

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
630 SOUTH BERETANIA STREET
HONOLULU, HI 96843
www.boardofwatersupply.com



May 24, 2023

'23MAY23 PM 2:51 CITY CLERK

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The Honorable Matt Weyer, Chair
and Members
Committee on Housing, Sustainability and Health
Honolulu City Council
530 South King Street, Room 100
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Weyer and Members:

Subject: City Council Resolution No. 23-70, Proposed CD1: Urging the U.S. Navy and Department of Defense to Immediately Implement Weekly Testing of Navy Red Hill Monitoring Wells and the Red Hill Shaft for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances ("PFAS") and Release the Information Requested by the Honolulu Board of Water Supply in its Letter to the U.S. Defense dated January 10, 2023

The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly supports Council Resolution No. 23-70, Proposed CD1.

This resolution urges the Navy to conduct weekly testing of its monitoring wells and Red Hill Shaft for PFAS chemicals in response to a PFAS containing fire-fighting foam concentrate spill that occurred at the Red Hill fuel facility in November 2022. The resolution also urges the Secretary of Defense to release information and results of PFAS investigations being conducted at various military installations on Oahu that was requested by the Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) in its letter dated January 10, 2023.

The BWS has detected PFAS chemicals in several of its wells some of which are located in close proximity to Department of Defense (DOD) installations that are presently undergoing investigations of past PFAS use, spills and any presence in soil and groundwater at those sites. The information that BWS requested from the Secretary of Defense will help determine if any relationship exists between any PFAS found at DOD installations and other wells in the area. Similarly, the testing of Navy monitoring wells and Red Hill Shaft also provides important presence and trend data. Both provide critical information that will increase our understanding of PFAS presence in the environment and its impact to Oahu's sole source groundwater aquifer that cannot be replaced.

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The protection and preservation of our island's precious drinking water aquifer cannot be overstated. Keeping it pristine for future generations is this generation's responsibility and obligation.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of Resolution No. 23-70, Proposed CD1.

Very truly yours,



ERNEST Y. W. LAU, P.E.
Manager and Chief Engineer

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