



July 29, 2026 – DRIP Committee Meeting

Aloha Chair Paltin, Vice-Chair U‘u-Hodgins, and Members of the Committee,

On behalf of Maui Land & Pineapple Company (MLP), mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony regarding the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the County of Maui and MLP. We are grateful to Chair Paltin for placing this matter on today's agenda, providing an opportunity for the Council and the public to hear directly from the Administration about its intentions for this proposed acquisition and the anticipated path forward following execution of the MOU.

The MOU represents an important first step in what we anticipate will be a thoughtful, transparent, and collaborative process.

This effort began with the County's request to explore the transfer of MLP's West Maui and Upcountry water systems as part of its broader initiative to bring water resources under public management and strengthen its ability to support future housing opportunities for local families.

In response, MLP thoughtfully evaluated the potential transfer of its water assets, including interest from private-sector purchasers. After careful consideration, MLP determined that the County of Maui's vision most closely aligned with the company's renewed mission of stewarding its lands and assets in ways that create resilient communities for generations to come.

Our objective throughout this process has been to help facilitate the responsible transition of these water systems to public management in a manner that provides meaningful community benefit. To support realizing the County's vision, we have offered to donate or discount the value of assets, where appropriate, recognizing the importance of creating a pathway that is financially responsible while advancing the public interest. By working together, we can increase capacity and improve resiliency to West Maui and Upcountry water systems while identifying opportunities for land to support much-needed housing for local families.

We are still in the early stages of the due diligence framework outlined in the MOU — which includes assessments, appraisals, and operational evaluations. MLP is committed to participating in this work transparently and in good faith as the County evaluates the proposed acquisition.

We appreciate the County's partnership to date and look forward to continued collaboration with the County Council, the Administration, and the community as this process moves forward. We remain committed to working together to ensure any future transfer is completed in a manner that serves the long-term interests of Maui and future generations.

Mahalo for the opportunity to provide testimony and for your thoughtful consideration of this important matter.

Thank you,

Race Randle
Chief Executive Officer