



Testimony BOE <testimony.boe@boe.hawaii.gov>

Testimony in Support of Sunny Unga's Petition for Rule Change

2 messages

Jessica dos Santos <nrtshrlv@gmail.com>

Wed, Dec 16, 2020 at 5:44 PM

To: Testimony.BOE@boe.hawaii.gov

Cc: Sunny Unga <sunnyrkim@gmail.com>

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jessica dos Santos and I strongly support Sunny Unga's Petition for Rule Change No. 20-01.

I am a lifelong resident of Kahuku, a Hawai'i educator of 14 years, and, most importantly, a parent. I am very concerned about the proximity of the NPM turbines to our schools and community and the lack of consensus and conclusiveness in the research surrounding the possible detrimental health effects industrial turbines could have on people, especially children, and other high-risk populations. If we do not know for sure that industrial turbines do not cause harm to our keiki and kupuna, it is unjust to relegate us to bear this type of burden, being guinea pigs of a potentially dangerous health experiment, without our consent. There are many community members that have been questioning whether or not their health conditions, migraines, severe autism meltdowns, epileptic seizures, tinnitus - a persistent ringing in the ear which causes sleep deprivation and stress -, nausea and dizziness, cardiovascular disease, sleep disturbance, are being caused by low-frequency sound waves and sound from the current Kahuku Wind Farm. During our fight, I worked with a team researching, for months, all of the reliable sources we could find. There has never been a study completed on any community that is this close, to this large of a turbine. My son would be 26 years old by the time the NPM turbines face decommissioning and he would have spent a majority of his youth being exposed to these potentially degrading health effects in the most vulnerable of his educational years.

It was disheartening that the BOE submitted an official comment without having heard our concerns or being sure of the potential unsafe learning and working environment the turbines would create. If the DOE has a duty to ensure that the students and faculty have a safe learning environment, it seems only right that more time would be taken to truly consult with the community and conduct more in-depth research into the impacts before making any comment. Had the BOE raised concerns over the proximity of the turbines to the school, it may have influenced the state to require a larger setback. I urge the leaders of the BOE and the DOE to take a drive out to Kahuku and spend time at Kahuku Elementary School or Kahuku District Park where our children play to hear the constant swoosh of the turbines and see their colossal presence hovering over the schools. Then perhaps you would realize our additional anger at the fact that no emergency plan is in place, or being addressed to our knowledge, should there be tower collapse, blade throw, or fire at NPM.

When sending our students to DOE schools, parents want to have trust that the school system is doing everything possible to keep our children safe, therefore it is paramount that there be more transparency and trust-building with the community when it comes to large scale developments near schools and libraries. This rule change is a necessary step towards a better, and more just, relationship with the BOE and community.

Respectfully,
Jessica dos Santos
nrtshrlv@gmail.com
808381-4069

--

Jessica A. dos Santos
Phone: (808) 381-4069

Jessica dos Santos <nrtshrlv@gmail.com>
To: Testimony.BOE@boe.hawaii.gov

Thu, Dec 17, 2020 at 12:26 PM

Hello,

I am deeply concerned about the way in which the so called "public meeting" denied the public the ability to sign up, up to 15 minutes before the meeting as it was stated on the website. Also, the confusion with not letting people know exactly when the executive session would conclude and when testimony would resume. I was in the restroom when you called my name and I then entered back right away, but then I was also denied my right to testify. The BOE needs to give the public a true opportunity to testify.

[Quoted text hidden]