

# INFRASTRUCTURE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Council of the County of Maui

## MINUTES

November 29, 2010

Council Chamber, 8<sup>th</sup> Floor

**CONVENE:** 9:02 a.m.

**PRESENT:** VOTING MEMBERS:

Councilmember Bill Kauakea Medeiros, Chair  
Councilmember Joseph Pontanilla, Vice-Chair  
Councilmember Gladys C. Baisa  
Councilmember Sol P. Kaho'ohalahala  
Councilmember Danny A. Mateo  
Councilmember Michael J. Molina  
Councilmember Michael P. Victorino (In 9:05 a.m.)

**STAFF:** Michael J. Geers, Legislative Analyst  
Camille Sakamoto, Committee Secretary

**ADMIN.:** Cheryl Okuma, Director, Department of Environmental Management  
Tracy Takamine, Chief, Solid Waste Division, Department of Environmental  
Management  
David A. Galazin, Deputy Corporation Counsel, Department of the Corporation  
Counsel

**OTHERS:** Elle Cochran

**PRESS:** *Akaku: Maui Community Television, Inc.*

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: ...*(gavel)*... Aloha and good morning, everyone. This is the Infrastructure Management Committee meeting of November 29, 2010. And at this time, I'd like to introduce the Members that are present this morning, and let me just start from my left and work to my far right. We have Council Vice-Chair, Mr. Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Good morning, Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning. And next to him we have Member Baisa.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Good morning, Bill.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha, good morning. And we have Member Kaho'ohalahala.

COUNCILMEMBER KAHO'OHALAHALA: Aloha, and good morning.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha. We have Council Chair Mateo.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Good morning, Mr. Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha. Good morning. And excused we have Member Victorino. And joining us this morning when we thought he might not be able to be here--I'm glad he is here--the Committee's Vice-Chair, Mr. Pontanilla.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Good morning. Okay, we have everybody accounted for. And representing the Administration this morning; we're glad to have the Deputy Corporation Counsel from the Department of the Corporation Counsel, Mr. David Galazin. Morning, David.

MR. GALAZIN: Good morning, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: And we have from the Department of Environmental Management, we have Director Cheryl Okuma, and from the Division of Solid Waste, we have the Division Chief Tracy Takamine. Oh, I'm sorry, yeah, right. Good morning, Tracy.

MR. TAKAMINE: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay, to my far left...well, let's start from my near left, we have Ms. Camille Sakamoto, our Committee Secretary, and to my far left we have our Committee Legislative Analyst, Mr. Mike Geers. This time, Members, we going to take up the...or at least introduce the items. We have just one item this morning on our agenda. We looked through our entire master agenda and came up with this item. We had a second item, but the introducer was not going to be here, but we're glad he did make it. But we did have to take that off our meeting agenda, so we have just one item, Members, this morning, and that is IM-44 relating to the Landfill Gas Utilization Study. This time looking out into the gallery and we welcome one person that's in the gallery. Good morning, Elle.

MS. COCHRAN: Good morning.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you for being here, and according to Ms. Sakamoto we do not have any testimony this morning. No one signed up at this time. So, Members, without objection the Chair will close testimony at this time.

COUNCILMEMBER PONTANILLA: No objection.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Members. So ordered. I'd like to recognize the attendance of Member Victorino.

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Aloha.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Aloha, good morning.

**ITEM NO. 44: LANDFILL GAS UTILIZATION STUDY (C.C. No. 10-231)**

CHAIR MEDEIROS: So our first item IM, well our only item, IM-44 is Landfill Gas Utilization Study; as I mentioned. The Committee is in receipt of County Communication No. 10-231, from Council Vice-Chair, Mr. Michael J. Molina, transmitting a report entitled FINAL REPORT: CENTRAL MAUI LANDFILL, LANDFILL GAS UTILIZATION STUDY AND CONCEPTUAL DESIGN, dated January 2010, prepared by A-Mehr, Incorporated. The purpose of the report is to provide recommendations for the development of a landfill gas energy recovery facility. So proceeding with the, our agenda item, Members, I would like to ask the Director of Environmental Management to provide an overview of the item. Director Okuma, if you please.

