

October 8, 2025

Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources  
Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW)  
Attention: Habitat Conservation Planning  
1151 Punchbowl Street, Room 325  
Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Re: Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative second draft Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

To whom it may concern:

Please accept my letter in support of the draft HCP submitted by Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative (KIUC).

It is my understanding that KIUC developed the draft HCP in close coordination with and under guidance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and DOFAW over several years, and the draft has been reviewed by technical experts from both agencies multiple times. This second draft addresses comments received from the public, the Endangered Species Recovery Committee (ESRC), USFWS and DOFAW.

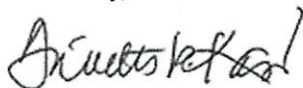
Electrical power is essential to Kaua'i. I support approval of this well-researched HCP so KIUC can move forward with implementing the plan and remain focused on continuing to provide safe and reliable power for the island.

KIUC has demonstrated a strong commitment to conservation of these species by implementing most of the HCP prior to it being finalized and approved, and by the significant amount of powerline minimization that can be seen on powerlines across the island. It is my understanding that initial monitoring of the benefit of KIUC's minimization efforts (e.g., line reconfiguration and use of diverters on line spans) track with the stated goal of the HCP of a reduction of more than 66% in covered seabird line strikes.

Based on historical data the HCP conservation strategy outlined in the draft should be successful in increasing seabird populations at conservation sites, and reducing powerline collisions.

I encourage you to approve this HCP as drafted.

Sincerely,



Trinette P. Kauai  
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