

# **RES23-003 Testimony**

**MISC. COMM. 48**

HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH)

## **HOUSING, SUSTAINABILITY AND HEALTH (HSH) Meeting**

Meeting Date: Feb 8, 2023 @ 02:30 PM

Support: 5

Oppose: 1

I wish to comment: 0

Name: Andrew Crossland	Email: across86@gmail.com	Zip: 96816
Representing: Self	Position: Oppose	Submitted: Feb 3, 2023 @ 08:31 PM
Testimony: I strongly oppose this Resolution.		
Name: Peter Greenhill	Email: pgreenhi@iolani.org	Zip: 96825
Representing: Self	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 5, 2023 @ 12:37 AM
Name: Anne Pernick	Email: anne@stand.earth	Zip: 97206
Representing: The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty and SAFE Cities at Stand.earth	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 6, 2023 @ 01:15 PM
Testimony: Aloha Councilmembers and Staff, and mahalo nui for the opportunity to testify. My name is Anne Pernick, I work with the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative and SAFE Cities at Stand.earth and I live in Portland, Oregon.  It is our pleasure to work with volunteer advocates and government leaders across Hawai'i on endorsements of the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.  The Treaty is a critical complement to the Paris Accord, because the Accord does not mention oil, gas, or coal and because currently the amount of fossil fuel production and consumption planned around the world is more than twice what is consistent with limiting warming to 1.5 degrees C. As the Council takes important local actions to limit fossil fuel and climate change impacts, achieve your commitments to the Paris Accord, and increase resilience for Honolulu City and County, your calling for a global Treaty to stop this fossil fuel growth and create a just transition to renewable energy is especially powerful.  Mahalo nui to Council Chair Waters and Councilmember Weyer for introducing this resolution and to you all for your consideration. I encourage yes votes from Committee Members and the full Council.		
Name: Joshua Cooper	Email: joshuacooperhawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96815
Representing: Hawaii Institute For Human Rigjts	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 7, 2023 @ 02:14 PM
Testimony: See attached		
Name: Sherry Pollack	Email: Sherry.350Hawaii@gmail.com	Zip: 96744
Representing: 350Hawaii	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 7, 2023 @ 06:55 PM
Testimony: Aloha Chair Weyer and Members of the Committee on Housing, Sustainability and Health,  Mahalo nui to the Council for hearing RESOLUTION 23-3 which affirms the City's ongoing commitment to the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement and endorses the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty.  I am Co-Founder of the Hawaii chapter of 350.org, the largest international organization dedicated to fighting climate change. 350Hawaii.org strongly supports RESOLUTION 23-3, and is proud our organization has formally endorsed the call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty, including supporting SCR108 SD1, which affirmed the State's commitment to this same treaty, and was adopted by the Hawaii State Legislature on May 5, 2022. This treaty would end new fossil fuel exploration and expansion,		

phase out existing production in line with the global commitment to limit warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, and accelerate equitable transition plans.

Climate change, like nuclear weapons, is a major global threat. And let's be clear, the main cause of the climate emergency is fossil fuels. According to the United Nations IPCC report, coal, oil and gas are responsible for 86% of all carbon dioxide emissions in the past decade. Scientists have made clear that we must swiftly phase out fossil fuel use or face untold suffering. We no longer have the luxury to wait to take the necessary actions to drastically reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

In the words of Joe Moeono-Kolio, Senior Pacific Advisor for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty:

“Here in the Pacific, the calls for a treaty banning fossil fuels at source is one we have made for decades. Climate change is no longer a distant threat - it is here, and it is now our daily, lived reality. As I walk along the shores of my village, it is hard not to notice the shrinking shoreline, as the ocean laps at the places where I once played as a child. If you walk further along this route, you will come across my father's school, where he once played as a child, now completely underwater.

I cannot help but wonder what my own son will see, when he is old enough to walk these shores one day, whether he'll still be able to walk through the land of his ancestors like his father and those before him, or, having been forced to leave due to the continuing impact of sea level rise, whether one day he'll just have to read about it in a book. This is why we do this work. The Fossil Fuel Treaty is now our last, best hope to secure the future and to halt the march into mutual catastrophe.”

We urge you to PASS this very important resolution. Mahalo for the opportunity to testify.