MS. OKUMA: Thank you, Committee Chair Medeiros and Committee Members. We appreciate the opportunity to be here today to speak on this project, and I'd like to just provide some information, background information and put this project into some context for you. As you're aware, the Central Maui Landfill's Landfill Gas Collection and Control System had been completed in several phases, and it was in July 2008, that it was fully completed with the flare and has been in operation since that time. As is true in many other cases in the nation, in the world basically, such systems are put into place to control gas emissions to the atmosphere from the landfill and to prevent migration of gas from the landfill site. Control and regulation of this gas is a requirement of both the State Department of Health, EPA. Compliance is very critical; so therefore, gas has been captured and flared in the air in accordance with State and Federal regulatory requirements and permits. Now that the gas system is in place, the County is in a position to convert this landfill gas to beneficial energy use, deriving both environmental and economic benefits. This County is actually the first in the State to have moved this far towards its goal. The consultant report that you have before you was completed in January 2010, and it was commissioned by us to come up with information, do an assessment and come up with recommendations regarding the viability of a gas-to-energy project at Central Maui Landfill. This study is also for the purpose of assisting the County in order to move forward with a landfill gas-to-energy recovery project by providing information regarding the development of a landfill which still has compliance requirements; evaluate alternative technologies for beneficial use of that landfill gas; identify and evaluate landfill gas energy recovery facility ownership options and financing options; it's a conceptual design analysis regarding scope, cost, operating cost of such facilities; and basically providing us with recommendations in order to move forward towards a development of such a facility. Now based on this January 2010 study, the suggestion is that the County is in position to solicit proposals for a landfill gas utilization project developers. The Department sought consultants to help in the preparation of a Request for Proposal and, therefore, where we are currently right now we thank the Council for support and getting us this far. We do have a project team that

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basically consists of the Solid Waste Department, Department of Environmental Management administration, the Corporation Counsel, and what was very important, outside technical consultants, and also legal consultant to work with our Corporation Counsel in order to work forward in a preparation of a Request for Proposal and any subsequent contracts and agreements that would be needed together with advice in any negotiations that are going to be needed. I can tell you that as we sit here today the general concept is to structure that Request for Proposal to negotiate and prepare the needed contracts to build this project at no cost to the County. That is at least the goal, and we have talked to a number of consultants or people in these areas who explained that there are places around which have...in the nation; which have done this. And the reason that that can be done at a no cost would be because we're looking at a general concept, looking at a third-party vendor who would finance, plan, design, build, and operate the facility. Now there may be variations of how that will occur, and that's basically what the report covers. There may be variations in terms of who has ownership of what components of the project, and that is laid out in the study as well, too. This will be a long-term County contractual commitment of gas-to-energy running in the order of about 15 to 20 years, as we understand from the experts. And having the technical and the legal expertise together with the project team we've put together to assist the County on the steps that need to be taken, we believe is prudent and critical at this point. The timing is actually very good for this kind of project; just understand that the longer you wait in terms of your landfill, the longer you wait on a project, there is a point at which once the landfill is basically closed or that section is closed your gas emissions actually goes down, so your capacity...the capacity of your facility to be able to utilize that gas goes down. So the County is actually in a very good position right now to move forward, because again if it is postponed another year, two years, the County has lost a year or two years in terms of capacity and that changes the economics of the project. So with that, we can provide you any other information to the extent we can, we can do that for you. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Director Okuma. Would Mr. Takamine have any opening remarks? Okay, thank you. Members the Chair will open the floor for discussion and for questions of the Department. I like to first call upon the person that brought this County communication to the Chair and likewise to this Committee, Member Molina.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Mr. Chairman, and thank you for bringing this matter to your Committee today. As you and the Members recall, the Department had come to the Committee of the Whole to request for special counsel as it relates to the future landfill gas facility. Then a lot of the discussion started to veer towards questions about the study itself, so it was determined that it might be more appropriate to have questions regarding the study in your Committee here, so hence; that's why we're here today. So I want to thank you for bringing this to the attention of the Committee and the public. If I could ask the Director the question with regards to the ownership options, I guess starting from Page 25 of the study through 27; I guess the pros and cons of third-party ownership versus County ownership. At this point, what is the

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Department's, I guess, opinion, related to the two? Is, is the preference more towards County ownership or working in partnership with a third party?

MS. OKUMA: Right.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: I guess we're, you know, which is I guess the most feasible; because this is going to cost a pretty penny either way. So if I could get some comments from you, Madam Director.

MS. OKUMA: Sure. And that, that...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Director?

MS. OKUMA: Yes, thank you. And that is a very good question and, and those are some of the technical and legal advice that will be...the intent was to engage in those discussions once Corp. Counsel has completed getting the contract ready for the legal consultant. We were going to bring everybody together to have further discussion about it. But, what I can tell you from our understanding; it makes a difference in terms of these various Federal credits that are available to incentivize private vendors to build such projects. So obviously if the County is fully responsible for planning, design, building, owning and operating; the County as government cannot have access to those Federal credits, and what that would mean is that the County is basically paying for everything. As I stated in my opening statement, our intent is to see to the design and construction and operation of this facility at no cost to the County; and in addition, one of the things we intend to look at or had intending to look at was always sharing in the revenues, because we know that the sale of this valuable resource could generate revenues. So there's two things we're looking at, is how to build this at no cost to the County in addition to sharing in that revenue stream. I think what's important in terms of the question that you asked it's pretty apparent to us that we would need to have private vendor involvement in order to access the incentive created by these Federal credits that are available. Now, there is some discussion in there in terms of which portion of this facility would private vendor own, would the County own? We know that compliance is still going to be very important and so the reason why we hired our own technical expert to help us in this process is to advise us with respect to not only how do you move forward with this kind of project in the most prudent manner, but also how do we maintain compliance because we certainly don't want to face, you know, EPA, Department of Health fines. And so for that reason we have thought long and hard and evaluated for ourselves the possibility that perhaps the County retains ownership of the, of the pipes basically, the pipes system, and our ability to be able to control that. Perhaps, the private vendor retains ownership of the actual facility which does the onsite generation of electricity. Perhaps at the end of this 15-20 years the County would want the option of taking ownership of the facility, but perhaps through this process the operations of this facility, because of the technical expertise needed, would remain with private sector. So we have many, many things that need to be considered in terms of how we create that Request for Proposal, because, as you know, that will basically be the basis of the contract, and it's a contractual

