

HELCO AND THE STATE OF HAWAII HAVE PLANS FOR PUNA.... GEOTHERMAL PLANTS AND INDUSTRIALIZATION!

HELCO has plans to change Puna into an industrial area.

Approximately **20 companies** are looking at geothermal exploration in Hawaii County.

Where?

- Opihikao Steam Vents Area
- Pohoiki Road near Leilani Estates
- Pohoiki / Adjacent to Isaac Hale Beach Park
- Four Corners / Kapoho
- and more...

Geothermal drilling releases **hydrogen sulfide** into the air and develops waste fluids containing elevated levels of **lead, arsenic, mercury, lithium and boron**. Geothermal emissions (H₂S) and vog (SO₂) are **NOT** the same.

This will make Puna an industrial area affecting our **HEALTH** and **SAFETY**:

- People, Animals, Environment
- Water, Ocean, Air Quality
- Earthquakes, Noise – low frequency noise and possible Vibro-Acoustic Disease
- And more known and unknown risks
- Property Values, Hawaiian Culture and Religion, and Social Justice Issues

Do you know why former Hawaii County Mayor and Civil Defense Director **Harry Kim** thinks that Act 97 should be repealed?

- Critical decisions about Puna's future are being made **without our input**. Hawaii County has no say. We need community voice!

Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV):

- had a **BLOWOUT** in 1991
- had **18 Civil Defense Emergencies** from 1991-1999. (*data reporting ceased in 1999 – why?*)
- PGV is **re-injecting 4 million gallons of geothermal fluids back into the earth every day**. What can that do to our ground water and ocean?
- Mike Kaleikini, PGV Plant Manager, admitted to losing an average of 40 gallons each day of isopentane – a highly flammable liquid – into the environment and stores 60,000 gallons at the plant.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a report on the PGV blowout with **recommendations that have NOT been implemented by the County or PGV**.



Existing PGV perimeter monitors are 12-15 feet above the ground BUT the gas is heavier than air and stays at ground level. **The monitors don't measure all hydrogen sulfide of concern!**

There have been **no valid health studies or effective evacuation plans** for PGV for the past 30 years since geothermal expansion in Puna started.

There are at least **7 schools in this area** that may need to evacuate students in the event of a blowout.

They may start "enhanced" geothermal – similar to "**fracking**" on the mainland!

Follow the Money - "GREEN" or GREED?

- Billions of dollars for "Green Energy" Initiatives are being funneled to geothermal projects but the type of **geothermal in Hawaii is NOT "green"**.
- Geothermal is potentially dangerous technology. There are many other forms of cost effective alternate energy production.
- Who cleans up if a project fails? Who is liable? ORMAT (company that owns PGV) will not pay.
- **Get informed. Corporate dollars are paying for misinformation in the media.**

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

1. Get on the Puna Pono Alliance e-mail list to **stay informed and involved**. E-mail newsletter@punapono.com with NEWSLETTER in subject line.
2. Visit the website for more information, questions, suggestions: punapono.com
3. **SPREAD THE WORD** TO OTHERS!
4. Contact your elected officials - Call, e-mail, write letters, talk story with them when you see them in the community.
5. Donate to Puna Pono Alliance via PayPal or check.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- * Get educated and empowered.
- * Decide for yourself whether geothermal is good or not.
- * Decide if you want geothermal in Hawaii and your community. **Then take action!**

1. Read an educational folder.
2. Give an educational folder to a friend.
3. Get on the **Puna Pono Alliance e-mail list** to stay informed and involved. E-mail newsletter@punapono.com.
4. Visit the website for more information, questions, suggestions: punapono.com
5. **Contact your elected officials** - call, e-mail, write letters, talk story with them when you see them in the community.
6. Be available to testify at the Hawaii County Council Meetings.
7. Be available in person for "body count" support for others testifying and taking actions.
8. Sign up to get the e-mails that alert us to write/call state senators and representatives regarding measures which are about to be heard.
9. Work the Sunday Makuu Farmer's Market Education booth.
10. Help make signs.
11. Put signs at your place of residence.
12. Hold signs on roads during peak traffic hours.
13. Post signs and flyers in your neighborhood, especially before community meetings.
14. Come to community meetings.
15. Distribute educational materials in your neighborhood - hang outside gates or boxes.
16. Research online.
17. Donate money to Puna Pono Alliance via PayPal or check.
18. Donate items for a Silent Auction fundraiser.
19. Buy a t-shirt and wear it.
20. Fill out a geothermal health study questionnaire.
21. **FINALLY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY, GET INVOLVED! SPREAD THE WORD TO OTHERS!**

Submit testimony, especially when important legislation is being passed. This can be done in person or by email. If you have never given testimony but would like to, we can guide you in this process. It is an empowering thing to do and an action that is of immense value when it comes to passing legislation. When the people speak en masse, the politicians listen.

PUNA PONO ALLIANCE

- The Puna Pono Alliance was formed to protect the Aina, and to safeguard the health, safety, sustainability and quality of life for our families and neighbors. We support environmentally safe, culturally sensitive, economically viable, and sustainable energy alternatives for Hawaii County.
 - We oppose the industrialization of Puna and the noise, pollutants, and traffic that it would bring to our community.
 - We oppose the building of any additional geothermal power plants in Puna, because of our direct experience of the noise and toxic releases of geothermal plants.
 - We believe there are safer, wiser, and more economically sensible energy alternatives such as solar, biofuels, and conservation.
- The history of geothermal power in Puna has been one of poor regulation, misinformation, and repeated releases of toxic gases. The lack of investigation of sickness from geothermal plants has been coupled with verbal attacks against those that have reported ill effects.
- We call for comprehensive and independent health studies and air monitoring to determine the effects of the current Puna Geothermal Venture (PGV) geothermal plant.
- Who are we? We are people in the Puna community of many walks of life – parents, professionals, farmers, doctors, teachers, school administrators, a nuclear submarine captain, retirees, hippies, permaculturists, Hawaiians, etc. We are residents of Puna concerned about the impact of geothermal on current and future generations in the fastest growing and most pristine district in the Hawaiian Islands.

If you wish to stay informed about community action and receive the Puna Pono Alliance Newsletter and Bob Petricci's Updates, email newsletter@punapono.com with NEWSLETTER in the subject line.

Puna Pono Alliance needs funds to keep up the fight for Puna.

*Please contribute by **credit card or PayPal at punapono.com/contribute** or by check to **PO Box 492668, Kaaau, HI 96749.***

If you want to help in other ways please call **(808) 339-4344.**

www.punapono.com

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