



STATE ENVIRONMENTAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

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OFFICE OF PLANNING & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT, STATE OF HAWAII
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Vice Chair
Jay Stone

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Hannah Kiblinger
Michele Lefebvre

State of Hawai'i Environmental Advisory Council

MINUTES

235 S. Beretania Street, Suite 702, Honolulu, HI 96813

Tuesday, August 4, 2026, 1:00 PM

As authorized under Act 220, Session Laws of Hawai'i 2021, this meeting will be held with Council Members, Staff, and Agencies participating in-person at the above location or via Zoom online meeting venue.

If you are attending remotely and have questions, or would like to provide comments during the meeting, please use the Zoom **Raise Hand** function to notify the Chair that you would like to speak. When the Chair recognizes you, you may unmute your microphone.

Materials for this agenda and minutes of this meeting will be available at specific links indicated below or at: <https://planning.hawaii.gov/erp/eac-meetings/>

Members Present

Dawn Hegger-Nordblom, Michele Lefebvre, Mark Gordon

Members Absent

Jay Stone

Staff

Mary Alice Evans (Office of Planning and Sustainable Development [OPSD] Director), Tom Eisen (Environmental Review Program [ERP] Staff), Daniel Pham (ERP Staff), Isabelle Sholes (OPSD Staff)

Public Present

Caleb Rowe (County of Maui), Christie Trenholme (County of Maui, Department of Fire and Public Safety [DFPS]), Gavin Fujioka (DFPS), Andrew Nelson (County of Maui, Department of Environmental Management), Kristie Wigglesworth, Cheryl Akiona (County of Maui, Department of Parks and Recreation), Paul Barany (County of Maui, Department of Public Works), Michael Hopper (County of Maui, DPW), James Jensen (County of Maui, Department of Water Supply), Christopher Kim (County of Maui, DWS), Bryce Yoshimori (State of Hawai'i, Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Agricultural Resource Management Division [HDOA ARMD]), Janice Fujimoto (HDOA ARMD), Harold Alejandro (State of Hawai'i, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation), Ronald Sato (Bowers & Kubota [B & K]), Noah Taba (B & K), Jared Chang (B & K)

Note: **Bolded** items indicate text from the agenda.

1. **Call to order, Roll Call, Introductions, Quorum**

With a quorum of three members present, Chairperson Hegger-Nordblom called the meeting to order at 1:00PM.

2. **Public Comments. Participants may provide comments about issues not on the agenda for possible inclusion on a future agenda. [Information Item]**

3. **Review and adoption of minutes of May 5, 2026, meeting. *The Environmental Advisory Council (EAC) will review/amend the minutes from the previous meeting and will vote on whether to approve them at this time. [Action Item]***

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-06-02-Environmental-Advisory-Council-Minutes-Draft.pdf

The May 5, 2026 meeting minutes will be reviewed at the next EAC meeting.

4. **Exemptions Committee**

- A. **Proposed – County of Maui, Department of Environmental Management Exemption List, Revised*: *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]***

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-County-of-Maui-Revised-Exemption-List-Dept-Environmental-Management.pdf

The Night Sky Protection Strategy does not apply to the Counties, and currently only applies to State Agencies. However, it is recommended to include language that states that outdoor lighting shall comply with HRS 201-8.5 to the extent required by State law.

Chair Hegger-Nordblom recommended modifying the introductory paragraph to be consistent with other County of Maui Exemption Lists.

Type 1, Number 6: Chair Hegger-Nordblom asked for clarification on cathodic protection systems. Andrew Nelson explained that these systems are related to cathodes and electronic equipment.

Type 6, Number 1a: Chair Hegger-Nordblom recommended including the Department of Land and Natural Resources as the source.

Member Lefebvre moved to publish the list for public review, with the addition of the minor edits discussed. Chair Hegger-Nordblom seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (3-0-1).

- B. **Proposed – County of Maui, Department of Finance Exemption List*: *The COM has rescinded this list from EAC review.***

There was no further discussion.

- C. **Proposed – County of Maui, Department of Fire and Public Safety Exemption List, Revised*: *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]***

https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-County-of-Maui-Revised-Exemption-List-Dept-Fire-Public-Safety.pdf

Member Lefebvre recommended minor editorial changes, including the addition of commas.

The Night Sky Protection Strategy does not apply to the Counties, and currently only applies to State Agencies. However, it is recommended to include language that states that outdoor lighting shall comply with HRS 201-8.5 to the extent required by State law.

Type 1, Part 1 and Type 3, Part 1: Member Lefebvre inquired about the creation of temporary construction staging being listed under both Type 1, Part 1 and Type 3, Part 1. The Department clarified it was listed under both Types as a precaution.

Type 3, Letter M: Member Lefebvre recommended including size parameters on fuel tanks.

Type 4, Letter D: Member Lefebvre requested clarification on the insulation of sewers. Gavin Fujoka clarified that this refers to smaller lines extending from existing or remodeled structures,

rather than the installation of wastewater or septic units. Member Lefebvre recommended adding this clarifying language.

Part 2, Type 3: Member Lefebvre inquired about the need for both Letters D and M, regarding lifeguard towers. Gavin Fujoka explained that they serve different purposes.

Type 4, Numbers C and F: Chair Hegger-Nordblom asked for clarification regarding beach nourishment. Gavin Fujoka explained that it will allow for necessary restoration to prevent lifeguard towers from falling due to erosion. Chair Hegger-Nordblom recommended that the Department speak with the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands to get input.

Member Gordon asked if lifeguard towers can be built on more stable foundations in the future. Gavin Fujoka explained that the Department is working on implementing movable lifeguard towers.

