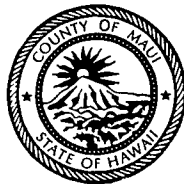


ALAN M. ARAKAWA  
Mayor



TEENA M. RASMUSSEN  
Economic Development Director

**OFFICE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

COUNTY OF MAUI

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April 19, 2017

Ms. Lynn A.S. Araki-Regan  
Budget Director, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Honorable Alan M. Arakawa  
Mayor, County of Maui  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

APPROVED FOR TRANSMITTAL  
*Alan Arakawa*  
Mayor Date

For Transmittal to:

Honorable G. Riki Hokama, Chair  
Budget & Finance Committee  
200 South High Street  
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii 96793

Dear Chair Hokama:

SUBJECT: FISCAL YEAR ("FY") 2018 BUDGET (OM-5) (BF-1)

Pursuant to Council letter dated April 17, 2017, OED has the following response:

1. Currently most of the Kula Ag Park farmers do what is called "field packing" in which they pack directly from the field, and take it straight to the produce house wholesaler where it is then washed and packaged in a certified facility. This is allowed under FSMA laws.

If a farmer wishes to clean and pack his own produce at the farm level, then he/she needs potable water for three things: Washing produce, personal Hygiene, and Pesticide Application on foods that are not cooked. Taro falls under foods that are not cooked.

If a farmer in the Kula Ag Park would like to wash his/her own produce, then they would need a system installed in their packing shed that would provide the treated water. Mr. Jensen Uyeda, an Extension agent for CTAHR is currently testing an

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injector system that treats the water in line. This is a pretty simple and inexpensive way to treat the water. His research will be finished by the end of 2017.

If a farmer wishes to go the route of having treated water at the Kula Ag Park, then OED could extend a grant to provide that, or a portion thereof. Currently we have had no requests from farmers for this.

Currently Molokai has a large amount of funding from the State of Hawaii that will do this for Molokai farmers.

2. The usage for non-potable water in the Kula Ag Park is determined by meters that are on each lot. The meters are owned by the current farmers and their water bills are paid directly to the Department of Water Supply. All 31 lots have individual meters for the non-potable water.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Teena Rasmussen". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the word "Respectfully,".

Teena Rasmussen, Director  
Office of Economic Development

CC: Lynn A.S. Araki-Regan  
Budget Director