HB 2582
RELATING TO THE ENVIRONMENT

House Committee on
Energy and Environmental Protection

Public Hearing - January 29, 1996
7:00 P.M., Room 312, State Capitol

By
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HB 2582 would require applicants for air permits to submit an emergency response plan to the appropriate agencies, and existing permittees to submit their plans no later than February 1, 1997.

Our statement on this measure is compiled from voluntarily submitted opinions of listed academic sources, and as such, does not constitute an institutional position of the University of Hawaii.

This measure appears to relate to recent unintended emissions from the BHP and Chevron refineries at Campbell Industrial Park. It is appropriate that such industrial concerns and utility plants should have an emergency response plan in place, and filing these plans with the State Emergency Response Committee is similarly prudent.

We suggest that basic outlines of an emergency response plan ought to be included in rules developed to implement this measure, and furthermore, the bill should include a provision for public review of the proposed plans.

We further suggest that the requirement to file an emergency response plan should be restricted to facilities and operations for which substantive hazardous emission releases would appropriately be considered a possibility. Maintaining the bill's current universal applicability seems overly broad, and would place undue cost burdens on low-risk operations.