



**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS,  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & TOURISM**  
*State Energy Office*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**BUSINESSES, EVENTS RECEIVE HAWAII GREEN BUSINESS AWARDS  
FOR ENERGY EFFICIENCY EFFORTS**

HONOLULU — Businesses and event organizers across Hawai'i have taken their commitment to reduce, reuse and recycle to a new level. From replacing polyethylene terephthalate (PET) bottles with glass bottles to building bee colonies for honey to rewarding employees for carpooling, local enterprises are finding innovative ways to keep their utility costs down and preserve natural resources all while helping the state meet its clean energy goals.

Twenty-four of these renewable energy and efficiency stewards were honored today by the state for their outstanding clean energy efforts at the 2015 Hawai'i Green Business Awards. The awards were presented by Gov. David Y. Ige and hosted by the Hawaii State Energy Office of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT), Department of Health and The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii. The annual awards program recognizes achievements by Hawai'i businesses and entities in the area of energy efficiency.

"Today's honorees have gone beyond environmental compliance. They've taken bold and creative steps to incorporate green practices into multiples aspects of their business operations and events. Collectively, they're helping move Hawai'i to the forefront of renewable energy efforts," said Gov. Ige.

(more)

Luis Salaveria, director of the Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism, praised the awardees for their commitment to sustainability.

“Not only are they operating in an environmentally and socially responsible manner, they are reducing our reliance on imported fossil fuels, which helps with our economic and energy security,” Salaveria said.

Recognizing the state’s commitment to conservation and sustainable development, the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Council selected Hawai’i as the venue for the 2016 IUCN World Conservation Congress – the world’s largest conservation event. This will be the first time the World Conservation Congress will be held in the United States. A number of this year’s Hawai’i Green Business awardees will host some of the 8,000-10,000 delegates who will be in Honolulu next September for the conference.

The Hawai’i Green Business Program (HGBP) assists and recognizes businesses that strive to operate in an environmentally and socially responsible manner. When launched in 2002, the HGBP initially focused on Resorts & Hotels due to the large number of visitors in Hawai’i, and the potential for significant resource reduction through conservation.

The program, with Green Interns funded in part by the federal Environmental Protection Agency Pacific Southwest Region IX, has expanded over the years and now includes four categories: Resorts & Hotels, Offices & Retail, Restaurant & Food Service Facilities, and Green Events. This year’s awards features a new category: Grocery Stores.

Businesses that have been recognized for their green practices can be viewed in an interactive map on the Hawai’i State Energy Office’s Green Business Program website:

<http://energy.hawaii.gov/green-business-program>.

The honorees of the 2015 Hawai’i Green Business Awards are:

- Hyatt Regency Waikiki
- Kahala Resort and Spa
- Turtle Bay Resort and Spa
- Volcano House
- Bills Sydney
- Lanikai Juice
- the nook neighborhood bistro
- Whole Foods Market, Kahala Mall
- Hawai’i Pacific University
- Sustainable Island Products

- Honeywell Energy Solutions
- Kapolei Fire Station
- East-West Center
- KUPU/RISE
- Patagonia, Honolulu

The Hawai'i Green Business Awards also honored nine green events held in 2015:

- Green Hotel Forum by Outrigger Reef Waikiki Beach Resort
- Concert on the Lawn by East-West Center
- Sustainability Council Retreat by Kamehameha Schools
- The Chaos of SustAINAbility by HISCI
- Annual Sustainability Higher Education Summit – University of Hawaii
- E-Drive Charrette by DBEDT
- Pop-Up Pupus by Hawaii Theatre
- Sustainability Unconference by Important Media
- TEDx Paradigm Shift by TEDxHonolulu

For a description of the awardees and their energy efficiency accomplishments, please see separate Awardee Accomplishments document.

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The Hawaii State Energy Office is leading the state's charge toward clean energy independence. With a goal to meet and exceed Hawaii's 70 percent clean energy targets by 2030, the State Energy Office is committed to developing and deploying high impact solutions that will maximize Hawaii's renewable energy resources and improve efficiency and transportation standards. Through effective policies and innovative programs, the State Energy Office has positioned Hawaii as a leading proving ground for clean energy innovation, which will generate quality jobs, attract investment opportunities and accelerate economic growth. The State Energy Office is a division of the state's Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism. For more information, visit [www.energy.hawaii.gov](http://www.energy.hawaii.gov).

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