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relationship for 15-20 years. So the intent was to move cautiously, prudently, and carefully on this, looking at maximizing the most benefit to the County as well as insuring compliance which is our ultimate, ultimate goal, and doing this in a manner which is going to give some positive return not only economically but for the environment as well, too. Your question, the answer to your question I guess I can say is very complex. We are mindful of all of that but that is exactly the heart of what we need to, some of the decisions that need to be made.

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you, Madam Director. And, Mr. Chair, if I may ask one more question before I yield the floor. You know thank you for emphasizing that word "compliance" because we've certainly had our hands full with the EPA and fines and so forth. Have you looked at other models in different municipalities as to what is the best fit for Maui County?

MS. OKUMA: Yes. This is basically what our consultants have pulled together. They have national experience in other places as well. I feel that we have a pretty good team as far as technical expertise. The answer to your question is yes they have, and that's basically what you're seeing in terms of this utilization studies, based on their years and years of experience and work in different places, and their knowledge and information they're able to ...*(inaudible)*...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Any specific municipalities, any names that could kind of be bandied about at this point?

MS. OKUMA: I don't have any specific names, but some of these technologies are fairly common, they're not uncommon; so obviously what we would be looking at is something that's proven, or with a proven track record, we're not here to experiment. We're here to move forward on some sound technology, and they have laid that out for us. There's basically about 500 such utilities, I'm sorry 500 such facilities in the nation and they've looked at many of those, and so we know kind of what some of the common technology is. They have our data information with respect to the gas and the volume. Many things in terms of what's technically appropriate depends on the particular circumstances of a place, so it may not be exactly a cookie cutter type of situation; depends on the amount of waste that goes into the landfill; depends on the temperature, the moisture content, you know, how your gas collections system is actually working. So there's many different things that you may not want to just, you know, say, well just 'cause someone else has done it that's what we're going to do. I think what they did is they looked at the range of things that are happening in all of these different facilities in the nation, and then they looked at our particular set of circumstances and how our landfill is operating to see what would be appropriate. The intent was to continue in these types of discussions as we got closer to pulling together the Request for Proposal, so many of the questions that you're asking is the same questions we've been asking, same questions we've been talking to the consultant about, and the intent is to continue in those discussions so that...we reach a comfort level in terms of what that Request for Proposal is actually going to end up looking like.

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COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Okay. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Molina. Member Baisa?

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes, thank you very much, Chair, and thank you very much, Ms. Okuma, for the overview. It appears that, you know, from what I think if I'm hearing you correctly; we're kind of looking at and leaning towards probably...some kind of a shared development and operation where we would have a vendor. And you mentioned wanting to share in the potential revenue generation. Just for giving us an idea and I know it's probably in the study; if we had a lot of time to look at all the figures, but generally, what is the potential revenue to the County once this is up and running?

MS. OKUMA: Okay. That's a good question. One of the things is some flexibility in terms of our ability to do waste management, many of you; all of you are certainly familiar with our Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan, and the desire of the community to have, increase our recycling rates in addition to having waste-to-energy. Now the reason why I missed mentioning these two programs is because how the County precedes on those two programs in terms of quantities we're talking about has an impact in terms of the generation of gas in the landfill. Gas methane is basically generated from the decomposition of materials that are in there. So obviously, waste-to-energy and recycling creates a certain amount of diversion from your landfill, so if you're diverting X amount, that would affect X volume, in terms of the gas, methane that's being generated. I preface everything by saying too that these are many things that we intend to talk to the consultant about, because we need to be...we need to at least be aware that that was the...what the blueprint is for gas-to-energy; so what I would like to refer you to is page three as an example. Based on power production during the period at the Central Maui Landfill from 2010 to 2040, if the waste continues to be disposed of at the landfill at its current range...current rates, then the estimate is that power generation would be between 1.6 to 3.2 megawatts, which will provide electrical use for approximately 1,500 to 3,000, you know, typical I guess single-family Maui homes. Now if we start diverting some waste from the landfill because of let's just say waste-to-energy, and right now the estimate they have is 2015. I'm not sure if that's realistic, because there's a lot of work that will be involved in terms of getting that ready; so 2015 might be a bit optimistic. But let's assume for the moment for discussion it's 2015, then the estimate is that the range in terms of production of electricity would be .7 megawatts to 1.6, or the equivalent to electrical use of 700 to 1,500 typical, typical single-family homes. In terms of revenues, you know, it would depend on whose out there as far as the purchaser, and the biggest purchaser would be MECo, and whatever is negotiated with them would be based on the avoided cost, and the avoided cost at the time of this report that basically is stated there. But I would like to turn you to page...if you wouldn't mind 23 and 24. That gives you a good idea in terms of what the revenue generation might be, in terms of power...sales revenues. Table 8 basically assumes no waste-to-energy so that's your maximum amount of methane being produced, and obviously that, you know, provides you a range in terms of over a period of time from 2011 to 2026. What you would be looking at depending on

