

**Outrigger Telescope Project**  
**EIS Public Scoping Meeting**  
January 12, 2004  
Japanese Cultural Center, Oahu, Hawaii

Facilitator Notes

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Speaker #1

- Will a list of attendees and their contact information be made available?
- The EIS needs to include impacts from the past, present and reasonably foreseeable future astronomical facilities, for all existing facilities.
- NASA needs to establish baseline data/information in order to properly determine the impacts of further development.
- NASA needs to be more sensitive to the environment that is crying out to be protected and to the *Kanaka Maole* who are crying out for help to save this part of their culture.
- How many *Kanaka Maole* are in the decision making group that gives permission to build on Mauna Kea?

Speaker #2

- Unfortunately, NASA has only dealt with UH in contracting for the use of the aina, thus the UH has cheated us of millions of dollars that could be used to boost the education of Hawaiians and alleviate dire health and social needs.
- NASA is in a "Catch 22" situation.
- The area is pristine.
- Further operation on the summit may jeopardize the pristine condition.
- The community cannot "push" NASA off, but it can prevent further development.
- The summit sits on ceded lands.
- Land should benefit Native Hawaiians.
- Currently there is no benefit to Hawaiians.
- Act 304 does not recognize Native Hawaiians.
- 20% of revenue should go to Native Hawaiians.
- Hawaiians should receive 100% of revenues.
- Funds are needed for education, to address social issues and to raise the status of Native Hawaiians.
- Hawaiian children who need it the most (are at-risk).
- Internships for Intermediate and High School students.
- So often, allotted funds end up running a nonprofit organization and do not get to the intended beneficiary.
- Oppose further expansion, which will undermine the fragile balance of the ecosystem on the White Mountain.

### Speaker #3

- Going forward with the EIS is appreciated.
- The timing of this activity is suspect – during the holidays, little notice.
- There is no reason to “fast track” this project.
- There is tremendous public concern.
- Why have meetings on only two islands?
- This shows a lack of understanding of the breadth of the issue.
- More meetings and more notice.
- Scoping sets the stage for the EIS.
- As you meet with the community you [NASA] cannot assume or presume that the project will go forward; to do so would undermine the public trust.
- The EIS needs to include economic and social concerns.
- The EIS should also address process problems with UH.
- The CDUA permit process needs to be withdrawn.
- No further development preferred.
- Astronomy needs to happen using existing platforms or go elsewhere.
- Concern over the potential impact on the island’s principle aquifer.
- Handling of gray water, effluents, toxic spills, etc. can be improved.
- The hydrology of the mountain needs to be fully understood.
- Hire a third party, entity to study (not UH, not NASA).
- NASA is taking all the heat because this is the first ever EIS.
- Address the cumulative impacts in a broad way.
- Include all facilities.
- Establish baseline data to make future data collection possible.
- There is concern for the Wekiu bug.
- Put the project on hold until there is an approved management plan and the Wekiu bug is protected.
- Other species should be addressed in the EIS.
- Increased tank activity (and dust) at Pohakuloa may impact astronomy operations.
- The decision for what happens on Mauna Kea cannot rest with UH.
- Create a broad based community council.

### Speaker #4

- Mauna Kea is unique and special; it’s the essence of who Native Hawaiians are and is important to both Hawaiians and astronomers.
- NASA is not expected to understand how to respect the spiritual aspects of the mountain because they are from outside of Hawaii.
- However, local elected officials are expected to listen to and respond to the community.
- NASA should model the local protocol of asking for permission to enter the mountain, to learn and celebrate.
- By moving forward with more development you ignore the spiritualist of who we are.
- Move the project to Chile.
- A disingenuous process will only add insult to the Native Hawaiian people.

#### Speaker #5

- The ancient adze quarry at the summit is an example of Hawaiians using the resources of the mountain as a means of furthering technology.
- The presence of telescopes is an extension of previous use by Native Hawaiians.
- Historical names associated with the mountain tell of a relationship to the skies/stars.
- It's inappropriate to use religion as a basis to assert decisions about land use.
- It's abusive and inappropriate when the motive behind religious claims is to secure funds.
- Mauna Kea offers an opportunity for continued exploration of the skies and can serve future generations.

#### Speaker #6

- No amount of dollars can combat the people who love their land and are committed to protecting their future.
- Reference to training activity at Pohakuloa and the damage being done.
- Astronomy is not a clean science; there are reports of water pollution.
- Some scientists oppose the project.
- More Native Hawaiian scientists are needed.
- Is water being diverted to support military needs at the base?
- Need to learn to take care of and deal with ourselves (before we explore the universe).
- The past affects everything we do.
- The origins of partnership are criminal.

