



# University of Hawaii at Manoa

Environmental Center  
Crawford 317 • 2550 Campus Road  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96822  
Telephone (808) 948-7361

Office of the Director

July 27, 1981

RR:0067

Ms. Joan Kodani  
Executive Secretary  
Environmental Quality Commission  
550 Halekauwila Street  
Room 301  
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813

Dear Ms. Kodani:

Proposed Exemption List  
Building Department  
City and County of Honolulu

The Environmental Center review of the proposed Building Department exemption list has been prepared with the assistance of Roy Takekawa, Facilities Management; Garret Kawamura and Jacquelin Miller, Environmental Center. In view of the removal from further environmental review of items listed on the exempt action lists, we are concerned with the potential impacts associated with some of the proposed exemptions. The following comments are identified by exemption class and item proposed for exemption under the class.

Exemption Class #3

Item 4. Communication building, less than 400 sq. ft., to house microwave electronic equipment.

The potential health hazard associated with exposure to microwave radiation would appear to preclude a blanket exemption for microwave electronic equipment. It was recently brought to the public's attention that the U.S. Coast Guard's Omega Transmitting Station in Halawa Valley could pose a health problem to construction workers and travelers along the proposed TH-3 freeway. It would seem appropriate to require environmental assessment for such an action to assure that the knowledgeable authorities, DOH, EPA, are contacted and that necessary mitigating measures are taken to assure that no health hazards will be generated.