

# Addressing Hawaii's Energy Needs: Short-Term and Long-Term Actions

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Presentation by Carl Freedman as author of the Hawaii Energy Policy Forum report:  
*Hawaii Energy Utility Regulation and Taxation*

## The Hawaii Energy Policy Forum: Energy Strategy

### **Short Term**

Regulatory Reform: Revitalize the PUC and DCA  
Energy Efficiency: Energy efficiency programs for utility and transportation sectors  
Hawaiian Cultural Values and Social Justice: Fairness in energy facility location

### **Medium Term**

Renewable Energy: Facilitate and promote implementation of renewable resources  
Natural Gas: Liquefied natural gas supply infrastructure for hawaii

### **Long Term**

Hydrogen Economy: Transition to a "hydrogen powered fuel cell economy"

## Recommendations for the 2005 Legislative Session

### **Necessary Actions for this Session**

Provide sufficient funding for the utility regulatory agencies: PUC and DCA

Address PUC concerns regarding Act 95 (Renewable Portfolio Standards)

### **Actions for Consideration for this Session**

Address general concerns regarding Act 95

Mandate stronger building energy codes and appliance efficiency standards

Provide tax-exempt bonding authority for energy efficiency measure financing

Create a system for intervenor funding in policy matters before the PUC

Update and clarify legislative findings and priorities regarding energy policy

### **Actions for Consideration for the Longer Term**

Energy tax policy: Tax the Carbon - Not the Electricity

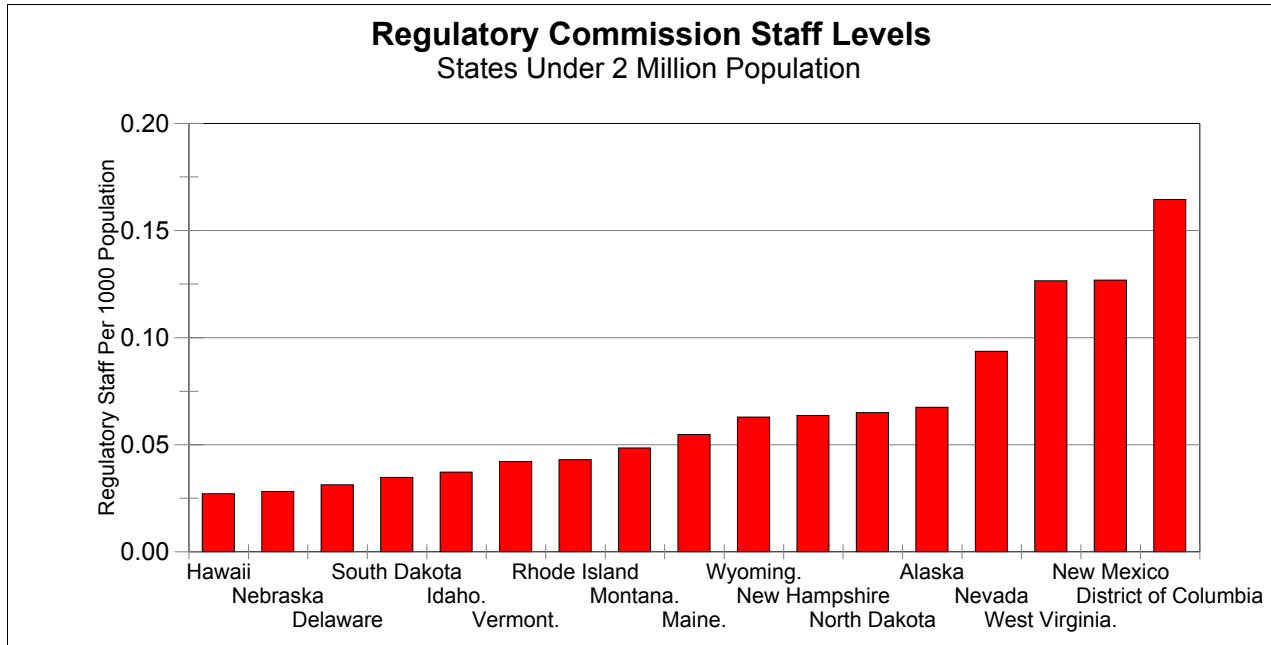
Third party administration and/or implementation of energy efficiency programs

Energy Facility Siting: Address issues and obstacles to siting energy facilities

*The Hawaii Energy Policy Forum reports can be downloaded from the Forum web site:  
<http://www.hawaiienergypolicy.hawaii.edu/pages/reports.html>*

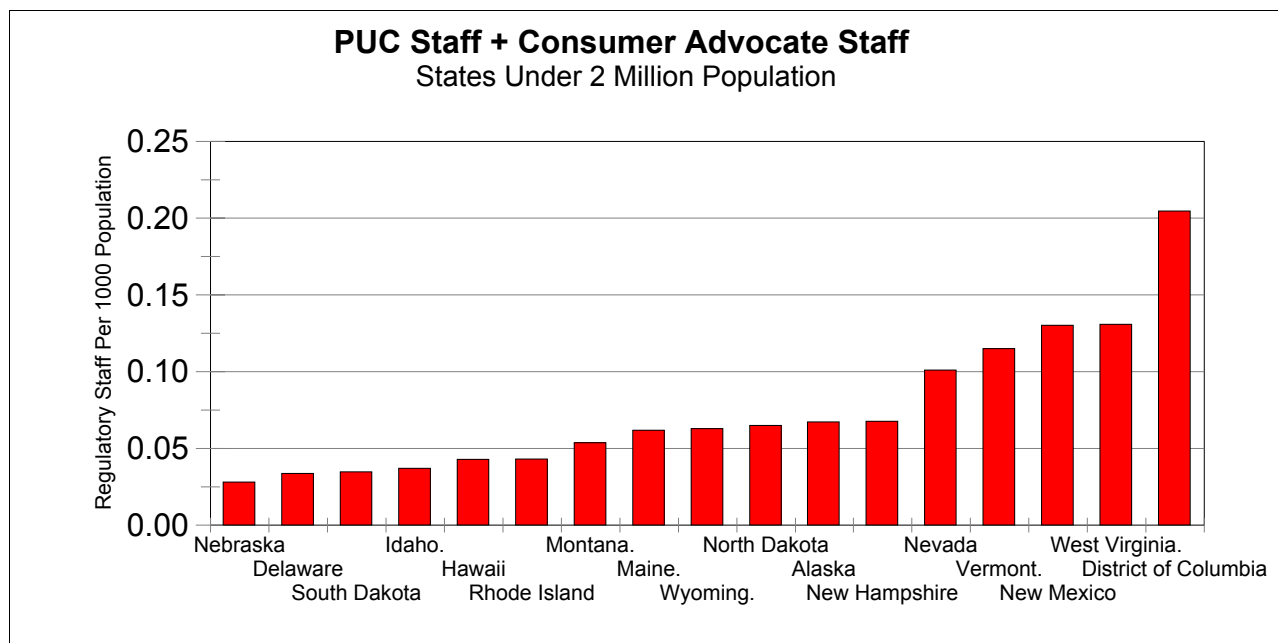
## Hawaii Utility Regulatory Agency Staff Levels

Hawaii presently has the smallest ratio of regulatory commission employees to population of all small states. This is evident from the chart below showing the number of staff positions for the commissions for states with a population of less than two million.



**Figure 1** Regulatory Commission Staff Levels for Small States

With the with the DCA staff included, Hawaii has the fifth lowest number of staff positions for regulatory and advocacy staff combined totals. This is depicted in the chart below.



**Figure 2** Total Regulatory Program Staff Levels for Small States