Member Lefebvre moved to publish the list for public review, with the addition of the minor edits discussed. Chair Hegger-Nordblom seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (3-0-1).

D. Proposed – County of Maui, Department of Parks and Recreation Exemption List, Revised*: *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]*
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-County-of-Maui-Revised-Exemption-List-Dept-Parks-Rec.pdf

The Night Sky Protection Strategy does not apply to the Counties, and currently only applies to State Agencies. However, it is recommended to include language that states that outdoor lighting shall comply with HRS 201-8.5 to the extent required by State law.

Type 1, Letter N: Member Lefebvre recommended including aquatic facilities.

Type 2, Letter E: Member Lefebvre recommended including aquatic facilities.

Type 1, Letter L: Member Gordon asked if specific chemicals need to be listed. Member Lefebvre explained that it is common practice to not list out chemicals.

Type 1, Letter K: Chair Hegger-Nordblom recommended adding the Department of Land and Natural Resources as major permit distributors.

Type 3: Letter N: Member Lefebvre recommended including aquatic facilities.

Type 3, Letter C: Member Lefebvre asked for clarification on how large the energy generating facilities are and recommended clarifying that the facilities are not generating energy for other buildings.

Type 3, Letter H: Member Lefebvre recommended including courts.

Chair Hegger-Nordblom recommended that the Department speak with the Department of Land and Natural Resources' Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands to get input.

Type 4, Letter Bi: Chair Hegger-Nordblom asked if the item should refer to structural engineers or coastal engineers.

Type 3, Letters I and J: Member Lefebvre suggested combining the two items if relevant.

Member Lefebvre moved to publish the list for public review, with the addition of the minor edits discussed. Chair Hegger-Nordblom seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (3-0-1).

- E. **Proposed – County of Maui, Department of Public Works Exemption List*: *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]***
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-County-of-Maui-Exemption-List-Dept-Public-Works.pdf

The Night Sky Protection Strategy does not apply to the Counties, and currently only applies to State Agencies. However, it is recommended to include language that states that outdoor lighting shall comply with HRS 201-8.5 to the extent required by State law.

Type 3, Number 10: Member Lefebvre asked if the item would be better fit for Type 8.

Type 6, Number 3A: Chair Hegger-Nordblom requested the inclusion of "State."

Member Lefebvre moved to publish the list for public review, with the addition of the minor edits discussed. Member Gordon seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (3-0-1).

- F. **Proposed – County of Maui, Department of Water Supply's Exemption List*: *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]***
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-County-of-Maui-Exemption-List-Dept-Water-Supply.pdf

***Please note that these Department lists are intended to supersede the County of Maui Exemption List, concurred with on January 10, 2007 ("COM List"), only for the specified Department, and the County intends to continue to rely on the COM List for all other Departments until superseded by a separate list specific to that Department.**
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/Agency_Exemption_Lists/Maui-All-Departments-Exemption-List-2007-01-10.pdf

The Night Sky Protection Strategy does not apply to the Counties, and currently only applies to State Agencies. However, it is recommended to include language that states that outdoor lighting shall comply with HRS 201-8.5 to the extent required by State law.

Member Lefebvre recommended reviewing the County of Hawai'i's Department of Water Supply Exemption List as it is very similar.

Type 3, Letter M: Member Lefebvre recommended including size parameters on fuel tanks.

Type 5, Letter L: Chair Hegger-Nordblom requested the inclusion of "Department of Land and Natural Resources."

Member Lefebvre moved to publish the list for public review, with the addition of the minor edits discussed. Chair Hegger-Nordblom seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (3-0-1).

- G. **Proposed – State of Hawai'i, Department of Agriculture and Biosecurity, Agricultural Resource Management Division: *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]***
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-Dept-of-Agriculture-ARMD-Exemption-List.pdf

The Division leases farmlands to farmers, provides irrigation land, and collects surface water to store in reservoirs and distribute to farmers.

Type 8, Part 1, Number 15 & Number 16: Chair Hegger-Nordblom asked if land is always acquired from the Department of Land and Natural Resources or if land is also acquired from other agencies. Janice Fujimoto will confirm and include other agencies in the Exemption List if relevant.

Member Lefebvre moved to publish the list for public review, with the addition of the minor edits discussed. Chair Hegger-Nordblom seconded the motion. There was no further discussion or public testimony. The EAC voted to approve the motion (3-0-1).

H. Proposed –State of Hawai'i, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (DCR): *The EAC will discuss and evaluate the proposed exemption list. [Information and Possible Action Item]*
https://files.hawaii.gov/dbedt/erp/EC_Meetings/2026-08-04-Dept-of-Corrections-and-Rehabilitation-Exemption-List.pdf

Tom Eisen explained that Part 3 is not identified in the rules. Member Lefebvre recommended removing Part 3 Emergency Action and citing 11-21.1-8 B and C.

Member Lefebvre recommends reorganizing for clarity, with activities listed first in each Type.

Type 1, Number 4b: Member Gordon asked if waste treatment facilities would be exempt. Under this Type, this action is exempt as it involves repairs and maintenance to satisfy requirements.

Type 9 and Type 10: Member Lefebvre recommended adding "None" to clarify that no exemptions are being proposed.

Member Lefebvre recommended the Department make the suggested revisions and submit the revised Exemption List to be reviewed at the next EAC meeting.

5. Announcements - Next Meeting TBD. *The EAC members will discuss the date of the next meeting and possible agenda items. [Information Item]*

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 1, 2026 at 1:00 PM. The date will be posted when confirmed.

6. Public Comments. *Participants may provide comments about issues not on the agenda for possible inclusion on a future agenda. [Information Item]*

There were no public comments.

7. Adjournment

Chairperson Hegger-Nordblom adjourned the meeting at 2:41 PM.