



NU'UANU/ PUNCHBOWL NEIGHBORHOOD BOARD NO. 12

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RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION URGING THE IMMEDIATE DEFUELING AND PERMANENT DECOMMISSIONING OF THE RED HILL BULK FUEL STORAGE FACILITY AT KAPŪKAKĪ (RED HILL)

WHEREAS the Nu'uauu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board No. 12 ("Board") is a citizens' advisory board whose purpose is to "increase and assure effective citizen participation in the decisions of government" per the City and County of Honolulu's Neighborhood Plan of 2008; and

WHEREAS wai (freshwater) is one of the most valuable resources of O'ahu's island community; and

WHEREAS the Nu'uauu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board No. 12, has provided testimony in support of the Board of Water Supply's position on the Red Hill Storage Tanks, urging the Navy to relocate these tanks away from the existing aquifer or to upgrade the tanks to tank-within-a-tank secondary containment; and

WHEREAS the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility ("Facility") is a massive nearly 80-year-old facility, that sits 100 feet above the sole-source Southern O'ahu Basal Aquifer, and poses a danger of contamination to the aquifer; and

WHEREAS since 1943, the Facility has recorded at least 76 fuel "releases" (i.e. spills caused by leak or human error) from these tanks, connecting pipelines, and infrastructure totaling nearly 200,000 gallons, resulting in percolation of fuels through the porous underlying lava rock into the water table; and

WHEREAS on December 6, 2021, the Department of Health issued an Emergency Order ("EO"), (Docket No. 21-UST-EA-02) that immediately suspended operations including, but not limited to, fuel transfers at the Facility, ordered the navy to take immediate steps to install a treatment system at the Red Hill Shaft, take corrective actions as expeditiously as possible, and within 30 days of the completion of required corrective actions defuel the Facility; and

WHEREAS on May 6, 2022, the Department issued a 2nd Emergency Order (Docket No. 22-UST-EA-01) that maintains the suspension of operations as previously directed by the First EO and First EO Final Order, including an implementation schedule for the Defueling Phase of the Closure Plan to be provided to the Department no later than June 30, 2022, and submit the Closure Phase of the Closure Plan to the Department no later than November 1, 2022; now therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Hawai'i Kai Neighborhood Board supports the Department of Health's Emergency Orders and the immediate defueling and permanent decommissioning of the entire Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility at Kapūkakī (Red Hill), and urges the Department of Health to hold the Navy accountable by enforcing the 2nd Emergency Order; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Nu'uauu/Punchbowl Neighborhood Board No. 12 urges the Navy to fully fund the remediation of the contaminated aquifer, as determined by a plan approved by the Department of Health with all deliberate speed and due diligence; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the Hawai'i Congressional delegation, the Governor of Hawai'i, the Hawai'i Department of Health, members of the Hawai'i Legislature, the Mayor of the City and County of Honolulu, members of the City Council of Honolulu, the Honolulu Board of Water Supply, and all Neighborhood Boards.