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MICHAEL P. VICTORINO Mayor

ERIC A. NAKAGAWA, P.E. Director

SHAYNE R. AGAWA, P.E. Deputy Director

MICHAEL P. RATTE Solid Waste Division

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COUNTY OF MAUI DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT

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

October 22, 2021



APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL

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

For Transmittal to:

Honorable Yuki Lei K. Sugimura, Chair Infrastructure and Transportation Committee Maui County Council 200 South High Street Wailuku, HI 96793

Dear Committee Chair Sugimura:

SUBJECT: WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE NEEDS (IT-36)

This is in response to your October 12, 2021 communication regarding wastewater infrastructure needs. Your request and the corresponding answer are provided below by the Department of Environmental Management (DEM).

 Is the Administration favorable to also seeking funds for cesspool conversion through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, and if so, can you please provide a status update on any action taken?

Response: Yes, the Administration is willing to put together a similar program as proposed Draft Bill 2837. The Administration has a member on the Cesspool Working Group who is participating and providing input into the recommendations of the final report that is due at the end of 2022. The Administration has also reviewed the draft bill and talked to Kauai representatives, as well as the State Department of Health (DOH), to see if this option is viable for the County of Maui. A meeting has been scheduled with DOH to determine what the requirements are to qualify for this funding. This funding will become available in July of 2022 and be split by the number of Counties interested.

2. Can you please clarify what other options are currently being considered for cesspool conversion in Maui County?

Response: The Administration is waiting for the final report from the Cesspool Working Group to determine what the final impacts are to the County of Maui. The Administration is also looking into similar pass-through funding options that would allow private home owners to take advantage of federal and/or state funding that they would not have access to without County involvement. A study was proposed last fiscal year to see if a new regional wastewater facility could be built in the Makawao region but because of the pandemic, it was postponed.

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,

Digitally signed by 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.maui.hi.us, c=US Date: 2021.10.22 13:11:08 -10'00'

ERIC A. NAKAGAWA, P.E.

Director of Environmental Management