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)** review, comment and approve (or disapprove) proposed projects. This review includes archaeological monitoring, preservation or mitigation plans that must be reviewed, commented, and approved by SHPD. This requirement identifies and prevents the disturbance of Hawaiian historical, cultural, or archeological sites and unmarked human burial sites. There are provisions in all construction projects approved by Maui County for a contractor to stop work and protect archaeological sites should they be discovered during construction.

This moratorium will jeopardize the safety, wellbeing and economy of Maui. As such I am recommending that the proposed bill not be passed.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

AUSTIN, TSUTSUMI & ASSOCIATES, INC.

By

ADRIENNE W. L. H. WONG, P.E., LEED AP  
Vice President and Maui Branch Manager