

## WR Committee

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**From:** Rory Frampton <rory@roryframpton.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 14, 2016 9:21 PM  
**To:** WR Committee  
**Cc:** Gladys Baisa; Michael Victorino; Don Couch  
**Subject:** Water Availability Policy (WR-19), June 15, 2016 Committee Meeting

Dear Committee Chair Baisa;

Thank you for your efforts to continue discussions on the County's Water Availability Ordinance.

Water Director Dave Taylor should also be commended for advancing suggestions towards addressing concerns regarding the Water Availability Ordinance.

I would like to focus on the proposed language in Section 14.12.050, Limitations, which reads as follows:

**“D. Any project using more than 120,000 gpd must provide source adequate for the project.”**

The Director provided the following rationale for including this provision: *“This still gives the larger developers responsibility to help develop source and not simply say it's the County of Maui (COM) sole responsibility.”* The Director's rationale is appreciated, but I request that the implications of the specific language and intent of this provision be thoroughly vetted.

In principle, every request for new water service should provide a pro-rata contribution to water source development. As I understand it, this is provided for in the current fee structure for new water service. If the intent of the proposed language is to notify larger projects that they have a greater opportunity to assist the Department in the development of new water sources for the County's system, then that is appreciated as well. However there needs to be flexibility in how a project may assist the County in source development.

As worded, the proposed language could be interpreted to mean that *every project over 200 units must develop their own water source and their own private water system.* There are obvious concerns with requiring all projects over 200 units to develop their own source and system. Among a few are:

- Not all projects designated in the Urban Growth Boundaries have access to high quality water sources.
- Forcing the creation of multiple small independent private water systems is not efficient and would place higher costs on the development of housing projects.
- Forcing the creation of multiple small independent private water systems may not be the best way to manage the long term development and usage of the island's water resources.

In summary, I respectfully request the Committee to thoroughly examine the proposed language related to source development requirements for larger projects. **I strongly recommend providing flexibility or alternatives for larger projects to assist the County in source development rather than promoting the development of multiple small scale private water systems, especially for workforce housing projects designated within the Urban Growth Boundaries of the Maui Island Plan.**

Thank you for the opportunity to share my comments.

Respectfully submitted,

Rory Frampton

Land Use Planner