



Board of Regents &lt;bor@hawaii.edu&gt;

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**(no subject)**

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Tue, Apr 14, 2015 at 10:36 PM

To: bor@hawaii.edu

Aloha 'o 'Alohilani Kamaunu ko'u inoa. I am going to continue in English so i am not misunderstood. I am sending this email to humbly ask for the decommission of the Thirty Meter Telescope planned to be constructed on the northern plateau of Mauna a Wakea. The TMT project not only violates law (HAR 13-5-30), which outlines clear criteria that **MUST BE MET** before construction can be allowed on conservation lands in Hawai'i, it includes that any development may not cause "substantial adverse impact to existing and natural resources within surrounding areas, communities, and or regions. TMT will be visible from 14% of the island and interrupt viewing to Haleakala. The law also includes that the existing physical and environmental aspects of the land, such as natural beauty and open space characteristics, will be preserved or improved upon, whichever is applicable. I don't know about you but i cant see how building a telescope the size of nearly 9 football fields is going to preserve or improve the natural beauty of Mauna a Wakea. Construction will impact fragile habitats of native plants and animals that are found no where else on this planet and there is no guarantee of restoration when the lease term ends in a mere 21 years. This speaks for itself, TMT will produce 120-250 cubic feet of solid waste a week!!!! TMT will use a 5,000 gallon underground tank to store waste, including HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS!!! That is just the political and environmental side of it, now lets get into the cultural, and human part of it. Mauna a Wakea is a sacred place to the indigenous people of this land. That may be hard to understand for many different reasons that are not important but, as human beings we must **TRY TO UNDERSTAND**. As human beings we must **RESPECT ONE AN OTHERS** culture. Wakea is known to the Hawaiians as sky father, Papahanaumoku is mother earth, together they birthed the first man of our race, Haloa. This is our scripture, this is our Adam and Eve. Mauna a Wakea connects us to the heavens. It is the highest point of our land which makes it that much closer to heaven so that is where we go to pray and to make sacrifices to our Gods, just like the temple in Jerusalem was to the Jews. Mauna a Wakea is our Temple. In conclusion, there may not be hundreds of thousands of people signing petitions or sending letters and emails and flooding the phone lines pleading with you all to stop the desecration of Mauna a Wakea. There may not even be that many people who oppose the TMT project or that many people who have Hawaiian blood anymore but, i leave you with this, in the words of Dr. Seuss, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It's not. Mahalo, me ke aloha pumehana.