

MEDIA RELEASE

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KEEP THE NORTH SHORE COUNTRY AND SIERRA CLUB HAWAII CHAPTER LIKELY TO APPEAL TURTLE BAY RESORT EXPANSION RULING

Honolulu, Hawai`i - - Community groups Keep the North Shore Country (“KNSC”) and The Sierra Club, Hawai`i Chapter (“Sierra Club”) will likely appeal the decision issued by Hon. Sabrina McKenna on November 13, 2006 denying their demand that a supplemental environmental impact statement (“SEIS”) on the massive expansion proposed at Turtle Bay Resort be required.

The lawsuit was filed earlier this year against the City and County of Honolulu, Director of the Department of Planning and Permitting Henry Eng (the “City”), and Kuilima Resort Company (“KRC”) to require an SEIS for KRC’s Resort Expansion Project at Kawela Bay and Turtle Bay Resort, O`ahu, Hawai`i (the “Kawela Bay Project” or “Project”). The Kawela Bay Project was approved by the City over two decades ago in 1986, but KRC made no significant efforts to build the additional 3500 units until late 2005. The City has ignored the public’s cry for an SEIS and continues to process the development permits without a public hearing or comment period.

KNSC, the Sierra Club, and many on O`ahu are disappointed with the ruling of the Court. It appears that the Court failed to take into account many of the community’s arguments regarding the need for a public review process where the passage of so much time leads to new and different impacts requiring consideration and evaluation. Because the Court’s ruling sets a precedent that locks the public out of the planning process when new significant impacts are unconsidered, KNSC and the Sierra Club are carefully considering their options for appeal.

KNSC and the Sierra Club are committed to fight for the public’s right to participate and comment on the outdated expansion plan. The City’s lack of a proper review, together with the complexity of several issues evidently not considered by the Court, renders the matter perfectly situated for an appeal. The North Shore of O`ahu is a resource for the entire Hawai`i community, and every effort should be made to afford the community and the ecosystem reasonable protection and proper environmental review.

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Keep the North Shore County is a nonprofit organization dedicated to the preservation, protection, and enhancement of the heritage and rural character of the North Shore of O`ahu, Hawai`i, in partnership with the communities from Kaena Point to Kahalu`u.

Founded in 1892, the Sierra Club is the nation’s oldest and largest grassroots environmental organization, with over 700,000 members across the country. The Sierra Club actively promotes conservation by influencing public policy through grassroots activism, public education, lobbying and litigation.