
From: CLK Council Info
Sent: Tuesday, February 8, 2022 8:58 AM
Subject: Transportation, Sustainability and Health Testimony
Attachments: 20220208085756_Manóa-Makiki_Letter1_Red_Hill_2022_2.pdf

Written Testimony

Name Ian Ross
Phone
Email ianross.hi@gmail.com
Meeting Date 02-08-2022
Council/PH Committee Transportation, Sustainability and Health
Agenda Item Bill 48
Your position on the matter Support
Representing Organization
Organization Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board
Aloha Chair Radiant Cordero,

Written Testimony Earlier this year a joint meeting of Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7, Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10, and Kalihi-Pālama Neighborhood Board No. 15 each reviewed our best available information regarding the the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility. The Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 and Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10 then voted to approve a letter to our Congressional delegation to requesting that they require that the U.S. Navy cease its routine operations at the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility, and defuel the tanks, and close the Facility.

As it may be relevant to this hearing, I have attached the letter below.

Mahalo,
Ian Ross
Chair, Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board

Testimony Attachment 20220208085756_Manóa-Makiki_Letter1_Red_Hill_2022_2.pdf

Accept Terms and Agreement 1



MĀNOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

Dylan P. Armstrong, Chair ♦ Email: Dylan.P.Armstrong@gmail.com

MAKIKI/LOWER PUNCHBOWL/TANTALUS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 10

Ian Ross, Chair ♦ Email: Ian.Ross.Hi@gmail.com

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

January 5, 2022

♦ The Honorable Brian Schatz
U.S. Senate, *Senate Appropriations Committee (Defense)*
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 7-212
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

♦ The Honorable Mazie Hirono
U.S. Senate, *Senate Armed Services Committee*
300 Ala Moana Boulevard, Room 3-106
Honolulu, Hawaii 96850

♦ The Honorable Ed Case
U.S. House of Representatives
House Appropriations Committee
1132 Bishop Street, Unit 1910
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

♦ The Honorable Kaiulani Kahele
U.S. House of Representatives
House Armed Services Committee
99 Aupuni Street, Suite 118
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

Subject: Request to Defuel and Close the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility, from the Mānoa Neighbor- hood Board (N.B.) No. 7, and the Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus N.B. No. 10.

Aloha mai kākou,

The Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7, Makiki/Lower Punchbowl/Tantalus Neighborhood Board No. 10, and Kalihi-Pālama Neighborhood Board No. 15 each have reviewed our best available information regarding the the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility (Facility), in meeting on January 5, 2021.

This information includes presentations by State Representative (Rep.) Bob McDermott (District 40—Ewa, Ewa Beach, Ewa By Gentry, Iroquois Point), the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and the Sierra Club of Hawaii.

The Boards considered this information combining the political and military context of the Facility, scientific facts regarding the drinking water to Honolulu's Primary Urban Center and East Honolulu, and the associated laws and requirements. Our Boards recognize the following:

(1) The Boards affirm that “*ola i ka wai*.”

- (a) Literally, this saying reflects that water is essential for human life.
- (b) By inference and subtext, this saying also denotes that water is gifted to humankind to sustain life, and it is therefore managed by political stewards in trust.¹ Water must necessarily be safeguarded with great care, by those given political dominion over it—historically, Hawaii's ali'i (chiefly rulers).²
- (c) Water management for human health and safety is codified in 42 U.S.C. § 6991f(a),³ H.R.S. §342.L-32,⁴ and the public trust doctrine.⁵

(2) Our three neighborhoods' drinking water is at risk, according to our authorities.

- (a) The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency designated the Southern O'ahu Basal Aquifer, which stretches from Schofield Barracks into urban Honolulu, as the “principal source of drinking water” (AKA as a sole source aquifer),⁶ and as such “if [it were] contaminated, [it] would create a significant hazard to public health.”
- (b) The Department of Health concluded that the storage of up to 187 million gallons of fuel, situated 100 feet above such a drinking water resource, is inherently dangerous.⁷

¹ Sproat, D. Kapua'ala (2009). “[Ola I Ka Wai: A Legal Primer for Water Use and Management in Hawaii](#).” *Ka Huli Ao Center for Excellence in Native Hawaiian Law*.

² McGregor, Wailana L. “[Ola I Ka Wai: Water is Life](#).” *University of Hawaii at Mānoa, Sea Grant Program*.

³ U.S. House. “[42 USC 6991f: Federal facilities](#).” *usc.house.gov*

⁴ Hawaii State Capitol. “[Chapter 342L: Underground Storage Tanks](#).”

