

# County Council Environmental Management Committee Meeting Notes – June 17, 2008

---

## Agenda

In accordance with the agenda, this meeting included the following topics:

- Introductory remarks
- CH2M HILL presentation: scope of work, 2002 goals, committee member objectives
- Council objectives, issues, and concerns
- Statements from the public on agenda items

## Council Member Questions and Issues

- Pete Hoffmann: Public meetings should be 6 pm – 8 pm to encourage participation after working hours.
- Bob Jacobson: Make sure that public has access and a way to provide input during any daytime meetings.
- Pete Hoffmann: Would like to greatly emphasize the importance of curbside recycling. He believes that it is implementable in rural areas and would like to see this evaluated thoroughly.
- Bob Jacobson: Pay-as-you-throw (PAYT) works well where you have curbside garbage and recycling pickup, but we need to evaluate the implications for Hawai'i County because those services are not currently universally available. Enforcement is a key for making this work to avoid illegal dumping.
- Angel Pilago: Would like to strike the concept of trucking waste from East Hawai'i to West Hawai'i.
- Bob Jacobson: Would like all future presentations to be provided to the Council in electronic format.
- Brenda Ford: Would like this plan to be open to both current and potential future technologies. Energy and transportation are important issues. Would like the plan to evaluate a more decentralized system with smaller conversion technologies (such as waste-to-energy).
- Pete Hoffmann: Would like to see 2009 resource (staff, \$) requirements for each recommendation. He recognizes that costs may go up. He recognizes that there are many problems in preventing illegal dumping, but emphasizes the importance of dealing with this issue – he gets 10 emails per day and it is a blight for tourists e.g., the “Waikoloa transfer station” dumping location along Waikoloa road.

- 
- Brenda Ford: Would like to ensure the County addresses the fires in old Kona landfill and elsewhere on island. She has been told that mining landfills is expensive because of sorting requirements, but would like to know more about it. She also feels that capping old landfills is not good because it results in long-term environmental risk. Would also like to capture as much methane from landfills as possible. Would like to see industries built up around mining of landfills e.g., recycled plastic for making park benches. Don't limit consideration of technologies to incinerators. Enterprise zones around old landfills could stimulate business startups. Current laws limit business start up and using energy produced from waste. Consider biogas and syngas.
  - Angel Pilago: Would like to see implementation schedules for 1 yr, 3 yr, and 5 yr goals in the plan. Recycling should be decentralized and happen at transfer stations such as Waimea, Kea'au, and Kealakehe. Consider rock/soil/gravel recovery as a benefit from mining landfills. Would like hard numbers for the costs of alternatives – the Council needs to evaluate how to recover costs. Dan Pitzler response: 5-year implementation schedule will be annual; will certainly consider these options; cost estimates are initially provided as planning level, often with ranges, and then refined once options are narrowed down and more specifics are available.
  - Bob Jacobson: Public input is critical to achieve buy-in to plan. Will make a difference to implementability of plan recommendations. He urges members to contact and participate with SWAC and team members, being mindful of Sunshine Law requirements. Dan Pitzler response: He is encouraged by the diversity of opinion, expertise, and geographic diversity of SWAC members.
  - Bob Jacobson: Described the up-coming recycling (zero waste) implementation plan and would like to integrate information from that into our plan.
  - Members who did not comment: Donald Ikeda, present. Stacy Higa, not present. Emily Naeole, present. J. Yoshimoto, present.
  - Bob Jacobson: Minutes and proceedings of meetings are available.