



Interisland Wind Project



What

The Interisland Wind Project is planned to bring about 400 megawatts (MW) of clean, renewable wind power from Molokai and Lanai via undersea cable to Oahu, where demand for electricity is greatest but the potential for renewable energy is limited.

Why

- Hawaii depends on imported fossil fuel (mostly oil) for over 90% of energy for land, air & sea transportation -- and electricity.
- Importing and burning oil challenges our security, economy, and environment.
- Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (HCEI) goals -- 70% clean, renewable energy for electricity and ground transportation by 2030 – will be very difficult to achieve without bringing wind power to Oahu from the neighbor islands.

Who

- First Wind Hawaii (which developed the Kaheawa wind farm on Maui and is working on wind projects on Oahu's North Shore) is planning a 200+ MW wind farm on Molokai.
- Castle & Cooke (which installed the state's largest photovoltaic system on Lanai) is planning a 200+ MW wind farm on Lanai.
- State of Hawaii has committed to develop an undersea cable system linking Molokai and Lanai to Oahu and eventually to Maui.
- Hawaiian Electric Company will upgrade the Oahu grid and operations system to accept 400+ MW of wind power and run the undersea cable system.

Public Input & Permits

- Environmental Impact Statements will be done on all parts of the project. In October 2009, the State of Hawaii began the process of finding a company or organization to conduct the EIS for an undersea power cable system connecting Lanai, Molokai, O'ahu, and Maui.
- Public comment invited at meetings and at www.interislandwind.com
- Project needs Public Utilities Commission approval & other government permits.

Benefits

Interisland Wind will help all of Hawaii by:

- Bringing investment & jobs in construction, high technology and more.
- Keeping at home part of the \$6 billion to \$7 billion sent out of state yearly for energy (mostly to foreign countries; increasingly to Middle East countries).
- Improving our energy security by reducing Hawaii's dependence on imported oil
- Protecting our environment by reducing greenhouse gas emissions that are causing global climate change: rising sea levels, changing weather patterns, etc.
- Provide a backbone for the future development of Hawaii's electrical infrastructure and addition of more renewable energy in Hawaii.

over

