JOSH GREEN, M.D. GOVERNOR KE KIA'ĀINA



DEC - 2 2025

The Honorable Dan Driscoll Secretary of the Army 101 Army Pentagon Washington, D.C. 20310-0101

Dear Mr. Secretary:

Mahalo for your November 6 letter. I appreciate your designation of LTG Vowell as the Army's senior representative in Hawai'i as we continue direct dialogue between your office and mine. Given the complexity and historic significance of this matter, I agree that we must establish a structured pathway to a final agreement.

As we discussed in Washington, it is imperative that we continue negotiations as this issue is important to both the people of Hawai'i as well as to national security. Given the importance of finalizing these investments, I believe there is insufficient time to complete an agreement by the end of 2025. Hawai'i's people deserve a resolution that is both durable and transparent. To that end, I propose that our teams, through the technical working groups, prioritize finalizing the major community benefit items we have already outlined. For the Army, these include return and restoration of Mākua Valley, cleanup of unexploded ordnance, and expanded housing investments. For other interagency partners, we will also continue discussions on: energy investments, Medicare locality adjustments, cesspools, and the federal detention center transfer, among others. Concrete action on these items will demonstrate our shared good faith and provide certainty to Hawai'i's communities ahead of the Army taking any land action.

Finally, it is my understanding that the Army's current expedited approach is driven by these three issues. Please confirm that:

- 1. You reserve the legal right to pursue eminent domain should it be necessary for national security;
- 2. You have consulted with the Department of Justice regarding this potential course of action; and
- 3. Short-term land instruments, such as five- or ten-year lease extensions, do not provide the certainty required for military construction and force-posture investments.

Your acknowledgment of these points will help clarify the gravity of the decisions before us and the importance of a negotiated resolution.

Mahalo,

Josh Green, M.D.

Governor, State of Hawai'i