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what's negotiated based on avoided cost, that's at .10 to .25. And then if you go to Table 9 which is the next page on page 24, that's assuming waste-to-energy being implemented in 2015, and again it shows you a range over the years and again that would depend on terms of what the avoided cost negotiations, how that would go.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Well assuming that, you know, on the earlier page that we looked at, it mentioned that the capital cost would be between 12.6 million for a 33.2 megawatt facility or 8.575 for a 1.6 megawatt facility. And the County if we have a partner, of course I know your dream is not to have us spend any money, but and we want to share in the revenue. My question was if you're going to raise, you know, it shows like 3 million, 6 million, what would that mean to the County? Do we have a guess? Because, you know, what is this going to give us back? Is it going to give us 2 million, 3 million, 6 million, I mean is it really a revenue generator or is it more of an environmental benefit?

MS. OKUMA: We're told that this is a revenue generator, and let me just kind of be clear. What we're actually looking at is private sector to finance, plan, design, construct, operate.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Right. Right.

MS. OKUMA: So when we talk about the County involvement, the County involvement in that scenario would be putting up...basically putting out the Request for Proposal and sharing in the revenues. The intent was to look at whether private sector would be better able to finance and construct the facility, 'cause again I mentioned that its private vendors which would qualify for those Federal incentives...Federal credits. The government does not qualify, so we would not be able to be a partner in that, in that financing or that...construction. So if, if we were moving in this kind of direction, basically, what I would see is a private sector would have the responsibility of obtaining the financing because they're, they're...they have the incentive of the Federal credits. They would plan, design, construct it. And of course we might some requirements in terms of how that's done, but that would be their responsibility. And at this point we're looking at them operating it as well, too.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: I, I totally understand what you're saying and I'm very supportive of it because I think the private sector probably could get this up and running a lot faster than we can, I mean it's just a matter of fact. But again if we're, you know, on the tables towards the end where this has been around for a while, it shows potential revenues of...depending on what the kilowatt hour per...kilowatt cost per...cost per kilowatt is. The revenues in 2026 would be anything from 2.5 million to 6 million on the first scenario where you have a no reduction in the waste-to-energy, and on the second table from a million dollars to \$2.6 million, so there isn't a lot of money generated from this. So, I just want us to be realistic, that while this is a wonderful thing, it's very good, and it's important to us that it's not going to bring us a whole lot of money; we're not going to become Maui Electric. I think that's what I'm trying to...to make out of this

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survey is there is money here but it's not a lot of money and yet it's very, very important that we do this. Thank you very, very much for your help with this.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Baisa. Member Pontanilla?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Thank you, Cheryl, for that overview regarding this particular study. You know as I read through the study itself, it kind of mentioned HC&S and the gas company but no mention about Maui Electric. I, I, I remember way back when, when Maui Electric planned to have a generation plant adjacent to the landfill. Have any contact been made or, or has Maui Electric been included in this particular study?

MS. OKUMA: Yes, both the Department...we've been in discussions on and off over the period of these last three and a half years and yes, the consultant has been in touch with Maui Electric. And those are discussions that we can still continue with Maui Electric. I do, I do remember what, what you are mentioning, we haven't heard any other status report on that, but I think these are things that we can...that the Department will still be open to, as far as those types of questions.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Okay. Thank you. I had conversations with the President of the company, as well as some engineers at the power plant of Maui Electric and they seemed interested in, in either being a partner in this construction of this plant here. You know, I have had the opportunity to visit some of the plants on the mainland that, you know, created landfill gas into energy, and the one that comes to my mind is a plant that I visited in Virginia. You know, you did have waste management as the operators of the landfill, and a private entity that did the generation. And, you know, as you mentioned, the pipeline was owned by the people that ran the landfill, and the generation of course is the private...another private company. And, and the third party was a power company to hook up to their power lines. In this case here, you know, if Maui Electric would be, you know, a partner then basically the power line issue, you know, will be disregarded. You know I look forward in the County partnering with somebody utilizing this gas here. It will reduce the need for more landfill space through recycling and the bit, but I think we're moving in the right direction. It's going to be costly, but I think, you know, you already started something that in the end will be a beneficial to this County. So thank you for that overview.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Any comments, Director?

