

Hawaii Energy Forum Meeting

March 28, 2005 Meeting

Hawaii State Capitol Room 224

Final Summary Notes

In Attendance:

Steve Alber, Warren Bollmeier, Raymond Carr, Albert Chee, John Cole, Sen. Kalani English, Mitch Ewan, Carl Freedman, Steve Golden, Mike Hamnett, Steve Holmes, Shad Kane, William Kaneko, Sharon Miyashiro, Rep Hermina Morita, Brenner Munger, Melissa Pavlicek, Rick Reed, Riley Saito, Susan Shintani, Glenn Sato, Don Thomas, Joan White (rep), Susan Asam (for Kyle Datta, RMI), John Tantlinger (for Maurice Kaya), Jael Eli (Rep Morita's office), Tom Gillen, Chris Vandercook (Sen. English's office).

Legislative Update:

Rep Morita and Sen English provided status of energy legislation; bills still alive focus on developing energy capacity.

Planning Session:

Donna Ching facilitated the session, which covered expectations, mission/vision, governance, and membership. Summary of the discussion follows. Also included is the draft document distributed prior to the meeting, which was the focus of the deliberations:

Expectations for the Session:

- Reaffirm Forum: should it continue? Who is a member of the Forum?
- Accomplish the meeting agenda
- Listen and share ideas from the meeting w/ Maurice
- Solidify the Forum's work for policy action

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- Meet people and fund media projects on renewable energy
- Become more familiar with Forum and role it plays in state energy policy
- Roadmap for the state in coordinated “big picture” plan for energy
- Non-contested process for renewable energy implementation
- See how Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) can contribute to the Forum as it regroups
- Reconnect with the Forum and see how Hawaii Institute of Geophysics &
 - Planetology (HIGP) can contribute
- Energy policy information
- Vehicle for effective change in the energy sector & to contribute from the Big
 - Island
- To move faster in implementing the energy plan
- Agenda will be completed and will reported
- Move energy policy forward together on behalf of consumers
- Get through the agenda and Forum role
- Bring cultural perspective to the Forum
- Represent poverty perspective on the Forum
- Identify specific actions for Forum to take forward

Forum Mission/Vision:

The following draft document was discussed, which includes both the vision (first list of items) and the mission (second list of items). Members examined the Part I (vision) separately from Part II (mission) as indicated in the comments to vision and mission that follow.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum is to facilitate the achievement of the preferred energy vision for Hawai'i of:

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- Having an energy system that is based on environmentally friendly, renewable, safe, reliable, and affordable energy resources;
- Using efficient energy technologies and systems with the best available emission controls that are decentralized, meet consumers' needs, and maximize the use of Hawai'i's energy assets; and
- Promoting investment and continual assessment and development of energy options based on a full accounting of costs and benefits.

Forum members are also committed to achieving the vision by:

- Creating opportunities for sharing information, airing diverse viewpoints, and participating in productive and meaningful dialog and deliberation to identify common ground to move forward and articulate the diverse positions of stakeholders as well as energy options and policies;
- Establishing policies and relationships among members to raise the level of trust, knowledge, and public information and support to achieve the energy vision;
- Providing information on the State's energy policies and programs to educate the public on the status of achieving the energy vision; and
- Promoting civic participation in moving the energy vision and actions forward.

March 28 meeting discussion on VISION:

The following were comments /questions relating to the vision draft provided as part of the Forum mission statement distributed prior to the 3/28 meeting:

- Keep "as is" since the vision statement is what the Forum agreed upon in 2002 and is in the strategic document.
- Add energy conservation/efficiency

