April 26, 1991
RG:0105

Mr. Benjamin B. Lee, Chief Planning Officer
Department of General Planning
City and County of Honolulu
650 South King Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Mr. Lee:

General Plan Amendment Application
Ewa Marina
(Maritime Commercial Center Including a Hotel Complex)
Ewa, Oahu

The referenced document proposes an amendment to the General Plan of the City and County of Honolulu to allow development of a Maritime Commercial Center with a 600 unit hotel/condominium complex.

Pursuant to Chapter 343, HRS, this proposal was the subject of both a Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). In our review of the Draft EIS, the Environmental Center raised concerns over the absence of a detailed site plan, noting that the lack of access to such a plan makes it difficult for reviewers and decision makers to see how the applicants are proposing to develop this sizable project. The Final EIS was released with no site plan included.

We note that this application, like both the Draft and Final EISs, contains no site plan, even one depicting a general concept.

For the most part, the applicant has responded conscientiously to the comments provided during the EIS review process. However, their offer to meet with the Environmental Center to discuss our comments and questions, which was their response on the site plan issue, fails to address our more general concern of the public's right to know. This issue is the centerpiece of the intent of Chapter 343. Without some indication as to how the various elements of the project will actually be placed and oriented on the site, the effects of this significant action on the immediate area remain unspecified and conceptually vague.
We hope that no plan amendments are approved without the applicant disclosing, at a minimum, a conceptual design for the project.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this document.

Yours truly,

John T. Harrison, Ph.D.
Environmental Coordinator

cc: Haseko, Inc.
Kiefer, Oshima, Chun, Fong & Chung
Roger Fujioha
Lee Lyttle