

Keep the North Shore Country

February 24, 2022

Dear Supporter,

On Tuesday, the Supreme Court ruled against our challenge of Na Pua Makani's Habitat Conservation Plan.

In late 2016, we brought a contested case regarding their plan to minimize and mitigate impacts on endangered species, including the unprecedented killing of the `ōpe`ape`a (Hawaiian hoary bat) by wind turbines in Hawaii.

After thoroughly considering written briefs and two days of evidentiary hearings, the hearing officer agreed the plan was inadequate and should be rejected. The Board of Land and Natural Resources disregarded the recommendation to send the plan back to the Endangered Species Recovery Committee and accepted it in early 2018. We appealed that decision through the courts and now the final ruling has been issued.

While we are disappointed with the outcome of the case, we take comfort in knowing that we expanded awareness of the adverse impacts of gigantic turbines on endangered species and the residents of the host community. It would be inconceivable to surround windy Diamond Head with turbines, yet the small rural community of Kahuku is now surrounded by 568-foot behemoths. This environmental injustice will no longer be ignored. Host communities and endangered species will not be overlooked in the rush to alternative energy

Keep the North Shore Country continues the fight to protect vulnerable communities and native species. Last year, we secured \$250,000 to fund research which helped confirm the existence of breeding pairs of the endangered u`au (Hawaiian petrel) on Oahu. Presently, we have a case pending before the Intermediate Court of Appeals against the illegal placement of two Na Pua Makani wind turbines within the minimum property setback.

Of course, we won the landmark Supreme Court case that led to the perpetual conservation of hundreds of acres at Kawela Bay and the Turtle Bay Resort and huge reductions in potential development. Our mission is to preserve, protect and enhance the heritage and rural character of the North Shore of Oahu, Hawaii, in partnership with communities from Kaena Point to Kahaluu. We welcome your feedback.

Finally, we still have work to do on the setback case. Can you help us pay some of our legal fees with a contribution at KeeptheNorthShoreCountry.org? Your continuing support is greatly appreciated.

Mahalo and Aloha!



Gil Riviere

KeepTheNorthShoreCountry.org
66-632 Kamehameha Hwy, Suite 202
Haleiwa, HI 96712