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- Amend the following statement: Having an energy system that [is based on] maximizes environmentally friendly, renewable, safe, reliable, and affordable energy resources
- We should have a vision statement that is less specific and more abstract and “visionary” e.g. “our land, our culture in harmony”
- Some ideas for vision statement:
 - Creating a sustainable energy system
 - Balancing environmental stewardship, economic prosperity, and social justice & equity
 - Creating a sustainable energy system by addressing the people, economy & environment
 - Bringing in balance the environment, economy & culture
 - Friendly energy
 - Forum as a place for diverse viewpoints
 - Identify common ground to move us forward in implementing actions
- Align with State Plan energy vision (chapter 226—See attachment I)
- Smaller committee will draft Vision & Mission in light of comments. The committee is comprised of Rep Morita, Mitch Ewan, Melissa Pavlicek, and Sharon Miyashiro.
- See Attachment 1 for some background information on state energy goals.

March 28 meeting discussion on MISSION:

Comments relating to the mission statement:

- Missing societal and cultural considerations
- Add: increase pace of moving actions forward/implement practices
- Add: uniqueness of island concerns vs. mainland require databank on our population and resources

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- Emphasize Forum's mission to hear and articulate the tensions of the diverse viewpoints & to recognize & understand the different viewpoints
- Emphasize Forum's mission to articulate and take forward actions based on areas of agreement
- Identify who we are so that as a group we can be committed to working on moving agenda forward –seeing actions implemented.
- Let's get something done
 - Move past the white papers and studies and translate them into action. There is a lot of frustration that all we do is meet, talk and study things to death but we do not take action.
 - Do not need a lot of new legislation – we need implementation of what is already on the books
 - Forum should identify most effective pressure points, e.g. working with DAGS to implement total life cycle costing approach to energy use in government operations.
- Forum is not working for consensus which is difficult to attain; rather, we should be looking for “areas of agreement & commonality” and looking to expand these areas

Forum Process:

The following were comments and/or suggestions for adding items to the forum process:

- How would the Forum do this (come up with testimony for legislative proposals) during the Legislative session?
- Discuss the proposals well in advance of the Legislative session
- Produce the policy roadmap before the session
- How well are we doing on the laws already in place?

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- Add: members will work in a coordinated way.
- Add: have tasks for members to follow-up
- Add: The Forum will develop performance measures
- Add to the Forum process: educate legislators on energy issues
- Amend process item (3) to read: “Examine the State’s energy policies, programs and energy markets to assess their effectiveness in achieving the energy vision and goals”. This perhaps should be placed in the HEPF Action Plan rather than as a process item.
 - Role of the Forum: Is the Forum a “lobbying” entity? Or “education” entity?
- Lobbying requires registration under the law
- DBEDT will not be part of the Forum lobbying group & may take positions on bills separate from the Forum
- Education provides fact-based information and not one position
 - e.g. HIPA health stakeholders provide policy recommendations based on fact-based options, which are first sent to members with ample opportunity to vet proposals. Recommendations are provided to lawmakers vs. lobbying on specific bills.
- Education process is lobbying
- Forum will allow for dialogue among stakeholders to come up with a position that all agree upon and also for individual members to also lobbying their own agendas
 - Worried about areas of disagreement when legislators ask to be provided with information

Determining agreement:

- What Process will be used to determine the Forum’s position?
- The Forum will engage in open dialogue to determine commonality:
 - Agreement

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- What is the threshold of agreement for the Forum to take action? Or how much agreement will be enough “agreement” for the Forum to take an action forward?
- Need more specific process on how to do things, e.g. how we make decisions as a group to advocate?
- Who represents position of the Forum when it does come to agreement?
- Need to add source of funding to keep the Forum going
- Forum should develop its program and funding will follow based on the Forum’s effectiveness. And if not effective, it won’t be funded.
- How do we increase our effectiveness in implementing our recommended actions?

