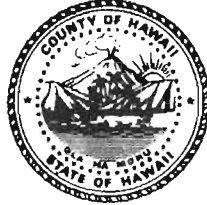


William P. Kenoi  
Mayor



Walter K.M. Lau  
Managing Director

Randall M. Kurohara  
Deputy Managing Director

## County of Hawai'i Office of the Mayor

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February 13, 2015

Mr. Robert Petricci, President  
Puna Pono Alliance  
P.O. Box 492668  
Kea'au, HI 96749

Dear Mr. Petricci:

Mahalo for taking the time to inform us about the Puna Pono Alliance's concerns regarding Puna Geothermal Venture's (PGV) plans to drill a new well under their existing permit. We believe that the county's ordinance prohibiting nighttime drilling within one mile of a residence does not apply to operations under PGV's current permit, which was granted prior to this prohibition taking effect. When Bill 292 was passed, the Council was clear that it was both their intent and understanding that the bill's restrictions would not apply to activities that were already allowed under an existing permit. In other words, the bill could not retroactively prohibit what had already been permitted, and the Council understood that.

Please know that the Planning Department is working with PGV on the implementation of proper sound abatement measures during drilling. PGV will install sound blankets around the drill rig, mufflers on the drilling equipment, and modify and insulate valves and pipes to decrease noise. In addition they will add shields to the lighting to minimize light exposure.

Mahalo for the opportunity to comment regarding PGV plan to drill well KS-16.

Aloha,

Billy Kenoi  
MAYOR