

Hilo Broad Sheets (11-13-13)

- If sugar companies are defunct, then sugar lands and water (per Joint Resolution 1) should be available to Native Hawaiians? What happens to land now? Can DHHL push for this?
 - Original lands were far from water rich areas (forest reserves and former sugar lands) or completely without water from the beginning
- How come DHHL cannot derive revenue from pipes/transmission that run through DHHL lands?
 - DHHL licenses these via utility easements; historically DHHL has charged very little or none; Water Policy Plan should address issue and be consistent/transparent
- Charge money – get revenue from water utility licenses/use of lands
- Big Island committee of beneficiaries to look into how to generate revenue
- Big Island – not designated but it has two of the driest areas – Kawaihae/Ka‘u. Does designating a Water Management Area help out Hawaiian people more than undesignated?
 - In designated Water Management Areas – any applicant/users of water needs to file a Water Use Permit Application; As part of that process they applicant must show how they are not impacting DHHL and traditional and customary uses of Hawaiians
- Maku‘u and Kawaihae – struggle to get water to our homesteads
- Water credits with the County? Can you explain that?
 - DHHL is treated like all other developers by the County Department of Water Supply. If we want to do a development/homestead, we usually have to find a source of water. Sometimes that means digging a new well, increasing storage by building water tanks, or increasing efficiencies like putting in more water lines or making them bigger. Once we do this, each County has a formula that they use to determine how much water credits we get and this is formalized in a water agreement with the County. These credits usually equal the amount of domestic water meters we are given.
- Can I drill a well on my farm lot?
 - Yes. But in the process of drilling a well, you must follow a permitting process that includes getting a Well Construction Permit and a Pump Installation Permit from the Commission on Water Resource Management and you will need the consent of the land owner, in this case DHHL/HHC.
- I have a problem with DHHL being treated like any other developer. We are not!! We have rights and need to be treated differently. DHHL and HHC need to protect trust rights
- Section 206 – look there – DLNR/Gov have no jurisdiction
- Concerned with the make up of the CWRM
- Does DHHL use its own money for CIP?
 - We do sometimes. We try to lobby the legislature for CIP money but usually receive very little. DHHL is looking at other sources of funding to help in this regard (USDA)
- Is there a return on investment of water infrastructure?

- When DHHL develops homestead communities, we pay for the infrastructure development and that includes water source, storage, and transmission. That cost is not passed on to the homesteader when they build their house.
- The County shouldn't use wai from DHHL wells for non-homesteaders when homesteaders need water
- This management of water dedication to the counties is the same with other issues (electricity, roads, sewer, etc.)
- All these rights mentioned are "Americanized rights" – not kanaka maoli rights
- Ka'u – should beneficiaries be working with ag-coop on getting water to land or wait for the Department?
 - DHHL is most successful when we stand shoulder-to-shoulder with our beneficiaries on water issues. We are in the process of doing a Ka'u Water Assessment that will look at alternatives. We will update you once we get some results.