Governance:

The following were comments/questions on governance structure and membership for the Forum:

- Steering Committee (SC)
 - What will the SC work involve? Nitty gritty decisions/administration/logistics, e.g. agenda for the meetings
- HIPA governance should be explored re: leadership (policy) group and policy sector working groups, etc.
- Secretariat creates transparent process as design specialist and members are content experts on proposals.
- Do we need an Executive Committee for Forum policies?
- Next steps:
 - Mike Hamnett will develop a options paper on roles/responsibilities of Executive Committee/Steering Committee
 - Bill Kaneko will provide information on HIPA as possible model for Forum

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- Proposal to be submitted prior to the next meeting for discussion and adoption.

Forum Membership:

The following were questions /comments on Forum membership:

- Seek out representatives from other organizations not represented currently on the Forum
- What is a manageable size for the Forum?
- We need to balance the membership
- Add consumer representative e.g. Chamber of Commerce
- Add to criteria for membership:
 - Ability to contribute to the diversity of viewpoints
 - Participate actively, i.e. attends meetings
 - Emeritus status for experts/those who have since left the Forum but want to continue to contribute
- Look at current membership and poll them to determine active members, i.e. require affirmative response for
 - Continuing on as Forum member
- Process for selecting new members:
 - Nomination is based on criteria adopted
 - Group discusses and agrees to invite individual to become a member
- What if a member “misbehaves”?
- What authority will the Forum have?
- Next steps:
 - Send all members the latest Forum membership list so they can examine the current list to assess representation
 - Send request to all members that they affirmatively respond if they wish to continue on the Forum & also declare the group(s) they represent as Forum members

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- Current members who have since left organizations which they represented may continue if they
 - Are interested and see that they can continue to add value to the Forum work.

NEXT STEPS

Action Areas and Champions:

- 1) Explore DSM programs & energy efficiency:
Champions: Carl Freedman, Mike Hamnett, RMI
- 2) Forum Overall Action Plan:
Champions: Mitch Ewan, Sharon Miyashiro, Al Chee, HECO, Steve Holmes
- 3) Regulatory Component:
Champion: Carl Freedman
- 4) Renewables Component:
Champion: Warren Bollmeier
- 5) Efficiency:
Champion: RMI
- 6) Cultural Issues:
Champion: Shad Kane
- 7) Low Income Issues:
Champion: Honolulu Community Action Program (HCAP)
- 8) Communication:
Champion: Bill Kaneko
- 9) Coordinated energy legislation:
Champion: Mike Hamnett
- 10) The Action Plan group (see item 2 above) should convene to develop further the priority actions within each component and for the overall plan.

Guideline for the meeting:

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- Committee members must read the action plan PRIOR TO the meeting
- Members should come with a few identified list of “drivers” for action within their component
- Members will be discussing the “compelling case” for the recommended priority action(s)
- Members will prioritize and selection “actions that matter”
 - Funding Mechanism (to leverage funding from federal sources)—to be discussed after Forum develops
 - Steering and Executive Committee responsibilities.
 - Follow-up action: Mike Hamnett will draft options to be circulated prior to the next meeting for discussion at the meeting.
 - Membership—Need balance and add new members to represent stakeholder interests not currently on the Forum Follow-up action: Sharon Miyashiro will email the latest member list and will request that all current members affirmatively respond if they wish to continue as member on the Forum.
 - Forum needs to identify and agree upon a few “solid gold” actions that will make a difference so it can implement these actions.

Next meeting:

Tuesday, May 31, 10 am – 2pm. at the Capitol (room to be determined)

- Tentative agenda:
 - Discuss & adopt vision/mission statement (committee’s draft will be circulated prior to the meeting)
 - Forum process will be discussed and adopted
 - Criteria for membership will be discussed and adopted

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- Steering and executive committee responsibilities will be adopted and members selected
- Action Plan status report
- Send out agenda earlier so Forum members can add items to the agenda

Meeting Evaluation:

Positive

Lunch was good

“Strawman” drafts to react to

Good Participation

Legislative status report

Good facilitation

Need for Improvement

Parking/traffic

Hard to come in after 3-day weekend

Time of session – morning better than afternoon for Neighbor Island travel