⁵ Callies, David L. “[The Public Trust Doctrine](#).” *Property Rights Journal*. Vol. 8.

⁶ U.S. E.P.A. “[Sole Source Aquifer Program](#).”

⁷ Department of Health (2019-07). “[Red Hill UST Permit Application: Proposed Decision & Order, Findings of Fact, and Conclusions of Law](#).”

- (c) The Navy's own 2019 risk assessment admits a 27.6% possibility for annual fuel release between 1,000 and 30,000 gallons.⁸ Indeed, eight of the currently operating tanks at Red Hill have not been inspected, pursuant to modern standards, in over twenty years; these are overdue for inspection.

(3) The U.S. Department of Defense and State of Hawai'i have failed to safeguard our aquifer.

- (a) This is demonstrated with 73 distinct fuel spills that date back to 1943.⁹
(b) Of those 73 spills, the January 2014 environmental release leaked over 27,000 gallons of jet fuel into the caprock overlaying the aquifer, with a mere 100 feet of separation.^{10,11}
(c) A release during May of last year spilled at least 1,618 gallons of jet fuel.¹²
(d) Another release during November, 2021, spilled 14,000 gallons of jet fuel.¹³
(e) Over 5,000 residents were sickened by contaminated drinking water in late 2021, with many being admitted to hospitals for care.¹⁴

(4) The proposal shared by state Rep. Bob McDermott is a reasonable alternative to current use.

- (a) The Boards support closing and defueling the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility.
(b) The Boards support McDermott's suggestion for a prospective aboveground tank facility relocated to a non-critical area for public drinking water sources, that would fulfill current military needs, which are now being met through the existing Facility at Red Hill.

Having reviewed this information, the Boards conclude that we need you to exercise your oversight and funding powers: to require that the U.S. Navy cease its routine operations at the Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility, and defuel the tanks, and close the Facility.

The Congressional Delegation's effect on managing, closing, and opening fuel tank facilities is enhanced by the Delegation's current Committee assignments (Appropriations, and Armed Services). Senator Schatz and Rep. Case have financial influence relating to U.S. military facilities like Red Hill, as Senator Hirono and Rep. Kahele both hold sway over the facilities' operation and maintenance. Please, exercise this influence to defuel and shutter the facility as soon as possible.

Additionally, Senator Schatz and Rep. Case must insert any appropriations for the Defense Authorization Bill (D.A.B.) for Fiscal Year 2023, insofar as these relate to Red Hill. We know that their deadline is on February 18, 2022, a mere six weeks away. What we do not know is when more people will be made ill from the drinking water, or when the next environmental release will occur.

A new and relocated facility may be necessary for military or political considerations. If so, please establish a new aboveground fuel tank site that does not threaten Honolulu's main groundwater aquifer, located in a more benign location, such as that provided by state Rep. Bob McDermott.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Boards' Chairs by email.

Mahalo nui loa, for your attention and consideration.



DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG
CHAIR, MĀNOA
NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7



IAN ROSS
CHAIR, MAKIKI/LOWER PUNCHBOWL/
TANTALUS NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 10

Attachments:

- 1) Proposal by state Representative Bob McDermott for Red Hill Underground Fuel Storage Facility
- 2) Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 adopted "Resolution[s] to Protect O'ahu's Groundwater Resource from the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Tanks", dated December 4, 2019, and March 3, 2021.

⁸ U.S. Navy (2019-05-29). "[Risk and Vulnerability Assessment for the Red Hill Administrative Order on Consent \("AOC"\) Statement of Work \("SOW"\) Section 8](#)."

⁹ Jedra, Christina (2021-10-26). "[Navy Says Fuel From Red Hill Pipeline Likely Leaked Into Soil After Human Error](#)." Honolulu Civil Beat.

¹⁰ U.S. E.P.A., REG. "[About the 2014 Fuel Release](#)." www.epa.gov.

¹¹ Jedra, Christina (2021-12-27). "[Hearing Officer Calls For Closing Red Hill Fuel Facility To Avert 'Imminent Threat'](#)." Honolulu Civil Beat.

¹² Knodell, Kevin (2021-05-07). "[Navy Investigating Fuel Leak At Red Hill](#)." Honolulu Civil Beat.

¹³ "[Investigation underway following leak at Navy's Red Hill fuel storage facility](#)." Hawai'i News Now. (2021-11-22.)

