Honolulu Board of Water Supply Media Advisory

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BWS TO CONDUCT A SERIES OF SLOPE STABILIZATION PROJECTS IN PALOLO AND WAIALAE IKI

HONOLULU – Beginning November 18, a Board of Water Supply (BWS) contractor is scheduled to begin a series of slope stabilization projects in Palolo and the Waialae area. Slope stabilization efforts will begin in Palolo on a hillside above a BWS utility tunnel, below Sierra Drive, near 10th Avenue and Keanu Street. The work will then proceed to the Waialae Iki area near reservoirs located on two hillsides, the first behind Kalaniiki Street and the second behind Laukahi and Kamole Streets.

The slope stabilization projects are being conducted as a proactive measure to protect BWS facilities and personnel, and the neighboring communities. The need for the project was initiated through findings from regular site inspections of BWS facilities.

As part of the project, the contractor will remove boulders that have the potential of becoming unstable due to erosion or other natural causes. Based on a geotechnical assessment of each site, a wire mesh drape system will be installed along the hillsides to prevent rockslides and/or fences will be installed to capture debris in the event of a rockfall. At the completion of the project, ground surfaces disturbed during construction will be vegetated to protect against soil erosion and to reduce any negative visual impact. Surfaces where a wire mesh is installed will be designed to allow vegetation to grow back to its natural state.

Barring any unforeseen circumstances, the project is expected to be completed in September 2015. Working hours for the project will be Monday to Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The project will have no travel impacts for motorists and cyclists.

Questions and comments may be directed to the BWS Construction Section at 748-5730, the BWS Communications Office at 748-5041, or via email at <u>contactus@hbws.org</u>.

About the Board of Water Supply

The Board of Water Supply (BWS), a semi-autonomous agency of the City and County of Honolulu, manages Oahu's municipal water resources and distribution system. As the largest water utility in the State, the BWS serves approximately one million customers on Oahu. The BWS embraces its mission of "Water for Life – *Ka Wai Ola*"—to provide a safe, dependable, and affordable water supply, now and into

the future. $Uw\bar{e} \ ka \ lani, \ ola \ ka \ honua$ – "When the heavens weep, the earth lives." For more information, visit <u>www.boardofwatersupply.com</u>.