DAVID Y. IGE GOVERNOR OF HAWAII



STATE OF HAWAII DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SAFE DRINKING WATER BRANCH ULUAKUPU BLDG. 4 2385 WAIMANO HOME ROAD, SUITE 110 PEARL CITY, HI 96782-1400

In reply, please refer to: File: SDWB 230G1118.docx

November 14, 2018

Mr. E. Halealoha Ayau Water Resource Management Specialist Department of Hawaiian Home Lands Planning Office c/o East Hawai'i District Office 160 Baker Avenue Hilo, Hawaii 96720 [via <u>e.halealoha.ayau@hawaii.gov</u> only]

Dear Mr. Ayau:

SUBJECT: REPORT OF SANITARY SURVEY PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM NO. 230, HOOLEHUA

Thank you for the assistance and information provided during the sanitary survey inspection of the Hoolehua system (PWS 230) conducted on September 19, 2018.

My staff appreciated the assistance provided by you, Messrs. Elroy Mollena, David Bush, Myron Poepoe, Gene Davis and Brison Ramos.

A sanitary survey of a public water system is a periodic review of the system's facilities, operation and maintenance practices, and records to assure that proper conditions, policies, and practices are in effect for that water system. Maintaining of minimum standards of operation and maintenance is the responsibility of the operator.

There is not any significant deficiency to note for the Hoolehua system.

The Department of Health (DOH) also requests that the system review the list of "recommendations" (non-significant deficiencies) below and provide written acknowledgement that they will address them in a timely manner, to the extent that resources and operations will allow. We strongly encourage the system to address "recommendations" as you would significant deficiencies to avoid related problems in the future. The DOH will be using the list of significant deficiencies and recommendations as a reference and benchmark for measuring system progress in future sanitary surveys.

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The recommendations are as follows:

- 1. Two (2) operators spend most of their time operating the Hoolehua system. This lack of adequate staffing causes the system to have minimum maintenance which is problematic. Recommend hiring at least two (2) more certified operators to take charge of the maintenance of a system of this size (e.g., valve exercising, hydrant flushing, equipment maintenance, cross contamination control program, etc).
- 2. Strongly recommend installing Backflow Preventers in the interconnections between the Hoolehua system and two (2) water systems to protect the Hoolehua water from contamination or pollution due to backflow from these two (2) consecutive water systems.
- 3. To prevent dirt, insect debris and rain from entering the tank, strongly recommend installing screens in each vent on the top of both 3.5 MG tanks and attaching an extension to each vent so that it faces downward and not horizontal.

If there are any questions, please call Mr. Michael Miyahira, Supervisor of the Safe Drinking Water Branch Engineering Section, at (808) 586-4258.

Sincerely,

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JOANNA L. SETO, P.E., CHIEF Safe Drinking Water Branch

ZW: cb

c: Mr. Elroy Mollena, DHHL. [via <u>elroy.s.mollena@hawaii.gov</u> only]