¹⁴ Richardson, Mahealani (2021-12-25). "[Kahele blasts Navy official for 'offensive comments' on tainted water issue](#)." MSN News.



REPRESENTATIVE BOB McDERMOTT
HAWAI'I STATE CAPITOL – HONOLULU, HAWAI'I

Dec. 22, 2021

PRESS RELEASE - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rep. Bob McDermott

Office Phone: 808-586-9730

Cell Phone: 808-371-4605

**STATE REP. BOB McDERMOTT PROPOSES VIABLE SOLUTION TO CLOSE
RED HILL PERMANENTLY**

"The tanks are too risky to continue, and the fuel must be relocated."

HONOLULU – State Representative Bob McDermott (R-40, Ewa, Ewa Beach, Ewa Gentry, Iroquois Point), a Marines Corps Veteran and former Executive Director of Hawaii's Navy League, has called for the complete cessation of the Red Hill Fuel Tank Operations effective immediately, transferring all fuel to the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) and PAR Hawaii depots.

"The tanks are an existential threat to our drinking water and must be shut down now," said McDermott, who is serving his second stint in the Hawaii State House since 2012. The Ewa Beach Republican has developed a framework and laid out the only viable option moving forward to protect drinking water for Oahu residents. McDermott's efforts to create this framework included research on the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), alternative fuel storage sites, and the capacity of PAR Hawaii to store the jet fuel. The research project included compiling years of data to come up with a solution and speaking with the Navy sources.

"The recent installation of the Navy's giant water filters, the creation of a special interagency committee to advise, coupled with the fact that our congressional delegation has yet to come out in unequivocal support of shutting down Red Hill, leads me to believe that the fix is in," concluded McDermott.

Background:

My background, I served in the Marine Corps for 8 years, a Desert Storm veteran, and returned home to Hawaii at the rank of Captain. I currently have 2 sons on active duty in the Navy, another son who is a USMC veteran, and one final son in USMC boot camp as we speak. The point is, I am very proud of and support our military. I have been a Legislator going on 16 years now.

*The fractured line running to Tank 8 shall not be repaired until 2022 preventing any movement of the fuel inside.

Attachments: McDermott Red Hill Closure Plan

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*The fractured line running to Tank 8 shall not be repaired until 2022 preventing any movement of the fuel inside.



REPRESENTATIVE BOB McDERMOTT

HAWAI'I STATE CAPITOL – HONOLULU, HAWAI'I

McDermott Red Hill Closure Plan

Solution:

Transfer 125 million gallons of Red Hill Fuel to forward Defense Logistics Agency fuel depots in the Western Pacific. Transfer the remaining 75 million gallons to Par Hawaii for Storage and eventual throughput. Fuel needed to maintain military operations is nearly 100 million gallons a year (JP5, F24, F76 products). Marine Corps Base Hawaii currently has a fuel pier in inventory to receive fuel barges from PAR Hawaii. If necessary, PAR could utilize this asset to mitigate distribution risks from the Red Hill Fuel Facility. This fuel pipeline is limited to F24 jet fuel.

Issue:

We have aged and decrepit fuel tanks showing the wear and tear of 80 plus years in use. While an engineering marvel when built, time and technology now render them a hazard to Oahu's drinking water. To wit, we face an existential threat to our only EPA-recognized sole source aquifer, located below Red Hill. The Navy must immediately relocate this national strategic asset away from the water supply.

The current danger is summed up by the following data pulled from the Navy's own Quantitative Risk and Vulnerability Assessment ("QRVA") performed by the Navy Consultant, ABS Consulting:

1. 188M gallons of oil sit 100ft. directly above our largest aquifer
2. There have been at least 74 known fuel release incidents at Red Hill since its inception.
3. Approximately 177K gallons have leaked into the ground at Red Hill since being built in 1942, but the same Fuel Facility had a 360K-gallon release in 2007 from Tank 48 (an Above Ground Tank)
4. 1.6K gallons fuel leak last May 2021, which the Navy stated was initially contained. Testing shows that JP5 fuel entered the environment.
5. Navy sampling indicates "... the existence of petroleum contamination in the very aquifer that sustains Oahu's water supply."
6. There is a greater than 27% probability of a sudden release of between 1K and 30K gallons of fuel from Red Hill each year.

7. Greater than 34% chance of a sudden release of more than 120K gallons from Red Hill in the next 100 years.
8. Greater than 5% chance of a sudden release of more than 1M gallons from Red Hill in the next 100 years.
9. 5.8K gallons per year of chronic, undetected fuel releases from Red Hill.
10. The Navy agrees that these levels of risks are unacceptable.
11. The recent petroleum contamination of Navy well 2254-01.

