

Social and Cultural Impact Working Group Goals and Action Plan 2006 – 2007

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Ten Point Plan Action Area(s):

- **Action item #6 - Investing in Planning for Sustainable Communities**
- **Action item#9 - Encourage development, production, and use of biofuels**

Goals :

- Address subject areas in of the Ten Point Plan as follows:
 - Revitalizing urban centers and our rural plantation communities to promote healthy living environments and strong economies by rebuilding and upgrading local infrastructure so people can afford to live where they work.
 - Provide incentives for redevelopment of idled urban and plantation era lands into productive use.
 - Maintaining and expanding the amount of “greenbelts” (that preserve from development certain undeveloped natural areas that would be dedicated to agriculture and/or park space.)
 - Identifying appropriate sites & developing model biofuel production & distribution systems to displace non-indigenous (imported) energy sources
- Address overall community social & cultural issues relating to energy to include the following:
 - Formulating policies and procedural frameworks to include an evaluation of social and cultural impacts of energy issues.
 - Establishing a community benefits process (such as HECO’s) to address concerns of “burdened communities”.
 - Engage Hawaiian and broader community in selection of culturally appropriate sites for energy production and distribution
 - Establishing a process which defines cultural energy issues, and facilitates making more informed decisions regarding the protection of “traditional and customary” practices and resources impacted by land use and shoreline projects related to energy projects.
 - Empower surrounding communities as stakeholders in new technology and energy self-sufficiency by successful demonstration projects.
- Address sustainable community energy requirements
 - Forum becomes energy member of the 2050 Sustainability Plan group

Background: Waste & Energy Community Impact

Native Hawaiian and other less affluent communities have historically been “burdened” with the placement of large power generating, and water, sewage and waste treatment

facilities. When new such facilities are planned, more often than not the difficult discussions ultimately come down to siting. As long as facilities continue to be approved in areas such as the Waianae Coast there will never be any motivation to find other technologies (or locations) to eliminate or treat waste in a manner that is not intrusive nor invasive and compromising of our environment. Often, such conventional technologies use disproportionate amounts of energy to operate. Hawaii, with its wealth of smart, proven, indigenous technologies, should be leading a change in the business-as-usual “garbage dump” paradigm and investigate smarter waste-handling sustainability model options that look at waste as a resource that can be economically exploited to the benefit of the community. On the basis of energy efficiency alone, the Forum should investigate and promote these proven technologies.

HECO’s recent approach to working with the Kapolei and Waianae communities as “burdened communities” with respect to the construction of 5 power plants in their district serves as an excellent model in terms of devising an action plan.

1. Identify “burdened communities” and models of successful sustainability. Structure facilitative informational community meetings and tours of innovative technology using ahupua’a concept.
2. Solicit community benefit package from impacted “burdened” communities and hear community concerns through an evaluation process.
3. Empower the community as a major stakeholder in new technology and opportunity, involved in sustainable practices which changes trash into treasure.... practical on-site demonstration models.
4. Put to vote proposed “community benefit package” by the community.
5. Facilitate discussions regarding package until consensus can be reached.

Development of indigenous renewable energy resources in Hawai`i creates opportunities to combine economic development and renewable energy policy objectives. Given that many of these resources are located or may be efficiently developed on Native Hawaiian lands, cooperative ventures with ali`i trust and other Hawaiian organizations are encouraged. Some of these lands hold significant cultural value to the Native Hawaiian community and their development may not be supported, and, in fact, opposed by the Native Hawaiian community. It is recommended that the Forum team with OHA to identify appropriate resources by building on current SHPO listings, current reviews, development of a list of undocumented sites (with appropriate technical support) and eventually determine “go/no go” areas for infrastructure development through development of a Cultural Inventory of Traditional and Energy Resources (CITER) Model.

Action Plans:

1. In keeping with the original Cultural Issues Working Group (2003 and 2005), priority must be given to involvement of Native Hawaiian values and community leaders in site selections of industrial infrastructure in burdened communities, and how to commence discussion and empowerment. This will be accomplished by developing a demonstration project in a burdened community for culturally appropriate and environmentally responsible technologies with support from the community, Native Hawaiian groups and stakeholders.

This will also include follow-on community tours and education of other model sites, such as Campbell waste treatment system, Makiki Living Machine, Ala Wai akulikuli project and other examples of ahupua'a sustainability.

Tasks:

- 1.1 Develop public education/outreach and schedule tours of appropriate technologies-- modern and ancient.
- 1.2 Identify a demonstration project area adjacent to Kahe Pt. Power Plant
- 1.3 Convene/reinvite original working group (subject to discussion)

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Mark Glick	OHA Director of Economic Development
Lynette Cruz	Ahupua'a Action Alliance
David Wong	Bishop Museum
Kai Markell	OHA Acting Director, Native Rights, Land & Culture Hale
Puanani Burgess	Waianae Community Leader
Eric Enos	Waianae Community Leader (MA'O)
Jan Dill	facilitator, Tutu & Me
Paula Helfrich	EDAH

2. In keeping with the CIWG Final Report (2005), encourage more stakeholder involvement in burdened communities. The priority value is respect for the ahupua'a system and lands, and community-wide education on success of that system in ancient and modern times, integrating ancient and modern technology. An example could be education on the referenced SHPO sites, as well as additional community-based work on undocumented historic and cultural sites.

The working group in section 1 above would advise the Cultural Working Group and the Forum on preferred areas of renewable energy development, and identification of areas where such infrastructure would be inappropriate. A model would be developed to identify such sites in a culturally appropriate way (CITER Model). An example of information resources used in the study to arrive at desirable and undesirable locations for siting energy facilities are ancient chants, digital newspaper translations, and GIS mapping as well as the SHPO records on designated historic and burial sites.

Tasks:

- 2.1 Convene working group with OHA to cross check West Oahu sites and development options statewide;
 - 2.2 Conduct teleconference meetings with local utilities, OHA, SHPO and other Hawaiian organizations, and private sector partners. Minimal cost - should be absorbed by local business partners and OHA if possible –
 - 2.3 Deliverables: CITER Model for potential “positive” sites.
3. Together with the Energy Efficiency Working Group, explore development of a project in Waianae to demonstrate energy efficiency in collaboration with DOE’s priority listing of NANAKULI HIGH SCHOOL as a model building using technology based on traditional practices. This will engage cultural and community leaders in a practical collaboration for success in new technology.

Tasks:

- 3.1 Work with HEPF Energy Efficiency Working Group on joint project re: Nanakuli School project to receive energy audit and follow-up work by DOE.
4. Team with ali`i trusts and other Hawaiian organizations to develop and distribute biofuels, and other renewable energy sources to achieve multiple policy goals in a culturally appropriate manner (reduce imported energy, encourage entrepreneurship, create jobs, increase equity ownership and wealth among Hawaiians.)

Tasks:

- 4.1 Once Working Group has started some projects it will gain credibility, and can proceed to address siting and community benefit packaging issues;
5. Work with the federal, state and local government to develop protocols in planning that make a priority of conserving natural resources and insuring environmental responsibility in stream handling. An example is the design and construction of roadways to control run off and, where appropriate, collect and passively clean run off water for reuse.

Tasks:

- 5.1 Report to legislature in January 2007 on actual progress, and identify key federal and state programs which could support further sustainability modeled on the ahupua`a system in burdened communities. Ensure participation by legislators and presentations by local project volunteers and committee participants