

## BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY

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



June 7, 2023

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Manager and Chief Engineer

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Deputy Manager

The Honorable Tommy Waters  
Chair and Presiding Officer  
and Members  
Honolulu City Council  
530 South King Street, Room 202  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Chair Waters and Councilmembers:

Subject: City Council Resolution No. 23-70, 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

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The Honolulu Board of Water Supply (BWS) strongly supports Council Resolution No. 23-70, CD1, and appreciates the unwavering support by the City Council throughout these years as recapped in this resolution.

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 all 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

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The Honorable Tommy Waters  
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in the environment and its impact to Oahu's sole source groundwater aquifer that cannot be replaced.

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 strong support of Resolution No. 23-70, CD1.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ernest Y. W. Lau', written in a cursive style.

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