Objective:

1. Protect Oahu's drinking water from further contamination.
2. Ensure that National Strategic considerations are addressed using 21st-century technology and thought processes; it's not 1942 anymore.
3. Execute this process quickly and safely.

Current Fuel Storage: RH Tanks store 3 types of fuel:

1. F76 (Diesel) – Used primarily for Naval Vessels.
2. JP5 – Primarily used by Navy Aircraft and stored on Naval Vessels – especially any aircraft that land on carriers/small surface ships.
3. F24 or Jet AA– Primarily used by Air Force Aircraft – DLA's most significant customer (DLA Energy no longer purchases JP8) RH averaged throughput of about 100M gallons in RIMPAC years.

Fuel Variation for Military Services:

The Air Force/Marine Corps/Army averages about 1M gallons a month of F-24 jet fuel = Approximately 50M – 60M gallons a year
 The Navy uses about 30M – 40M gallons of F-76 (marine diesel) a year, and JP5 is the lowest at about 50K gallons a year.

The Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) owns the fuel until there is a "Custody Transfer" – Funding is recouped by the Defense Working Capital Fund when fuel sales are made to the military services. In the case of Pearl Harbor, DLA pays the Navy to manage DLA fuel, fuel infrastructure and funds most of the projects that "touch" DLA-owned fuel.

Proposed Solution in detail:

Approximately 200M+ gallons are currently in Red Hill Inventory. Immediately transfer 125M gallons forward to DLA Fuel Depots in the western Pacific.

Primary Pacific trouble spots in the news media are North Korea and China (maybe other high concerns that the public is unaware of). Hawaii is approx. 4,700 miles to North Korea and 6,000 miles to China.

DLA has many sites in South Korea, Japan, and Guam, which are much closer to the primary hot spots. Extra capacity could be built in one of these countries. The Philippines have already built-up additional capacity for fuel up to DLA specifications.

DLA is constructing a large facility to store fuel in Darwin, Australia. Not built yet, but it's happening and will store a lot of fuel. Also, I believe they are increasing storage at Wake Island.

Expand Par Hawaii's Role:

PAR Hawaii can refine the fuel and resupply all fuel products to the Navy throughout the year to maintain the operational fuel and sustain operations, or DLA Energy can contract commercial oil tankers to resupply the facility via Hotel Pier. All negotiations must include DLA Energy as they own the fuel supply chain and funding. They have the capacity and ability to ramp up to this challenge. There is a pipeline from the refinery to Pearl Harbor, and there is a pipeline from Pearl Harbor to Hickam. Note: due to the May 6th pipeline incident, the pipeline is not intact to transfer from ALL the JP5 tanks in inventory. No added capacity is needed. PAR Hawaii would be able to store 1/3 of the Red Hill fuel in their tanks.

#####



Rep. McDermott Red Hill Closure

Objective

Protect

Cessation of Redhill operations immediately to protect Oahu's drinking water from further contamination.

Ensure

Ensure that National Strategic considerations are addressed using modern technology and thought processes. It is not 1942 anymore.