MS. OKUMA: No.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: No. Okay. Thank you, Member Pontanilla. Member Victorino?

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COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Chair. And I think this is also part of our...waste integrated plan that we were worked on both Member Medeiros and I were a part of back when we first came on in 2007. Is that correct, Cheryl? Okay, so, you know, it's a two prong approach not only to create energy but also to reduce the waste intake and volume that we have in our present landfills, is that correct?

MS. OKUMA: Yes.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: So, the only question I had here was, all these tables, all our assumptive table's, right, I mean this is based upon what they best believe to be true in the future?

MS. OKUMA: That's correct.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Yeah. So that's the one real intangible, just like when we sat there for all most what, six months or even longer, I think nine months almost, yeah. I mean we can speculate, the, the problem with speculation is that no one really knows what the true end result except, except I think the biggest part...the biggest benefit is the landfill, you know, the reduction of our landfill. And like, like Member Pontanilla just mentioned, we don't have to go out and keep buying space. You know I think that's very important. I was, I was out in Hana this weekend and I got to see the landfill in Hana, not that I intended to do but somebody took me down there and it was a very clean operation. You know I got to admit you guys have gotten it very well put together down there and I was very impressed, Mr. Chair, in your area in East Maui, I was very impressed. But I think this is something that, you know, I'll say that the quicker we can get started I think would be the better for all of us. And again, I agree a public, public/private partnership is the ultimate, I think that's where we're come out with the best results for the public at large yeah. So thank you, Ms. Okuma and Mr. Takamine, and, and, and to these people, like I say, you know, we visited these plants and we seen the results. So I think it's time for Maui. So, thank you, Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Victorino. Member Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. Ms. Okuma, good morning and thank you for the brief. With, with this particular report then, what is the Department's projections?

MS. OKUMA: In terms of next step?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Yeah.

MS. OKUMA: Okay, thank you, thank you for that question. Our next step is we're pulling the project team together which includes the, the outside legal expert. And Dave Galazin has been our Deputy Corp. Counsel as part of our project team, and the contract for Ms. Freddi Greenberg; thank you to the Council's support on that is in the process of

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being complete. I have, I have, I have Mr. Galazin here if you have particular questions on that. But our intent was to get that contract done in order to not lapse the funding basically by end of this year, so, so we do have that deadline. Once that Attorney is on board, our project team is basically complete. We have our outside technical expert who has been looking at this, is ready to start pulling together that Request for Proposal. And our hope I believe was to be able to see a Request for Proposal out on the streets basically by...okay looking at sometime between March and June to be able to actually put that Request for Proposal out publicly.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. And, and locally than, is there, are you looking at any particular...vendor? Or is it just HC&S because they . . .*(inaudible)* . . .

MS. OKUMA: No, it would be open to everybody locally, so HC&S...I mean what we're looking at is whether it's HC&S or anyone locally here who has an interest. But we will be talking...our intent was to talk to our consultants about our experts, was to be able to keep it as flexible and as open as possible so that those who are interested locally could look at this as well, too.

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Mateo. Member Pontanilla?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. Just one more question. Because, you know, we're going to have change in Administration, sometimes we do all these studies, it doesn't go forward after that. So what guarantee that this thing is going to go through with the changing of Administration in the new year? Because, this is very important that we continue to do this, and somehow, you know, how can we tie this down so that the next Administration follows through?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Director?

MS. OKUMA: Yeah, I'm not sure how I can even answer that question, but obviously the Solid Waste Division has been very involved in terms of the work. And we've had a lot of internal discussions, we had hoped to have more, but I believe that the Division...well the Division will certainly be in place to move it forward. It would be important to have the support of the new Administration, that will be very important, and hopefully people will see value in this, in order to continue to support it moving forward.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you. And when we come to do the 2012 Budget, then I think, you know, in that CIP report or request that something is in there for us Council Members to review. So at least by including this in the CIP, the possibility of moving forward on this particular project. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Members, any more questions? I have a few, Director Okuma. As Member Victorino did mention, he and I were appointed by Mayor Tavares to sit on the

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Solid Waste Resource Advisory Committee, and the results of the work of that committee which involved a lot of people from the community and from government was, was the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan. On Page 8, it gives some reference to that. But I'd like to ask, how does this fit with the, our Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan?

