

Written questions

*From
Chair Alice Lee*

7/2/24

QUESTIONS FOR DWS

Tuesday, July 2, 2024, 9:00am

BFED-21(25)

DWS's Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report

1. Page 8 of the Audit Report (page 10 of the pdf) shows equity in cash and investments of over \$75 million, which is part of the \$85 million in unrestricted assets, plus another \$60 million in cash and investments as restricted assets, for a total of more than \$146 million in non-capital assets. Total liabilities are more than \$144 million (page 9 of the report, or page 11 of the pdf), which leaves \$2 million.

{ In September 2023, CWRM and DWS estimated it would cost \$4 million to tap into raw water from the Honokowai Tunnel and pipe it to the Mahinahina Water Treatment Plant, thus bringing new potable water to West Maui. Is the Department actively pursuing this? If not, why not?

2. In West Maui, DEM generates about 3.3 mgd of R1 water with about 1.3 mgd being uses, leaving a surplus of just below 2 mgd. This 2 mgd could be provided for irrigation and other non-potable uses to properties that currently use potable water for these purposes, thus potentially freeing-up 2 mgd of potable water. DEM has seven projects in West Maui relating to the expansion of R1 use, with the first projects coming online in December 2024, April 2025 and July 2026. These will serve major users in the Kaanapali Resort area, among others.

How closely are you coordinating with DEM in terms of planning for and "capturing" this offset potable water? If properties that will soon have to connect to R1 are served by a private water system, are you negotiating with these private purveyors to access the potable water that they will no longer be selling? If not, why not?

3. What access have you had to federal and state emergency funds to provide needed potable water infrastructure to West Maui, either for temporary housing, rebuilt housing or new permanent housing? With access to such funds, what new source are you developing in West Maui? If you are funding constrained, then we should have a separate BFED discussion to ensure that potable water can be provided for West Maui affordable and workforce housing. Reminder – the Council sets policy, the Department implements; if the Council prioritizes water for West Maui housing, the Department must comply.

RECEIVED AT BFED MEETING ON 7/2/2024
from Council Chair Lee