Implement

Execute this process quickly and safely

Bob McDermott Risk Assessment

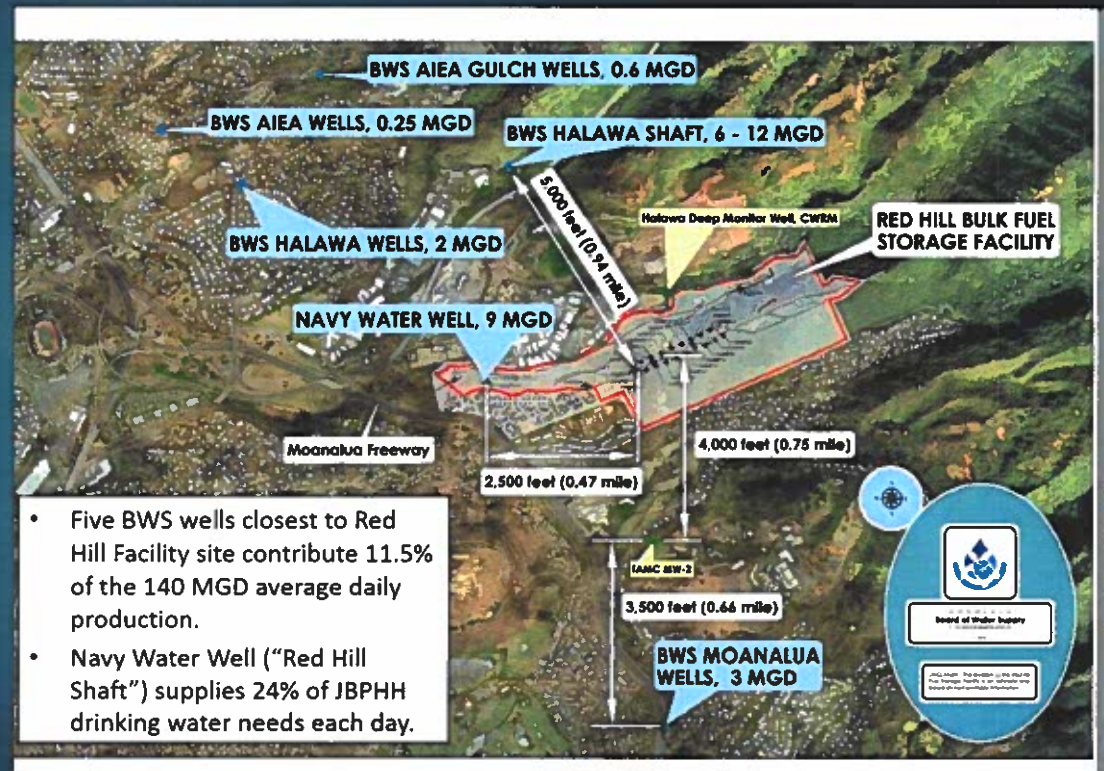
Existential Circumstances Threatening our aquifer

1. 200M gallons of oil sit 100ft. directly above our largest aquifer
2. There have been at least 74 known fuel release incidents at Red Hill since its inception
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11. The recent petroleum contamination of Navy well 2254-01.

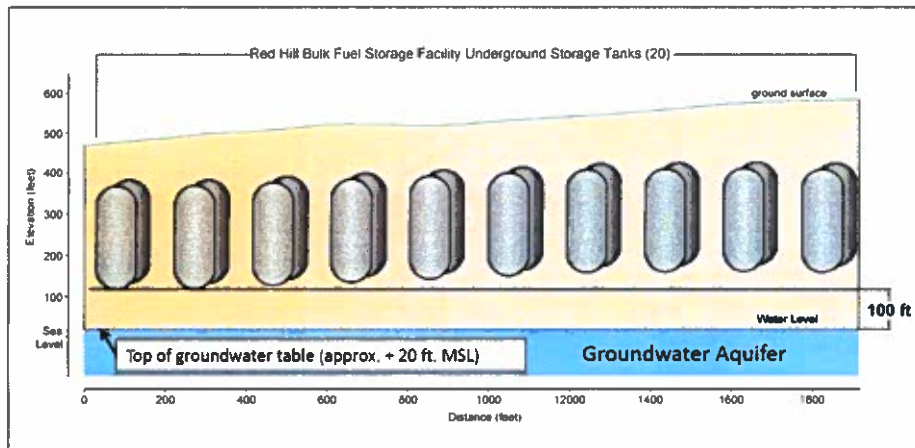
Current Challenge

- ▶ Contaminated navy well. The probability for leaks is unacceptably high. From ABS consulting "The navy agrees that the risks are unacceptable."
- ▶ Proposed solutions are untimely and will maintain the status quo of prolonging the environmental time bomb of Red Hill
 - ▶ MILCON is out of the question because of the 7-10yrs lead time, and the lack of forehanded planning from the senior congressional delegation.
- ▶ The most immediate solution to save our aquifer is the McDermott plan.

Red Hill Wells

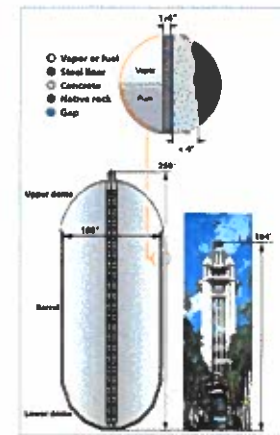


- Five BWS wells closest to Red Hill Facility site contribute 11.5% of the 140 MGD average daily production.
- Navy Water Well ("Red Hill Shaft") supplies 24% of JBPHH drinking water needs each day.



Red Hill Tanks

- Concrete with $\frac{1}{4}$ inch steel liner. (Upper and lower dome steel is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch)
- Rainwater can seep between $\frac{1}{4}$ inch steel liner and concrete and corrode steel liner.



