



SENATE COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

April 1, 2015, 9:30 A.M.

Room 229

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HB 1286, SUGGESTED AMENDMENTS

Chair Baker, Vice-Chair Taniguchi, and members of the Committee:

The Blue Planet Foundation supports HB 1286, implementing state policy to: (i) eliminate Hawai'i's dependence on imported fuels for electrical generation and ground transportation; (ii) encourage utility models that prioritize the social and financial interests of ratepayers; and (iii) ensure that fossil fuels such as liquefied natural gas be used (if at all) on a transitional, limited-term basis and do not impede the development of local renewable resources.

We suggest two changes. First, we believe that many decisions relevant to these policy initiatives will be made in the regulatory sector. Thus, the language in HB 1286 is equally applicable to H.R.S. Chapter 269, and will likely have more impact if placed within the context of that chapter. Second, we request a clarification regarding the bill's amendment of H.R.S. § 226-18(c)(11), which in its current form could be misunderstood to *require* the use of transitional fossil fuels. We suggest the following clarification:

"(11) Ensure that fossil fuels such as liquefied natural gas be used, if at all, only as a transitional, limited-term replacement of petroleum for electricity generation and do not impede the development and use of renewable energy sources; and"

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.