

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PLANNING COMMITTEE

November 16, 2012

Committee
Report No. _____

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

Chair and Members:

Your Planning Committee, having met on October 29, 2012, makes reference to County Communication 12-188, from Council Chair Danny A. Mateo, transmitting an annual status report dated August 20, 2012, from Sharon M. Suzuki, President, Maui Electric Company, Ltd. ("MECO"), in accordance with Condition 6 of Ordinance 2879 (2000), for the Waena Power Generating Station located on property situated at Pulehu Nui, Wailuku, Maui, Hawaii.

Your Committee notes that Ordinance 2879 (2000) granted MECO a change in zoning from Agricultural District to M-2 Heavy Industrial District (Conditional Zoning) for property situated at Pulehu Nui, New Central Maui Generation Site Subdivision. The property consists of approximately 65.7 acres and is identified as TMK: (2) 3-8-003:023 (Lot A-1) and TMK: (2) 3-8-003:024 (Lot A-2).

Your Committee further notes that the Council imposed 12 conditions on the project to mitigate potential negative impacts resulting from the change in zoning. Condition 6 requires that MECO submit an annual status report to the Maui Planning Department, Maui Planning Commission, Maui County Council, and Mayor, regarding its development of the power-generating capacity needed for the Island of Maui, including but not limited to, the Waena Power Generating Station, Maalaea Power Plant, and Kahului Power Plant. MECO is required to provide an update of the feasibility of alternative energy sources and its ongoing conservation measures by submitting copies of the Integrated Resource Plan ("IRP"), after it is accepted by the Public Utilities Commission.

Marc Ratte, staff engineer at MECO, stated that the purpose of the Waena Power Generating Station is primarily to allow MECO to accept new renewable energy.

Mathew McNeff, Renewable Energy Services Manager at MECO, informed your Committee that the Renewable Portfolio Standard is a regulation that requires electric supply companies to produce a specified fraction of their electricity from renewable energy sources. In 2011, MECO's Renewable Portfolio Standard was 29.1 percent. To

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PLANNING COMMITTEE

November 16, 2012
Page 2

**Committee
Report No.** _____

increase renewable energy in 2012, MECO expects more renewable energy programs, including two new wind farms.

Mr. McNeff acknowledged that the number of photovoltaic systems in Maui County has increased. The vast majority of net energy metering occurs during the day; however, during the peak hours at night, additional generation is required. Therefore, there is an increasing need to install new generation.

Mr. McNeff explained that the IRP is a long-term plan to meet consumer energy needs. Through the plan, MECO, Hawaiian Electric Company, and Hawaii Electric Light Company receive input from the community through an advisory group to plan the next increments of power generation. The group's work plan should be completed by mid-2013.

Your Committee noted that the status report does not include waste to energy and geothermal projects. The representatives from MECO responded that MECO held preliminary discussions with the Administration, but these projects were not included in the report.

Your Committee voted 7-0 to recommend filing of the communication. Committee Chair Couch, Vice-Chair Baisa, and members Cochran, Mateo, Pontanilla, Victorino, and White voted "aye".

Your Planning Committee **RECOMMENDS** that County Communication 12-188 be FILED.

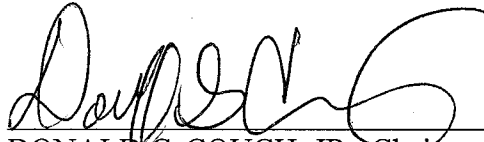
This report is submitted in accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules of the Council.

COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF MAUI
PLANNING COMMITTEE

November 16, 2012
Page 3

**Committee
Report No.** _____

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DONALD G. COUCH, JR., Chair

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