

## Community Meeting

### Kekaha

Date: May 4, 2009

## Attendees

### Community:

Anthony A. Aguiar  
Artha Kaleionaona DeFries, Jr.  
Barb Childers  
Barbara Bettes  
Brian Kimura  
Bruce Pleas  
Carol DeLorenzo  
David Alexander  
Dylan DePue  
Ed Nakaya  
Edward Pagaduan  
Evelyn Y. Olores  
Gordon LaBedz  
Jason Yoshida  
Jose Bulatao  
Kathleen Hurd  
Ken Taylor  
Owen Moe

### SENTECH Hawai'i Team Members:

Diane Rosenkranz, *Kauai Planning & Action Alliance*  
Diane Zachary, *Kauai Planning & Action Alliance*  
Jill Sims, *SENTECH Hawai'i, LLC*  
Rayne Ragush, *Kauai Planning & Action Alliance*

## Notes

### Introduction

- Interested in combination of technologies and local production and consumption for the Westside.
- In regards to time-span of project- concern about leaving wave energy out of the plan. Twenty years from now the wave technology will be a proven technology. Solar and wind are interrupted; long run wave energy is a better investment as there is little maintenance and cost, yet effective. Will there be a cost benefit analysis of all options? (Jill – yes.)
- Need to research wave energy military project- The military at Kaneohe is going for 4- 5 wave generators. Whether wave technology has an effect on whales/wildlife will be a concern amongst environmentalists.
- Need to segment demand and see how well segments match to different technologies. For example, solar could be well-matched to air-conditioner use/demand on island. Match specific technologies to specific demands.

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- Systems that are intermittent here on Kauai are a big problem. What we have is a closed grid, whereas on mainland it is open grid. Look at innovative ways of handling intermittent/excess energy and we need to figure out how to store that energy. One example is pumped hydro. Need to solve how closed grid will work here.
- Who is paying for SENTECH to be here? Is it my taxes? Concern that we spend money wisely; very disappointed with the process of the Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan and how that turned out.
- Put dates and locations for stakeholder meetings on website so that it is open to public to view. Ensure we have a Sunshine Law type of situation.
- Encountered difficulty on the Energy sustainability website. Concerned about encyclopedic amount of information; it's overwhelming for general public and can be discouraging. Maybe you want to re-address the way in which you solicit public input because it can be somewhat discouraging.
- Gay & Robinson will be closing sugar production and giving many acres to GMO companies- what is SENTECH's opinion on that? (Jill – they have no opinion; their job at the present time is to gather information and be objective.)

### **Goals**

- Is KIUC really sticking to the goals that are in their plan? I don't see that much solar on the island.
- Will there be some adjustments made to KIUC's goals after we go through since this process? I won't be here in 2030. Awareness of options available to us may enable us to push for more concerted effort to help bring about renewable energy by 2023.
- KIUC is already re-thinking solar, saying they are maxed out. We need to push solar a little bit more on individual homes. Next person who installs a solar system will not get benefit for trading power (selling excess power back to KIUC). Next grid system they implement has to enable people to sell back and forth with each other and to KIUC- this will provide incentive for private businesses. KIUC is having private meetings; we need to be included in their decision making. Cannot start business if no one can trade power. Private business need to be able to trade/sell power with KIUC. Right now there is no incentive to get solar systems on individual homes/businesses; need to be able to sell back to system.
- Does KIUC really think they're not going to burn oil ever? I don't really believe it.

### **Vision**

- Involve and encourage youth to be ambassadors of energy sustainability
- Add more specific language about protecting prime Ag lands. Bothered about solar on Mana plains - it is the most active Ag plains and KIUC wants to cover it with solar panels.
- What are some of the green job opportunities we'll see in 2030? (Jill gave several examples related to design, installation, operation and maintenance of various systems.)

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- Need to show we have people here ready for green jobs. We have some programs already happening here. KCC is developed a program. We should encourage and develop our own people so that they can obtain the green jobs.
- If there are 50-100 acres of solar panels, how many jobs are created? I hope in the plan we'll see specific numbers of how many jobs created. Is there is a lot of maintenance in solar? Creating green jobs sounds great, but in reality what are we talking about for different options. This should be part of the cost-benefit analysis for technology by technology.
- There is a lot of maintenance for solar but has to be individual homes, not a 50 acre parcel. This would be incentive for business and job creation. KCC should be educating folks wanting to go into this field.
- Can a curriculum be started for K-12 now? We need to teach the young children now so by the time we get to 2030 they know jobs out there and are prepared to enter them.
- We need to secure investment dollars from public and private sectors. Without it, this will be another plan that does not get implemented.
- Have you looked at OTEC data? County could benefit from looking at what they are doing on the Big Island with ocean/solar technology. (Jill – yes, that will be looked at.)

### **Supply Presentation**

- Design plan by looking at power generated by PMRF and other places. Concerned about choosing locations and Hawaiian Homes issues.
- Please consider looking into electromagnetic flywheel generation/storage.
- In regards to WTE, can you mention to County to place new landfill or similar facility in location other than Kekaha? Tired of all the trucks coming into Kekaha.
- Will plan address the status of percent allowable energy output for each technology?
- What are the Navy's plans for energy sustainability? It's not a problem for them to generate their own energy. They are a big stakeholder out here in Kauai. (Jill – PRMF has been involved in discussions for the energy plan.)
- Is PMRF considered a stakeholder? (Jill – yes.)

### **Conversion Technologies**

- No discussion

### **Distribution**

- Went to the Clean Energy Initiative- what does smart grid mean?
- What would it cost to get smart grid up and running?

### **End Use**

- How is KIUC introducing/encouraging commercial/industrial users to be more energy efficient? In regards to rebates- Is KIUC looking at photovoltaic and wind rebate programs?
- Extra vehicles are related to visitors. Need to target rental car use to figure out alternative transportation modes. (Jill clarified the slide does not include rental cars.)
- Have plug-in energy car facilities at hotels, make rental car recharging part of infrastructure of hotels.

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- Have to mandate hotels and car rental companies to work together, or provide better incentives.
- How many commercial solar water users? (Jill – no information yet.)
- How would car rental companies charge customers for electric recharging?
- Is anybody talking about insulation for homes? Insulation works well to keep a house cooler. Can there be an incentive for installing insulation?
- You talked about stakeholder meeting. There is one stakeholder- the people of Kauai. Special interest groups can afford to install these renewable technologies on their own. There will be increased costs to implement renewables energy. People can't pay much more and we are the end users. We should be at the last stakeholder meeting.
- Pumped energy storage- does it use fresh or salt water? (Jill – it could be either.) No real lakes or ponds on Kauai. Doesn't sound like this would really work on Kauai- no real place to install and very ugly.
- In the 80's there was a lot of talk about geothermal, then it died. There was talk about putting entire state on a shared grid. Is that conceivable/feasible to get Kauai as part of grid statewide? (Jill – it appears this is not feasible due to the depth of the channel between Kauai and Oahu.)
- Biggest issue is how Kauai will store the energy.
- USDA has a program for rural communities with high energy costs to implement renewable energy projects and they give up to \$1 million per grant. KIUC and County did nothing to support a project. She developed a boiler plate. Habitat for Humanity received \$200,000 to install solar systems on its new homes.