Honorable Chair and Members
of the County Council
County of Maui
Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii

Chair and Members:

Your Water Resources Committee, having met on December 15, 2009, and January 12, 2010, makes reference to County Communication No. 06-279, from former Councilmember Michelle Anderson, relating to the Upcountry Water Meter Priority List (Upcountry Priority List).


In response to your Committee’s request, the Department of the Corporation Counsel transmitted correspondence dated December 8, 2009, attaching a draft bill entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14.13, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO WATER METER ISSUANCE PROVISIONS FOR THE UPCOUNTRY WATER SYSTEM”.

The purpose of the draft bill is to grant applicants for water service, whose premises are on the Upcountry Priority List, a period of five years from the date of the issuance of a water meter reservation to make water system improvements that may be required by the Director of Water Supply.

Your Committee notes that Chapter 14.13, Maui County Code, entitled “Water Meter Issuance Provisions for the Upcountry Water System” establishes procedures for the processing of water service applications for premises on the Upcountry Priority List. The Chapter was enacted on July 8, 2009, but these procedures were previously established by the Rules and Regulations of the Department of Water Supply and have been in continuous effect since October 4, 2002.
Your Committee further notes that all County water service applicants are currently allowed two years, after receiving a water meter reservation, to complete water system improvements that may be required by the Director, after which two time extensions of six months may be granted. If the water system improvements are not completed by the end of this time, the water service reservation expires and the person requesting water service must reapply for a water meter.

Your Committee determined that persons applying for water service for premises on the Upcountry Priority List should be given additional time to complete water system improvements, should water become available in the Upcountry water system area. The draft bill allows applicants for water service, whose premises are on the Upcountry Priority List, five years to complete water system improvements, after which the applicant may request two time extensions of six months. If the water system improvements are not completed by the end of this time, the water service reservation will expire, the premises will be removed from the Upcountry Priority List, and the person requesting water service must reapply for a water meter.

Your Committee requested that the draft bill be revised to (1) clarify that an applicant for water service must complete required water system improvements within five years; (2) change the date of the bill from 2009 to 2010; and (3) incorporate nonsubstantive revisions.

Your Committee voted 7-0 to recommend passage of the revised draft bill on first reading. Committee Chair Victorino, Vice-Chair Pontanilla, and members Baisa, Kaho’ohalahala, Mateo, Medeiros, and Molina voted “aye”.

Your Committee is in receipt of a proposed bill, approved as to form and legality by the Department of the Corporation Counsel, incorporating your Committee’s recommended revisions.

Your Water Resources Committee RECOMMENDS that Bill No.___________ (2010), attached hereto, entitled “A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14.13, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO WATER METER ISSUANCE PROVISIONS FOR THE UPCOUNTRY WATER SYSTEM”, be PASSED ON FIRST READING and be ORDERED TO PRINT.
This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 7 of the Rules of the Council.

MICHAEL P. VICTORINO, Chair
A BILL FOR AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 14.13, MAUI COUNTY CODE, RELATING TO WATER METER ISSUANCE PROVISIONS FOR THE UPCOUNTRY WATER SYSTEM

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI:

SECTION 1. Section 14.13.040, Maui County Code, is amended by amending subsection B to read as follows:

"B. The director shall annually update the priority list of premises applying for new or additional water service from the upcountry water system."

SECTION 2. Section 14.13.050, Maui County Code, is amended by amending subsection A to read as follows:

"A. When an applicant owning property on the priority list requesting new or additional water service is approved for such service, the applicant shall be notified in writing by certified mail, return receipt requested, at the address submitted on the application."

SECTION 3. Section 14.13.060, Maui County Code, is amended to read as follows:

"14.13.060 [Issuance of water meters] Installation of water meters and issuance of water meter reservations. A. If additional source for the upcountry water system becomes available, the director shall process applications for water meters in the order of the priority list up to the average day capacity of any additional source with allowance for the department’s operational standards.

B. Prior to the installation of a water meter, an applicant shall complete water system improvements to the premises and/or to the department’s water system, provided that the improvements are necessary to meet the water system requirements set forth in this article, or to meet the fire protection requirements pursuant to the County’s fire code.

C. If an applicant is unable to accept water service immediately, the department may issue a reservation for water service up to the requested
allocation available at the time the request is made, all in accordance with the department’s existing rules and regulations.

For water meter reservations affecting the department’s upcountry water system, an applicant shall have five years from the date of the issuance of a water meter reservation to complete the water system improvements, after which time the reservation shall expire and the premise shall be removed from the priority list.

An applicant may apply for two time extensions of up to six months each, provided that any request for an extension of time shall be received by the director at least thirty days before the associated expiration date."

SECTION 4. Material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored. In printing this bill, the County Clerk need not include the brackets, the bracketed material, or the underscoring.

SECTION 5. This ordinance shall take effect upon its approval.

APPROVED AS TO FORM
AND LEGALITY:

EDWARD S. KUSHI, JR.
Deputy Corporation Counsel
County of Maui

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