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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

COUNTY OF MAUI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

2050 MAIN STREET, SUITE 2B WAILUKU, MAUI, HAWAII 96793

February 3, 2022

Honorable Michael P. Victorino Mayor, County of Maui 200 South High Street Wailuku, HI 96793

For Transmittal to:

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

Michael P Vit 2/1/22

Honorable Michael J. Molina, Chair Government Relations, Ethics, and Transparency Committee Maui County Council 200 South High Street Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Committee Chair Molina:

SUBJECT: HAWAII WILDLIFE FUND, ET AL. V. COUNTY OF MAUI, CIVIL 12-00198 SOM-KJM, U.S. DISTRICT COURT, DISTRICT OF HAWAII (GREAT-26)

This is in response to your February 3, 2022 communication regarding the Hawaii Wildlife Fund, et al. v. County of Maui, Civil 12-00198 SOM-KJM. Your request and the corresponding answer are provided below by the Department of Environmental Management (DEM).

1. Was sea level rise considered in the placement of the proposed Ka'anapali Resort R-1 Water Distribution System Expansion project? Please explain. Please also provide an overlay of the sea level rise map with a map of the project.

Response: We have looked at this project in relation to sea level rise and note that the areas where the R-1 distribution line will be installed is not directly affected by sea level rise. Kaanapali Parkway and Nohea Kai Drive have street elevations varying from 6 to 11+ ft msl.

2. Were any alternatives to the underwater placement of pipes considered for the proposed project? What is the Department's opinion of such alternatives?

Response: The project is only in the beginning of the design phase so the final alignment and pipe placement has not been finalized. Constructing the pipe underground is the customary and preferred installation method as it:

- (1) locates the purple pipe out of site which may be required in a resort area such as Kaanapali.
- (2) secures it in a location where tampering, vandalism, accidental impacts (vehicles etc.), storm damage etc. are virtually eliminated.
- (3) eliminates pipe bends and reaction blocks (reducing time/cost) where it must transition from above ground to below ground to allow vehicular and pedestrian crossings.
- (4) allows for secure lateral connections to customers.
- (5) eliminates accelerated deterioration of the pipe due to changing temperatures, sunlight and other weather elements such as extreme rainfall and flooding events.
- (6) reduces costs for physical inspection and maintenance.

While portions of the pipeline will be below groundwater, the majority is expected to be above the groundwater level at the time of installation. This may change over time with the expected sea level rise, however it should not have a detrimental effect during the useful life of the asset.

Above ground installation is an alternative; however, the only real reason would be to showcase the use of recycled water in the resort and/or also use the pipe as a sort of barricade. Unfortunately, that brings into play the above issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with information on this matter. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to transmit them to the Department of Environmental Management via transmittal through the Office of the Mayor.

Sincerely,

DN: cn=Eric A. Nakagawa, P.E. DN: cn=Eric A. Nakagawa, P.E. o=County of Maui, ou=Director of Environmental Management, email=eric.nakagawa@co.maul.hi.us, c=US

ERIC A. NAKAGAWA, P.E. Director of Environmental Management



6 Foot Sea Level Rise



Impacts at 3.2 Feet of SLR