Red Hill Tank Diagram

Navy Solutions and why it will take too long

- ▶ The U.S. Navy estimated \$28,300,000 would be required for a granular activated carbon water purification plant for the U.S. Navy Waiawa well shaft.
- ▶ This system was proposed to remove low levels of agri-chemicals for a system with a maximum pumping capacity of 18MGPD, and included a testing laboratory.
- ▶ In the case where an inadvertent fuel release from the Facility to the water table occurred that is large enough to impact the quality of the water produced at the U.S. Navy Red Hill Shaft, cleanup can be expected to take decades or more.
- ▶ *Red Hill Contingency plan 2007*

Finally, the Groundwater Protection Plan provides an overview of actions that would be required to remediate the basal drinking water aquifer if a large release of fuel were to impact the water table. Well head treatment facilities at the U.S. Navy well 2254-01 may be required to ensure that adequate water is available to meet the U.S. Navy mission at Pearl Harbor. The U.S. Navy estimated \$28,300,000 would be required for a granular activated carbon water purification plant for the U.S. Navy Waiawa well shaft. This system was proposed to remove low levels of agri-chemicals for a system with a maximum pumping capacity of 18 million gallons per day (mgd), and included a testing laboratory (see Appendix E). The U.S. Army estimated costs for an air stripping water purification facility in Schofield Barracks to remove low levels of trichloroethylene for a system with a maximum capacity of 4.3 mgd including capital costs and operations for 30 years at \$3,990,000 (see Appendix E).

Under site conditions, remediation of a large fuel release would be extremely costly and technically difficult, due to the underground nature of the Facility, the steep ridgeline upon which the Facility is located, the distance from ground surface to the aquifer (between 400 and 500 feet on the Red Hill ridgeline), and finally because of the complex hydrogeology associated with the fractured basalt aquifers. Pump and treat methods could be implemented but would be costly and inefficient in this environment. Multi-phased extraction may be more efficient, but very complex at the depths required.

5.2 Water Treatment Options

In the case where an inadvertent fuel release from the Facility to the water table occurred that is large enough to impact the quality of the water produced at the U.S. Navy Red Hill Shaft, cleanup can be expected to take decades or more. As such, a water treatment facility may be required to remove the contaminants at the wellhead, as well as in situ groundwater treatment technologies to remove the contaminants from the groundwater resource. Wellhead treatment facilities should be designed to allow treatment of approximately 10 mgd at the U.S. Navy Red Hill Shaft.

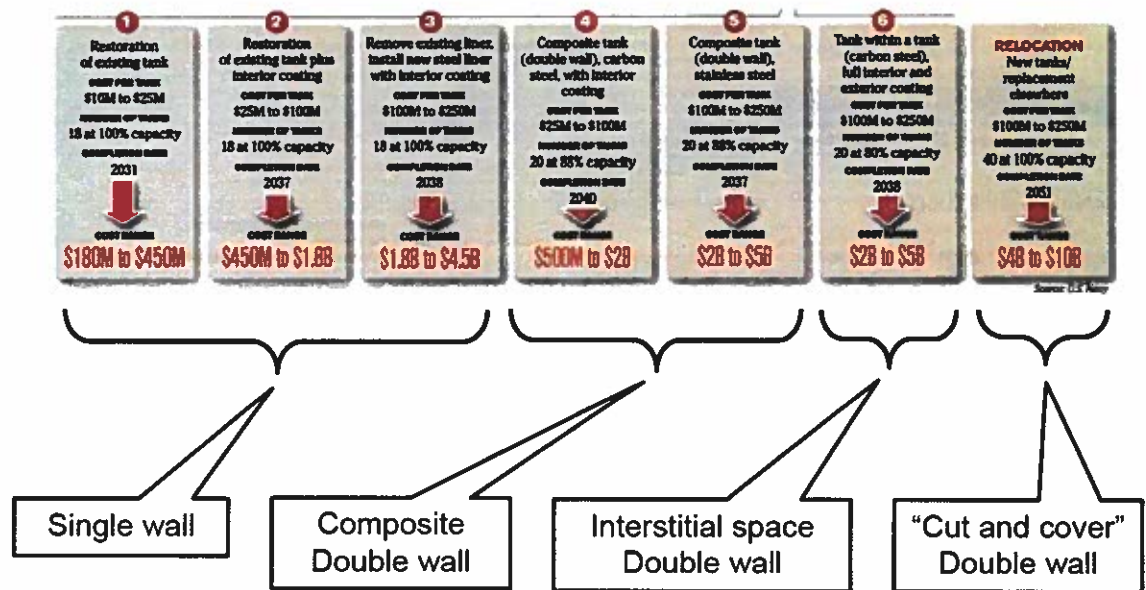
In the event that groundwater concentrations become unacceptable and a response requires groundwater treatment, the potential treatment options for the Facility are briefly described here.

Non-starter(s)

- ▶ Return to status quo
- ▶ Unrealistic timelines
- ▶ Can't afford to wait any longer
- ▶ They currently leak 5.8K gallons a year, requiring immediate action

Tank Upgrade Alternatives

Source: Star Advertiser, March 19, 2018



McDermott

Proposed Solution

- ▶ Transfer approximately 200M gallons that are currently in Red Hill Inventory. Immediately transfer 125M gallons forward to DLA Fuel Depots in the western Pacific.
- ▶ DLA has many sites in South Korea, Japan, Guam, Philippines, Alaska, and a current ongoing project in Darwin Australia. All of which are much closer to the primary hot spots. Extra capacity exists in these DLA locations.
- ▶ Expand PAR Hawaii's Role:
 - ▶ Transfer the balance of 75M gallons on hand and burn through that as throughput for operational requirements while transitioning on-demand storage and continued production (Jet Fuel) to PAR Hawaii.
 - ▶ PAR Hawaii can refine the fuel and re-supply all fuel products to the Navy throughout the year to maintain the operation fuel and sustain operations.
 - ▶ No new infrastructure would have to be built. A pipeline from the refinery to Pearl Harbor already exists as well as a pipeline from Pearl Harbor to Hickam.

Fuel transfer to the Defense Logistics Agency

- ▶ Transfer approx. 125M gallons to the DLA forward
- ▶ The remaining balance to PAR Hawaii 75Mgallons
*the pipeline to tank 8 is broken and will not be repaired until 2022.
(Cite)
- ▶ *Refinery location picture*



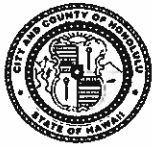
Fuel Transfer Solution

- ▶ The Honolulu clean product pipeline connects the Refinery to the Honolulu International Airport, military facilities, Tesoro sand Island terminal, Aloha Honolulu terminal and the PAR Hawaii terminal

Refinery Location



- The Kapolei refinery is located in the Campbell Industrial Park, to the west of Honolulu
- The surrounding area is heavy industry with no residential properties within an approximately one mile radius of the plant



MĀNOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

c/o NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSION ♦ 925 DILLINGHAM BLVD, STE 160 ♦ HONOLULU, HAWAII, 96817
PHONE (808) 768-3710 ♦ FAX (808) 768-3711 ♦ INTERNET <http://www.honolulu.gov/nco>

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

WHEREAS the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Tanks ("Tanks") presently store up to 187 million gallons of fuel per day, and have a total capacity of 250 million gallons, and are located only 100 feet over O'ahu's major aquifer supplying water to over 400,000 residents on O'ahu; the Facility is now over 75 years old; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Navy ("Navy"), which is responsible for maintenance of the Tanks, will need permission from our Hawai'i State Department of Health ("DOH") and our United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") to continue operating and using these facilities; and

WHEREAS after a reported January 2014 leakage of 27,000 gallons of fuel, the Navy, required to take corrective action to prevent future leaks, has proposed retaining the present single-walled steel tank liner and further delaying relocation of the fuel tanks away from the aquifer through the year 2045; and

WHEREAS our Honolulu Board of Water Supply, which is responsible for the use and maintenance of all of O'ahu's aquifers and water distribution system, has rejected the Navy's response and recommends a secondary containment tank-within-a-tank, double wall system, or removal of the fuel; and

WHEREAS the Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 ("Mānoa Neighborhood Board") considers the possibility of continued and greater rusting and leaking at the Tanks to be a major public health and safety disaster waiting to happen; and

WHEREAS while the water for Mānoa residents does not come from the affected aquifer, the Mānoa Neighborhood Board considers this an island-wide issue, because what affects our neighbors to the east, west and mauka of our Valley will ultimately affect all of us, as we are all 'ohana living on a small island; and

WHEREAS it would only be reasonable and expected for the BOard of Water Supply to ration, conserve, divert waters to supply the affect areas and raise rates to pay for water treatment and clean up and any other mitigation they would be required to perform; and