#### Speaker #7

- Native Hawaiians suffer a history of shame, having to give up their language, culture and history.
- It's not about money; it never has been.
- Hawaiians are a minority within a minority.
- It's [Outrigger Telescopes] going to be built [no matter what we say]; why come?
- For NASA to pay for access is an insult.
- Illegal immigrants have more rights than Native Hawaiians.
- Native Hawaiians should not have to explain or justify who they are.
- What would happen if a telescope were built in Jerusalem?
- It's hard to explain culture to those without [culture].
- Native Hawaiians always have to give up something.
- Imagine owning a piece of property for generations, where traditions, history and memories were collected over years, and someone from the outside came and took away your property and built a telescope. How would you feel?
- Treat people with dignity, pride and respect.
- Just let Hawaiians say "no" (don't look for "buts").

#### Speaker #8

- Some things said at earlier meetings [on the Big Island] were insulting.
- What's happening here is similar to what's happening in Tibet with China.
- If you can't help Hawaiians, don't hurt them anymore.
- Development means continued rape.

#### Speaker #9

- Opposes further expansion for all the reasons already stated.
- The process is flawed and is an attempt to keep the focus away from the political issue.
- It's OK to disagree [reference to meeting protocol] but not OK to act out in civil disobedience – this is disingenuous.
- There can be no military training without unintended consequences and further development will have consequences.
- There will be a relationship between the Outrigger Telescopes Project and the military.
- What will the unintended consequences be of further development and discoveries?
- It's not worth the price.
- Discoveries elsewhere will not resolve the issues here.
- What we do here will end up on the backs of other people (this has been proven historically).
- This is an indigenous issue, not a race issue.
- Stop desecrating other people's churches.
- Scientists claim to know what's best over indigenous experts.
- This [project] won't help Hawaiian people – it will serve commercial and military applications.

#### Speaker #10

- More building will result in more pollution and will be bad for Mauna Kea, which is a highly sacred mountain.

#### Speaker #11

- This is the only forum that people have to speak on the issue.
- This hearing did not come about because NASA chose to – it was forced.
- Comments made at the end of the Hilo meeting implied that going forward was a foregone conclusion.
- If this is a token gesture, then just say so.
- It's one thing to do the harm, it's another to do the harm and pretend you won't.
- The people/community does not have the resources to campaign (like NASA with computers in malls).
- While there is some respect for cultural practitioners, there is not recognition of the (health) impact that this fight is having on people.
- Being told time and time again that what you do is not important or is insignificant is difficult.
- If you are here to listen and hear, then do it; wait to act based on what's being said – be *pono*.
- It's all tied together; the military does influence what happens.

#### Speaker #12

- Trails still exist, the *kanaka maole* still practice, the higher you go, the more sacred, for many just the profile of the mountain is sacred.
- What's being proposed are a number of multi-story structures than can be seen 100 miles away.
- There needs to be more respect for cultural concerns.
- UH has not been a good steward.
- 97% of Wekiu bugs have been destroyed as a result of construction.
- Facilities have been built upon burial sites.
- 18,000 gallons of wastewater are disposed of each day (which goes into the aquifer and affects the whole island).
- What will be done to prevent future pollution of the aquifer?
- We are tired of outsiders coming in and telling us what's best.
- I hope this makes a difference.

#### Speaker #13

- Mauna Kea impacts all of Hawaii.
- Let other islands participate.
- Many cultural practitioners live on the neighboring islands.
- Hawaiians live in two worlds. Is there a way for NASA to do the same?
- Understand Native Hawaiians and science and culture.
- The EIS should be more than a report; it should be a comprehensive approach to encourage true understanding.

#### Speaker #14

- The Stryker process was not authentic and was a symbol of [further] attempts to colonize the Hawaiians.
- This is increasing outside control of the islands.
- These meetings mean nothing.
- These actions are leading to increased anger.
- Stop and leave. NASA and its dollars are not needed.
- What benefit is there to Hawaiians? Only more hostility and more bad policy.

#### Speaker #15

- In the Hawaiian culture, your deeds speak for you.
- When more telescopes are installed residents will be impacted by being inconvenienced (time, gas, money) to work around construction.
- Reference made to establishment of the Ironman Race and military road building.
- The intent was good but the at the expense of residents.
- Promise of jobs made but they were given to outsiders.
- Why is there no paperwork to review?
- NASA's and other's credibility is not high.
- Opposition needs to have a say before you go forward.

#### Speaker #16

- You can't stop science.
- NASA has been on the cutting edge since 1968 and there are plans to travel to the Moon and Mars.
- Clean up your toilet – the construction and building material before you go forward.

#### Written Comments #1

- Enough is enough – no more Hawaiian lands for development of any kind.
- We in Hawaii do not want to become a military target.
- We want to see a complete EIS, including all military uses and whether there are any international treaty violations that may result from information being gathered from Mauna Kea.