MS. OKUMA: Well, if I recall, at the time the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan was being compiled, there was certainly discussion about the desire of the County to move forward on this particular gas-to-energy project. But, you know, the plan and the efforts of the Department and the Division to move forward in terms of how we're going to manage the solid waste stream over the next 15 to 20 years, it's all in the same package, basically. These are all various components in a strategic plan for Solid Waste Management. So I would say it's certainly been on the radar screen and, and would hopefully remain on that radar screen, as far as that total plan.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. And you may have touched on this next question I have. And it is, is there a projected life of the landfill gas source at the Central Maui Landfill?

MS. OKUMA: Yes, with respect to the current, current system in terms of where the collection systems are, I believe that's up to...includes Phase V. Generally speaking, methane gas production is about...is for about a 15 to 20 year horizon.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. OKUMA: So this is why the sooner you actually get these projects going, the sooner you're able to make use of that methane gas, if not there's a point at which it will peak out.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you for that. And so, when the infrastructure is constructed in order to collect that methane gas or the landfill gas, when the source is depleted and no longer producing any landfill gas, does that infrastructure...is it underground, on the ground, have to be removed?

MS. OKUMA: No.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: So it would just remain there?

MS. OKUMA: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: It would...we would...

MS. OKUMA: The collection system?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Yeah.

MS. OKUMA: Right.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: We would just leave it there?

MS. OKUMA: I would think we would need too, I would think that is part of our compliance requirements. Because even if this gas may not be sufficient for energy production we may still have some emissions that occur and we would still need to be concerned about complying with whatever Department of Health and EPA requirements are. We would not be able to do anything with that system without checking in with Department of Health and EPA.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. So if we partner with a private industry or a private entity for the construction, development, or...and the operation of the facilities, then when the...as we just talked about, the source of the landfill gas is no longer sufficient to collect and utilize. Then it, it will not be the responsibility of the partners to absorb the cost of any kind of modification to the infrastructure?

MS. OKUMA: I don't know if there would need to be any modification. I think one of the things that we're looking at is actually expanding the gas collection system as we open new cells. And so that's some of our internal discussion of even who is going to finance, finance that. So what we would actually be looking at is not only utilization of what we have now, but the ability to be able to continue with gas-to-energy with future active cells being opened.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: And, right now, how many cells have we completed using but is generating the landfill gas?

MS. OKUMA: Okay, we're still using a portion I believe of Phase IV, Phase IV is an A and B, we're using a portion of Phase IV and a portion of Phase V-A.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. OKUMA: Or I'm sorry, Phase...oh, I'm sorry, Phase I and II, and Phase IV is where the gas collection system is. I think your question was which parts of the landfill are we using?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

MS. OKUMA: Okay, we're using portion of Phase IV and a portion of Phase V.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

MS. OKUMA: Correct. What I said is correct.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay, thank you. Let's see, so as far as establishing a cost that would determine on the model that we decide on?

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MS. OKUMA: Yes.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay, so as far as planning for funding and so forth with whatever is decided, that will have to come later when those numbers become available? In order to plan for funding, whether we do it with a private entity partner, if the County's going to have a part of the funding or is it going to be where we're working towards having the County not have to fund anything?

MS. OKUMA: We're working towards the goal of not having the County have to fund this facility.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay. Okay, that sounds good. Members, any more questions for the Department? Seeing none...

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Recommendation.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Recommendation? Okay, thank you, Members, and thank you Department. Okay. The Chair was...contemplating three options for my recommendation, and I decided that my recommendation will be that the matter be referred under the Committee's discretion. And so with that recommendation the Chair will entertain a motion to refer County Communication No. 10-231 to the County *[sic]* Chair for the term beginning January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011...I'm sorry, 2011, pursuant to Rule 21 of the Rules of the Council. And this will give us...the item will be kept on the master agenda for the next term so that it doesn't have to go through the process of being re-introduced again. So that's my recommendation, Members.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: So move, Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Second, Mr. Chair.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay, it's being moved by Member Pontanilla, seconded by Member Victorino that we refer County Communication No. 10-231 to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2011 pursuant to Rule 21 of the Rules of the Council. All in favor...any more discussion, Members? Seeing none, all in favor of the motion say "aye".

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Aye.

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Aye.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: Aye.

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CHAIR MEDEIROS: All opposed say “no”. Okay, Members, we have seven ayes and zero noes, the measure passes.

**VOTE: AYES: Chair Medeiros, Vice-Chair Pontanilla, and Councilmembers Baisa, Kaho’ohalahala, Mateo, Molina, and Victorino.**

**NOES: None.**

**ABSTAIN: None.**

**ABSENT: None.**

**EXC.: None.**

**MOTION CARRIED.**

**ACTION: Recommending REFER to the Council Chair for the term beginning January 2, 2011.**

CHAIR MEDIEROS: Okay, we had only one item and that was the item, Members. I just would like to make a few words here. This is my last Committee meeting because we’ll be going into December and we have pretty much taken care of our master agenda. And I thank our Committee Staff that have been very efficient in getting that done and that’s our Committee Secretary, Ms. Camille Sakamoto, and our Committee Legislative Analyst, Mr. Mike Geers. And thank you, Ms. Sakamoto, for this beautiful lei, purple from Molokai. But I know you got it from Maui, yeah.

