Mr. James K. Ikeda  
Acting Chief  
Environmental Protection and  
Health Services Division  
Department of Health  
P. O. Box 3378  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96801

Dear Mr. Ikeda:

Water Quality Certification No. 129  
Waiulua Bay Dredging Project  
Waikoloa Beach Resort  
South Kohala, Hawaii

Waiulua Bay is a shallow inlet north of 'Anaeho'omalu Bay in the South Kohala District of the island of Hawaii. The applicant proposes to modify Waiulua Bay to enable catamarans, dive boats and other commercial recreational vessels to load and unload hotel guests from a docking facility at the Hyatt Regency Waikoloa Beach Resort in South Kohala, Hawaii. Proposed modifications include dredging a navigable boat entrance channel (75 feet wide, 12 feet deep and 800 feet long), dredging a turning basin, constructing a passenger boat loading dock, and constructing a rubble mound protective groin surrounding the docking area. The Environmental Center has conducted a review of WQC No. 129 with the assistance of Hans-Jurgen Krock, Ocean Engineering; and R. Allen Rush, Environmental Center.

General Comments

Although a water quality and biological monitoring program already is in place, monitoring only is performed quarterly, and such a schedule probably will miss most of the dredging event. The monitoring stations appear adequate, but the sampling program should be adjusted to reflect the scale of the proposed dredging. Even though turbid, the bay is classified as AA water, and turbidity should be monitored. In addition biological assessment needs to be sufficiently comprehensive to cover prospective impacts and damage.
Mr. James K. Ikeda

We thank you for allowing us the opportunity to comment on this WQC.

Yours truly,

John Harrison
Environmental Coordinator

cc: OEQC
   L. Stephen Lau
   Hans-Jurgen Krock
   R. Allen Rush