



**ALA MOANA-KAKA'AKO NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 11**

NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION • 925 DILLINGHAM BOULEVARD, SUITE 160 • HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817  
PHONE (808) 768-3710 • FAX (808) 768-3711 • INTERNET <http://www.honolulu.gov/nco>

December 15, 2021

Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

Re: Resolution 21-276, Regarding U.S. Navy Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility

As proposed, Resolution 21-276 is consistent with a position previously adopted by the Ala Moana-Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board No. 11 ("the Board") in May 2017. Although the Board has not had an opportunity to directly consider Resolution 21-276 due to the timing of this emergency, the Board's 2017 position requested urgent action at the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility to protect O'ahu's groundwater resources. A copy of the resolution is enclosed.

At that time, the Board urged the Navy, the Defense Logistics Agency, the Department of Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency to find a solution to upgrade, retrofit, or decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility in order to ensure that there are no additional leaks or contamination of groundwater resources now and into the future.

Clean, unpolluted drinking water is a basic human need, and all public natural resources are held in trust and to be protected for the benefit of the people pursuant to Article XI, Sections 1 and 7 of the Hawai'i State Constitution. Protecting the aquifer is our kuleana and constitutional duty in order to ensure the health and welfare of O'ahu's present and hopefully future communities.

Thank you very much for your consideration and attention to this critical issue. If you have any further questions regarding this matter, please contact our Neighborhood Board Assistant, Mr. Spencer Johnson at [Spencer.johnson@honolulu.gov](mailto:Spencer.johnson@honolulu.gov) or 768-3721.

Sincerely Yours,

Ryan Tam  
Chair, Ala Moana-Kaka'ako Neighborhood Board No. 11

Enclosure

[rtam.nb11@gmail.com](mailto:rtam.nb11@gmail.com)

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COUNCIL



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**RESOLUTION TO SUPPORT THE PROTECTION OF OAHU'S GROUNDWATER RESOURCES  
FROM THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE TANKS**

WHEREAS, clean, unpolluted drinking water is a basic human need and all public natural resources are held in trust and to be protected for the benefit of the people pursuant to Article XI, Sections 1 and 7 of the Hawai'i State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, the Red Hill Facility contains twenty tanks, each able to hold 12.5 million gallons of fuel that are located 100 feet above a sole source aquifer designated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in 1987 as a major source of drinking water for O'ahu residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, since its construction in the 1940s, the U.S. Navy's Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility has leaked more than thirty times, releasing at least 155,000 gallons of fuel into the environment; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Navy, the Defense Logistics Agency, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and Hawai'i State Department of Health agreed to an Administrative Order on Consent in response to a January 2014 fuel release that is expected to take at least twenty-two years to complete, and

WHEREAS, the Ala Moana-Kakaako Neighborhood Board No. 11 ("the Board") would be directly affected if the sole source aquifer beneath the Red Hill Facility were contaminated with fuel; and now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board urges the Navy, the Defense Logistics Agency, the Department of Health, and the Environmental Protection Agency to take urgent action to protect O'ahu's groundwater resources and find a solution to upgrade, retrofit, or decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility in order to ensure that there are no additional leaks or contamination of groundwater resources now and into the future; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board deems the twenty-two year timeline of the Administrative Order on Consent to be too long to ensure the safety of our groundwater and drinking water resources; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be distributed electronically to the Governor, the Director of the Department of Health, the members of the Honolulu City Council, the members of the Hawai'i State Legislature, and the Hawai'i Congressional delegation.

ADOPTED by the Ala Moana-Kakaako Neighborhood Board No. 11 at its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 23, 2017, by a vote of 6-1-1.

RYAN TAM  
Chair