



EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
HONOLULU

NOV 30 2005

LINDA LINGLE  
GOVERNOR

November 18, 2005

Mr. Eric Weinert  
Senior Vice President  
Hawaii Pride, LLC  
16-664 Milo Street  
Keaau, Hawaii 96749

Dear Mr. Weinert:

Thank you for your letter dated October 27, 2005, regarding the proposed Cobalt-60 irradiator plant near Lagoon Drive.

Since this project involves Cobalt-60, a byproduct radioactive material, the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC), rather than the State of Hawaii, has sole jurisdiction governing storage, use, safety, and security. We are aware that NRC has conducted an informational meeting on this project in Honolulu on August 31, 2005. It is our understanding that NRC is considering additional meetings in the future, and is currently reviewing all aspects of the application, particularly the plant's safety and security.

I certainly appreciate your concerns about the proposed plant and will continue to monitor the proposal vital to public health and safety. I am also asking the Department of Transportation whether an environmental assessment is needed.

Thank you again for your comments and concern involving the safety of the people of Hawaii.

Sincerely,

LINDA LINGLE

- c: Sandra Lee Kunimoto, Chairperson, HDOA  
Rodney K. Haraga, Director, HDOT  
✓ Jack E. Whitten, Chief, NMLB, NRC

10/27/05

Honorable Governor Linda Lingle  
Executive Chambers  
State Capitol  
Honolulu, Hawai'i  
96813

Dear Linda.

I am writing to inform you about potential health and public safety concerns with the proposed Cobalt 60 irradiator to be built on State land off of Lagoon Drive adjacent to the reef runway at the Honolulu airport. The potential to shut down the Honolulu airport, and hence create a state-wide economic disaster is very real. In today's environment, a scenario of a madman/terrorist entering the facility with explosives and discharging the radioactive material by explosion must be taken seriously.

Several alternatives exist, including using ordinary electricity to produce ionizing irradiation as we do here on the Big Island thereby eliminating the public health and security risks posed by using radioactive materials. If not, then security and location should be carefully considered, perhaps locating the facility on a military base with high level secure perimeters.

As the proposed site is on State land under control of the HDOT, they should weigh these risks before issuing a 20 year lease. It appears that the NRC will not be conducting public hearings, and it is unclear whether any State agency will be conducting public hearings. That is why I felt compelled to write and warn you, as the person ultimately responsible for State actions affecting public safety.

I have attached an article published in Environment Hawaii, to give you background information. For the record, my facility (Hawaii Pride, LLC) treats papaya for any and all customers who will treat at least 1,000 ten pound cartons per week. Also, although we have struggled financially from time to time, we recently celebrated our 5<sup>th</sup> year of operation and have reorganized under new ownership. I am very optimistic about our future. We are currently operating at less than 35% capacity.

Thank you for your attention on this matter.

Sincerely,



Eric Weinert  
Senior Vice President  
Hawaii Pride, LLC  
16-664 Milo St, Keaau, HI 96749

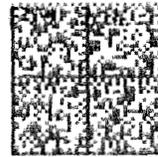
PS. I knew you'd be a great Governor. Thanks for making us proud!

CC: Sandra Kunimoto, Chairperson, HDOA

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS  
STATE CAPITOL  
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

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