...*(Laughter)*...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, thank you, Camille. And I just want to say that it’s been a great experience in these Chambers, and an honorable experience too. Our Committee work for me has been really good because of a really good Committee Staff that’s been on top of everything and everything proceeded smoothly for our Committee. Member Baisa?

CONCILMEMBER BAISA: Yes, Mr. Chair, I like to join you in a few remarks --

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Okay.

COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: --because this is my last Infrastructure Management meeting for this term.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Right.

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COUNCILMEMBER BAISA: As everyone knows, I am escaping on vacation next Monday evening. So I did want to thank you very much for your hard work as Chair of this Committee, and I'd also like to thank Ms. Okuma and Tracy for the good work that you've done with us and I certainly appreciate working with you. Your professionalism is noted, and we wish you all the best, you know, nobody knows how things are going to shake out in the new year, but we're at this point today. And I'd also like to thank the Members of this Committee; it's being a pleasure working with you, and thank your Staff.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Baisa, and we wish you a fun and safe trip.

COUNCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Chair?

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Member Victorino?

CONCILMEMBER VICTORINO: Thank you, Chair. And let me start by saying it's been an honor to work with you over the past four years, as your Co-Chair and the Member in this Committee for the last two years. I was impressed with the knowledge you bring forward. Your 31 years in the County govern, much of it in Public Works has been very instrumental and at least explaining at times, areas of expertise that none of us had and I thank you for that. I wish you nothing but success in the future and I know if there's a question around the corner I can always call, and I appreciate that. And to all the other Members, you know, it's been interesting over the past two years and we moving to the next two years with some new direction, and I hope the direction is like Ms. Okuma was saying earlier, continued. But it's up to the new Administration; I will support whatever they bring forward. That's our job, you know, to work with them, to do the best we can for the people of Maui County. But, Mr. Chair, I thank you very, very much and I hope that we've all learned...I'll speak for myself...I've learned a lot from you, not only as a friend but as a colleague. And you have been a real professional in everything you've tried to do here in this Council. So good luck, sir, and thank you very much for your leadership. Mahalo.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Victorino, for your complimentary comments and remarks, I appreciate it. Member Molina?

COUNCILMEMBER MOLINA: Thank you very much, Mr. Medeiros, and like my colleagues I'd like to express my aloha to you. Mr. Medeiros, you have certainly brought a lot to this Council over the last four years and much appreciated, and, you know, your conduct has been certainly exemplary. And, you know, we've have had a lot of interesting discussions over the years, as we know, so, you know, I want to wish you the best in your future and hope you stay active in the community in one way, shape, or form. And I'd also like to extend my thank yous [*sic*] to the Administration. Director Okuma, as well, it's been a pleasure to work with you as well. And of course you have a fine Committee

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Staff, so again thank you for all you have given to the community, in your capacity as Infrastructure Management Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Molina, and likewise I wish you well on your future endeavors. And you certainly have a lot of options available to you, so, you know, good luck and best wishes with everything. Any other...Member Pontanilla?

VICE-CHAIR PONTANILLA: Thank you, Chairman. I too would like to say thank you for your leadership in the Infrastructure Management Committee. And I think every one of us learned a lot from your experience as a Supervisor for the County of Maui. So I thank you for that, and I thank you for running good meetings. To the Administration, especially Ms. Okuma, I know, you know, we've had some battles, but thank you for doing a good job, I really appreciate that. Thank you. Thank you, Chairman.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Pontanilla, for your comments, I appreciate it. Council Chair Mateo?

COUNCILMEMBER MATEO: Mr. Chairman, thank you very much, and I too express my mahalo to you, Mr. Chairman. It has through the last number of years really been a pleasure and a privilege to be able to work closely with you, not only for Infrastructure Management but in other areas as well. And as Mr. Pontanilla and Mr. Victorino has alluded to your prior experiences with, with County has really been a benefit for us in you been able to share with us different perspectives when the going got tough. So, you know, I really appreciated a lot of your contributions and insights. The work has not...is not over, the work has not been easy. I think it has been more refined at this point because now we have definitive needs in addressing the infrastructure management of our County. The Administration needs to be commended, like Mr. Pontanilla, both two of you and myself had had numerous occasions to be on opposite sides. I, I greatly appreciate the information you have provide and the patience that you have provided, especially to me, so I thank you. Mr. Chairman, your Staff has been impeccable, they have assisted us...assisted me with a lot of my own queries in terms of getting information regarding each of the subject matters in your Committee. So kudos to both of them, impressed with your abilities. Mr. Chairman, I wish you well. We, we are friends first, colleagues second. Mahalo.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Council Chair Mateo, appreciate your comments. Member Kaho'ohalahala?

