

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

RESOLUTION NO. 931, 2021

NAVY RED HILL FUEL STORAGE FACILITY
AND WATER CONTAMINATION ISSUES AT
JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR HICKAM

WHEREAS, since 2014, the Board of Water Supply has raised concerns of potential aquifer contamination from the Red Hill fuel facility which stores more than 180 million gallons of fuel in vintage World War II tanks, and pipelines and infrastructure that are located 100-feet above a major source of drinking water for Oahu residents and visitors;

WHEREAS, on November 28, 2021, the Navy began receiving complaints of fuel odor in the tap water from JBPHH housing residents and subsequently shut down its Red Hill Shaft water source;

WHEREAS, on December 2, 2021, the Navy ceased the use of its Red Hill Shaft after determining that its water system is contaminated with petroleum and in response, the Board of Water Supply shut down its Halawa Shaft pumping station that serves 20% of the water delivered to 450,000 residents and visitors in metropolitan Honolulu;

WHEREAS, the Board of Water Supply appreciates Hawaii's congressional delegation, the Secretary of Navy, and the Governor for supporting the suspension of operations at the Red Hill fuel facility in response to the JBPHH water contamination crisis;

WHEREAS, the Board of Water Supply reminds the Navy and the US Department of Defense that if secondary containment is not a feasible alternative as the Navy has claimed in response to previous such proposals, then the Navy and the US Department of Defense must find a long-term solution that involves relocating the fuel away from the aquifer;

WHEREAS, the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Hawaii Department of Health continue to be responsible for overseeing the Navy's timely compliance with requirements specified under the Red Hill Administrative Order on Consent; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Water Supply reiterates both its support of the armed forces in safeguarding the Nation and the continued investment of the federal government in the protection of Honolulu's aquifer.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Members of the Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu, that the Navy must take steps to identify where leaks, past and present, have occurred in the system and the direction of petroleum movement; and in the aquifer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Water Supply supports ceasing the use of the Red Hill Fuel Facility and the immediate and permanent removal of the fuel while investigating alternatives; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Hawaii Congressional Delegation is urged to introduce legislation directing the Navy to develop and implement a plan to decommission the Red Hill Bulk Fuel Facility and the Facility's underground tanks, and to appropriate funds for the Navy to implement that plan, including to identify and remediate any related contamination; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Water Supply re-iterates its belief that the most effective and efficient solution to the immediate crises requires the relocation of the fuel facility away from the Halawa Aquifer; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this Board reaffirms the need for all federal, state, and county agencies to collectively protect and preserve Honolulu's water resources.

ADOPTED:



Bryan Andaya
Chair

Honolulu, Hawaii
December 13, 2021

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 931, 2021 REGARDING THE NAVY'S RED HILL BULK FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED WATER CONTAMINATION ISSUES, ADOPTED DECEMBER 13, 2021			
	AYE	NO	COMMENT
BRYAN P. ANDAYA	X		
KAPUA SPROAT	X		
RAY C. SOON			ABSENT
MAX J. SWORD			ABSENT
NA'ALEHU ANTHONY	X		
JADE T. BUTAY	X		
ROGER BABCOCK, JR.	X		