Sherry Pollack  
Co-Founder, 350Hawaii.org

Name: JOE MOEONO-KOLIO	Email: joe@fossilfueltreaty.org	Zip: 96813
Representing: The Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative	Position: Support	Submitted: Feb 8, 2023 @ 11:23 AM

**Date:** 2/5/23  
**From:** Peter J. Greenhill  
**Re:** SUPPORT for RES23-003  
**Hearing:** 2/8/23, Wednesday, 2:30 p.m.

My name is Peter Greenhill, recently retired director (for 17 years) of the `Iolani Peace Institute, submitting testimony on **RES23-003**, specifically with regard to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. Recent IPCC reports, UN speeches, and scientific announcements worldwide have made it very clear that planetary environmental problems are more critical than ever and that the biggest step humanity must take is to stop producing and consuming fossil fuels. The need to address them is even more immediate for Pacific islands. Endorsing the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty that urges us to end fossil fuel extraction, production, and usage would be totally consistent with steps that the state of Hawaii has already taken. Our state has already shown its understanding of the necessity to transition to clean energy, and the treaty is also consistent with our belief in malama aina and malama honua. Endorsing the treaty will send a strong message to our people and to other states in the country, and it will lead to additional concrete action to help alleviate both environmental problems and climate injustice. I strongly and ardently urge you to endorse the treaty or promote endorsement of the treaty and thus respectfully exhort you to pass this resolution. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,  
Peter J. Greenhill  
Retired Director of the `Iolani Peace Institute  
Concerned citizen

**WRITTEN & ORAL SUBMISSION:  
JOE MOEONO-KOLIO, LEAD PACIFIC ADVISER  
FOSSIL FUEL NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY INITIATIVE**

Aloha council members,

Thank you for the opportunity to speak at today's hearing. My name is Joseph Moeono-Kolio, the lead Pacific adviser to the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty Initiative. I am here to speak in support of the resolution affirming the city of Honolulu's ongoing commitment to the goals of the Paris Agreement and the realisation of that through the call for the development of this Treaty.

To put it simply: the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is the missing mechanism that will ensure we not only address the consumption of fossil fuels, but also their production and proliferation. We cannot hope to lower emissions if we keep growing production. This mechanism will ensure an orderly and managed phaseout of all fossil fuels in line with the Paris target of limiting warming to no higher than 1.5. At the same time, the Treaty will support a Just Transition to Renewable Energy.

Let me add that the call for the Treaty is rooted in the calls made by Pacific leaders for a very long time. It was the Pacific who led the charge during COP21 for the 1.5 goal to be enshrined in the final decision text. It was the Pacific that fought for decades for the Loss and Damage finance facility, ensuring our island countries are compensated for the damage caused by the larger countries who profited off fossil fuel developments. And now again, it is the Pacific who leads the charge in calling for this Treaty. The "Suva Declaration On Climate Change" issued by Pacific Island leaders in 2015 called for "the implementation of an international moratorium on the development and expansion of fossil fuel extracting industries. In 2016, 14 Pacific Island nations continued to discuss the world's first "treaty" that would ban new coal mining and embrace the Paris 1.5 °C goal. In 2021, Maui County endorsed the call for a treaty, and then the State of Hawai'i followed, becoming the first US state to formally call for the Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. In September last year, on the floor of the UN General Assembly, Vanuatu became the first country to publicly call for the development of a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty. And then at COP27 last November, Tuvalu, became the second country to make the same call, and the first to do it at a UN Climate Conference. A month from now, the leaders of all Pacific national Governments will meet in Port Vila to endorse the call for a Treaty as one Pacific region.

And now today, that same call is being made here today, on this side of the Pacific. The call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is one that echoes across our great ocean, is rooted in the moral leadership of Pacific peoples on this issue and is led by Pacific peoples - from here in Aotearoa, to Samoa, Vanuatu and to where you are, in Hawai'i. Our leaders, our communities, our youth - all live with the impacts of climate change and today, we look to the leaders of Honolulu to join the rest of the region in taking the necessary steps to preserve our moana and our fanua for future generations. The call for a Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty is a necessary step towards and I encourage you all to take that step with us today.

Mahalo, faafetai lava, and thank you for your time.