COUNCILMEMBER KAHO'OHALAHALA: Mahalo, Chair. I too would like to say thank you for your friendship in this past two years, sitting next to you I've had many opportunities to lean over and, you know, be able to share some of those thoughts, thoughts and ideas. I hope that you have met your, your goals in terms of your Committee, and I hope that I've been able to support you in the, in that pursuit, and I thank you that I had an opportunity to serve on your Committee. And I also want to wish

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you the best in your pursuits as you depart the Council, as well. Mahalo to you. Mahalo to your Staff.

CHAIR MEDEIROS: Thank you, Member Kaho'ohalahala, and I wish you well too, and best wishes on your future plans as you go forward. Just because of your experience in public service, I hope you continue your public service, because it's important for us to have people with that kind of knowledge and experience like yourself to continue to be part of it. And it just makes our quality of life for everyone better. So thank you very much. And as I complete my comments, Members, yeah, I want to thank especially Council Chair Mateo, with as busy as he is, he has always afforded me time to come to his office, and it's...he has a way of helping a person move forward on tough issues and he has done that for me. He has been able to advise me on things in a positive and friendly way, and I appreciate that. Most of my learning has come from the more senior Members of this Council, which would be, you know, Mr. Molina, Mr. Kaho'ohalahala, Mr. Mateo, Mr. Pontanilla. Gladys, Mike, and I all came in together, so we learned together, we were on the same learning curve all together and it turned out well. But I just want to thank you all for your support. It's been a really, really rewarding experience to be in the legislative part of government, I appreciate this experience and this opportunity. And I want to thank our Committee...I mean our departments that we have worked with in this Committee, here is Director Okuma and Mr. Takamine from Solid Waste. They have been before us many times and been ready to answer our questions or provide the information, and the Chair appreciates that. And also thank the Department of Public Works, Mr. Milton Arakawa and Mr. Mike Miyamoto and the rest of their staff for their participation in our Committee work, which has been very rewarding for our Committee to have people like that with that much experience to come to the meetings and provide that information to us. As far as our Staff, as I said before, Ms. Sakamoto comes to this Committee with a long history of knowledge and experience and she's been really good. And sometimes, you know, with, with some bravery and courage going against what I wanted to do, but, but she had always put in a, in a justifiable way, why we should do it differently. And after we consulted and I talked to Mr. Geers we felt...well that that was a better way to do it. So I appreciate all her contributions to this Committee. And Mr. Geers, who's fairly new to this Chamber and to this work, has progressed really quickly and he's been really good as a Legislative Analyst to me and this Committee. He has prepared our Committee along with Ms. Camille to be ready for our business of the day, as today, and to be able to contact the departments and the people representing the Administration so that we're on the same page when we show up here in the morning. But once again, Members, thank you so much, it's been a great pleasure, and my hopes is to continue in public service whatever capacity that may be, you know, I'm interested in continuing that work. After working for government and being in the military, you know, I counted and I said, wow, I got like 40 years of public service work experience. So I'd like to continue that. But I want to wish Director Okuma well as she also seeks her options whatever they may be, if it's to remain here with the next Administration or to continue in another capacity. Best wishes to you. And Mr. Takamine will be here, so wish him well. So, Members, thank you so much for your comments, I appreciate it, and mostly like Mr. and Council Chair Mateo said, I think the more important part is the

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friendship and then the work as colleagues. But I'm going to miss being part of the Dream Boys.

...*(Laughter)*...

CHAIR MEDEIROS: But wish you guys to continue, you know, with that, you know, providing that kind of fun for our seniors and other groups. So, Members, without any more comments or announcements, the Chair will adjourn this meeting of the Infrastructure Management Committee of November 29, 2010. The meeting is now adjourned. . .  
*(gavel)* . . .

**ADJOURN:** 9:57 a.m.

APPROVED:



BILL KAUAKEA MEDEIROS, Chair  
Infrastructure Management Committee

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Transcribed by: Gladys Kamalani

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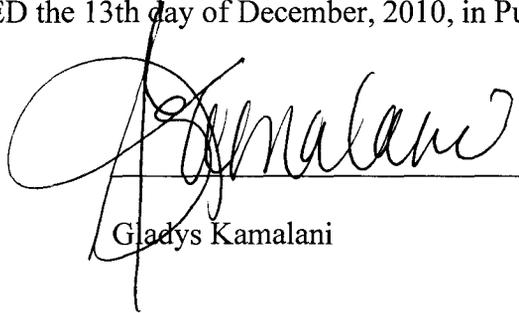
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CERTIFICATE

I, Gladys Kamalani, hereby certify that the foregoing represents to the best of my ability, a true and correct transcript of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not in any way concerned with the cause.

DATED the 13th day of December, 2010, in Pukalani, Hawaii



Gladys Kamalani