## Hawaii's Climate and Energy Regulatory Process and Evolving Federal Mandates

Rising Tides: Climate Change and the Economic and Business Impact on Hawaii November 11, 2015 Douglas A. Codiga, Esq. Schlack Ito LLLC



### Summary of Key Points

- \* Climate change impacts business and the economy
- Impacts addressed through regulatory process
  - Climate change
  - \* Clean energy
- \* Evolving interplay of state and federal regulation
- Hawaii response to federal Clean Power Plan illustrates regulatory process challenges and opportunities for business and economic growth

### Evolving Federal Mandates: Clean Power Plan

Clean Power Plan Final Rule (40 C.F.R. Subpart UUUU)

- \* "Carbon Pollution Emission Guidelines for Existing Stationary Sources: Electric Utility Generating Units" (80 Fed. Reg. 64,662-64,694)
- \* Published Oct. 23, 2015 and effective Dec. 22, 2015
- \* Guidelines rely on "emerging growth in clean energy innovation"
- CPP is "significant step forward in reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in the U.S." via emissions guidelines for existing power plants
- \* Confirms U.S. "international leadership" in "global effort to address climate change"
- Result of "unprecedented outreach and engagement" with 4.3 million comments

### Hawaii in CPP Final Rule - Energy

- \* Hawaii, Alaska, Guam, Puerto Rico = 1% total U.S. EGU
  GHG emissions
- \* EPA lacks data and information for Best System of Emission Reduction (BSER)
- \* NREL renewable energy data for mainland only
- \* "Agencies, like legislatures, do not generally resolve massive problems in one fell regulatory swoop" Mass. v. EPA, 549 U.S. 497, 524 (2007)
- \* EPA committed to "putting goals in place soon"

#### Hawaii in CPP Final Rule - Climate

#### \* CPP Final Rule cites Hawaii climate impacts

- \* Rising air and ocean temperatures
- \* Shifting rainfall patterns
- \* Rising sea levels and changing ocean chemistry
- \* Sea surface temperature to rise 4.7 F by 2090
- \* Impacts on coral reef ecosystems
- Impacts will affect "ecosystems on land and in the oceans, as well as local communities, livelihoods, and cultures"

## Legal Challenges to CPP Final Rule

- \* Petitions for review in DC Circuit Court of Appeals
  - \* 60 days after Fed. Reg. publication or Dec. 22, 2015
  - \* Less than 12 hours after publication CPP became the most heavily litigated environmental regulation ever
- \* State and industry petitioners
  - Majority of states oppose
  - \* NJ (RGGI) and CO (Gov. v. AG) show political aspect
- \* Hawaii AG and 15 others support CPP
- \* U.S. Supreme Court to address in 2017 or 2018

# Hawaii Climate and Clean Energy Law and Policy

### Hawaii Climate Change Law

- Act 234 (2007): "Serious threat to the economic wellbeing, public health, natural resources, and the environment of Hawaii"
- \* HRS § 342B-71 mandates reduction in statewide GHG emissions to at or below 1990 levels by 2020
- \* HAR ch. 11-54 establishes GHG emissions reductions
  - \* 16%GHG emissions cap for large sources (100k TPY)
  - Reduction measures in approved plan incorporated into facility's permit

### Hawaii Clean Energy Law

- \* Hawaii Clean Energy Initiative (2008)
  - \* 70% clean energy by 2030
  - \* 40% renewable energy and 30% energy efficiency
- \* HRS ch. 269 Part V, "Renewable Portfolio Standards"
  - \* 15% by 2015; 30% by 2020; 40% by 2030; 70% by 2040
  - \* 100% by 2045 (HB 623)
- \* HRS 269-96, "Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards"
  - \* 40% or 4,300 GWh reduction in energy use by 2030

# Regulatory Process Challenges and Opportunities

### Hawaii Agency CPP Comments

- \* Hawaii agencies filed consolidated comments
  - \* Nov. 28, 2014 based on draft rule
  - \* DOH, DBEDT, PUC, and Consumer Advocate
- \* Agencies generally support CPP
- \* Comments link climate and clean energy
- \* Hawaii GHG and RE/EE goals compatible with CPP
- \* Business and economic aspects acknowledged

Regulatory Process Addresses Challenges and Opportunities

#### \* DOH comments

- Hawaii's GHG rules and EE/RE programs meet Hawaii and CPP goals
- \* CPP approach is "compatible" with Hawaii approach

#### \* DBEDT comments

- \* Hawaii energy law and policy is to "drive our economy and spark innovation and investment" in clean energy
- \* "Substantial reduction" in GHG emissions is "key outcome" of energy policy

#### Challenges and Opportunities, con't.

#### \* PUC comments

- \* PUC regulates utility implementation of RE/EE laws
- Need to "work together" to "align Federal and State regulations" with Hawaii's "unique options and challenges"
- \* Consumer Advocate comments
  - Based on Hawaii's "unique geographical circumstances"
    EE/RE and GHG rules "should be combined" to develop effective emissions reduction goals

#### Conclusion

- \* Climate impacts drive law and policy changes
- \* Clean energy closely linked to climate
- Regulatory administrative law processes addresses key issues
- Hawaii experience with CPP illustrates climate and energy law and policy linkages
- Business and economic growth remain key focus of challenges and opportunities

## Mahalo

Douglas A. Codiga, Esq. Schlack Ito LLLC dcodiga@schlackito.com

