

FACT SHEET
Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)
Hawai'i Interisland Renewable Energy Program

The Hawai'i Interisland Renewable Energy Program (HIREP) will enable the delivery of electricity generated in areas where substantial renewable energy sources are located to areas where the power is needed. It will create an undersea interisland cable to transmit wind power from islands within Maui County to O'ahu. The complex nature of the project and its potential impacts will be addressed through a programmatic EIS.

WHAT: A programmatic EIS (PEIS) will analyze the cumulative impacts and benefits of three components that together make up HIREP:

- Transmission of renewable energy via undersea cable to O'ahu;
- Generation of up to 400 MW of renewable wind energy on one or more islands in Maui County; and
- Utility infrastructure upgrades on O'ahu needed to integrate large amounts of wind energy into the electric grid.

The PEIS will provide a framework, uniform policies, best management practices, and a process for deciding how project components should be integrated within the framework.

A project-specific EIS that includes each project component (wind farms, undersea cable, and O'ahu grid upgrades) is still needed and will be coordinated with, or tiered, under the umbrella of the PEIS.

WHY: HIREP proposes a large infrastructure investment that will significantly contribute to the State's Hawai'i Clean Energy Initiative goal of 70 percent clean energy by the year 2030. Wind power generated through this proposed program can contribute 14 percent to Hawai'i's renewable energy target.

WHO: The State Energy Office of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism has contracted AECOM Technical Services, Inc. (AECOM) to conduct the PEIS.

AECOM is a global provider of professional technical and management support services to a broad range of markets, including transportation, facilities, environmental, energy, water and government with approximately 52,000 employees around the world and approximately 200 professionals living and working in Hawai'i.

The PEIS is funded by federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) stimulus funds, which allows us to increase the opportunities for public input.

WHEN: The PEIS must be completed by April 2012 due to the expiration of ARRA funding.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE: Public comments are welcome. For information on how to comment, log on to www.hirep-wind.com.