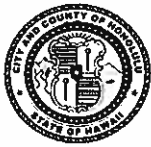
WHEREAS the immediate as well as long term consequences of continued delayed maintenance of the Tanks will affect our tourist industry, the health and welfare of our present generation and, ultimately, our children and grandchildren; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 urges the Hawai'i DOH and the EPA to reject the approval of a single-wall upgrade alternative option, now proposed by the Navy, and to relocate the fuel tanks from the aquifer as expeditiously as possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation; the Secretary of the United States Navy; the Commander of US Indo-Pacific Command; the Commander of the US Pacific Fleet; the Director of the US Environmental Protection Agency - Region IX; the Governor of the State of Hawai'i; the Director of the Hawai'i State Department of Health; the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Chair of the Commission on Water Resources Management of the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources; the President of the Hawai'i Senate; the Speaker of the Hawai'i House of Representatives, the Mayor; the Honolulu City Council; the chairs of the Honolulu Neighborhood Boards; the Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Hawai'i; the Chair of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and the Manager and Chief Engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

***The Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 UNANIMOUSLY ADOPTED this resolution
at its Wednesday, December 4, 2019 meeting,
by a vote of 11 in favor, none opposed, and none abstaining.***

Submitted by: , Chair



MĀNOA NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 7

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

**RESOLUTION TO PROTECT O'AHU'S GROUNDWATER RESOURCES
FROM THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE TANKS**

WHEREAS the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Tanks ("Tanks") presently store up to 187 million gallons of fuel per day, and have a total capacity of 250 million gallons, and are located only 100 feet over O'ahu's major aquifer supplying water to over 400,000 residents on O'ahu; the Facility is now over 75 years old; and

WHEREAS the U.S. Navy ("Navy"), which is responsible for maintenance of the Tanks, will need permission from our Hawai'i State Department of Health ("DOH") and United States Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") to continue operations at these facilities; and

WHEREAS after a reported January 2014 release of 27,000 gallons of fuel into the caprock above the aquifer, the Navy, required to take corrective action, did agree in January this year to plans for a "double-wall stainless steel" tank system at Red Hill, which would preserve the aged and corroding tanks where they are in the face of criticism directed at their previous goal of continued, single-wall, containment; and

WHEREAS our Honolulu Board of Water Supply, which is responsible for the use and maintenance of all of O'ahu's aquifers and water distribution system, recommends a secondary containment tank-within-a-tank, double wall system, or removal of the fuel; and

WHEREAS the Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 ("Mānoa Neighborhood Board") by unanimous consent adopted a resolution in December 2019 "[urging] the Hawai'i DOH and the EPA to reject the approval of a single-wall upgrade alternative option" then proposed by the Navy" but rather urging the Navy "to relocate the fuel tanks from the aquifer as expeditiously as possible" rather than expressly supporting secondary containment; and

WHEREAS while Mānoa residents' water does not come from the affected aquifer, Mānoa Neighborhood Board does consider this release to be an island-wide issue of utmost importance, affecting our small island's groundwater resources in perpetuity; and

WHEREAS the immediate as well as long term consequences of continued delayed maintenance of the Tanks will affect our tourism industry, the health and welfare of our present generation and, ultimately, our children and grandchildren; therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 *again* urges the Hawai'i DOH and the EPA, at this critical juncture in the management of the Tanks, to relocate these away from proximity to the aquifer as expeditiously as possible; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mānoa Neighborhood Board considers the Navy's proposed secondary containment as a weaker alternative than relocation to the current problems posed by continuously failing system of single-wall containment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the members of Hawaii's Congressional delegation; the Secretary of the United States Navy; the Commander of US Indo-Pacific Command; the Commander of the US Pacific Fleet; the Director of the US Environmental Protection Agency - Region IX; the Governor of the State of Hawai'i; the Director of the Hawai'i State Department of Health; the Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources; the Chair of the Commission on Water Resources Management of the Hawai'i State Department of Land and Natural Resources; the President of the Hawai'i Senate; the Speaker of the Hawai'i House of Representatives, the Mayor; the Honolulu City Council; the chairs of the Honolulu Neighborhood Boards; the Executive Director of the Sierra Club of Hawai'i; the Chair of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs; the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and the Manager and Chief Engineer of the Honolulu Board of Water Supply.

***The Mānoa Neighborhood Board No. 7 ADOPTED this resolution
WITHOUT OPPOSITION at its Wednesday, March 3, 2021 meeting.***

Submitted by: 
DYLAN P. ARMSTRONG, CHAIR