



**Maui
Electric**

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maui Electric hosts community meetings Oct. 15-17 to discuss future renewable energy projects for Moloka‘i

MOLOKA‘I, Oct. 5, 2018 – As part of its ongoing efforts to power Moloka‘i with 100 percent renewable energy, Maui Electric Company will be hosting three *Moloka‘i 100%* community meetings to share the current progress and next steps of reaching this ambitious initiative. The meetings will start at 5 p.m. with light refreshments, followed by updates from 5:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the following dates and locations:

- Monday, Oct. 15: Mitchell Pau‘ole Community Center
- Tuesday, Oct. 16: Kilohana Community Center
- Wednesday, Oct. 17: Maunaloa Community Center

“At our *Molokai 100%* meetings, we encourage everyone to attend as we’ll be talking about going out for proposals of future renewable energy projects for the island,” said Sharon Suzuki, president of Maui Electric. “Based on feedback we collected through ongoing discussions with the community and with the recent approval of the island’s first large-scale solar project, please join us to learn more about this next phase where we’ll start to look for additional clean generation sources to power the island.”

Since March 2017, Maui Electric has hosted 13 roundtable discussions with more than 150 Moloka‘i residents, business owners, and students. Held in various locations, including Kaunakakai, Maunaloa and Kilohana, the sessions provided information about the island’s energy system, followed by discussion about how residents envision the island’s sustainable energy future. Based on these sessions and community feedback, Maui Electric will be seeking diverse options for Moloka‘i to achieve 100 percent renewable energy, and possibly ahead of the rest of the state.

This July, the Hawai‘i Public Utilities Commission approved the first grid-scale solar and battery energy storage project to be built on Moloka‘i. The 2.64-megawatt project, including a 3-MW battery energy storage system, will be owned and operated by Moloka‘i New Energy Partners, which will sell electricity to Maui Electric Company. It is expected to be in service by the end of 2019.

The company will discuss the current status of the MNEP project as well as the progress of other parts of its *Molokai 100%* plans, including installation of the island’s first public electric vehicle charging station.

As part of its *Molokai 100%* efforts, Maui Electric is taking a multi-pronged approach to helping the island community reach the state’s 100 percent clean energy goal. This includes continuous outreach and discussions with the community; alternative financing possibilities through available tax credits and third-party grants; innovative utility-sited solutions and new customer options to prepare the Moloka‘i grid to take on more renewable energy.

###

FOLLOW US FOR THE LATEST:

