

BOARD OF WATER SUPPLY  
CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU

RESOLUTION NO. 924, 2021

REAFFIRMING THE PROTECTION OF OAHU'S GROUNDWATER AQUIFERS  
FROM FUEL CONTAMINATION

WHEREAS, Oahu's drinking water aquifer is a high quality pristine water resource held in trust and to be protected for the benefit of the people pursuant to Article XI, Sections 1 and 7 of the Hawaii State Constitution; and

WHEREAS, on January 13, 2014, the United States Navy reported a 27,000 gallon leak of jet fuel from its Red Hill Bulk Fuel Storage Facility; and

WHEREAS, the Red Hill facility contains more than 180 million gallons of fuel in twenty vintage World War II tanks, pipelines and infrastructure that are located 100-feet above a sole-source aquifer designated by the United States Environmental Protection Agency in 1987 as a major source of drinking water for Oahu residents and visitors; and

WHEREAS, on May 7, 2021 the Navy reported another leak at the Red Hill facility; and

WHEREAS, several Navy studies document fuel leaks dating back to 1947, the tanks' steel lining are wearing from corrosion; the groundwater underneath the tanks is contaminated with fuel chemicals; and risks of large catastrophic fuel releases; and

WHEREAS, pure water is our greatest need. For the sake of our keiki o ka aina, Oahu's groundwater resources should be preserved, kept pristine and protected now and into the future; and


WHEREAS, this Board adopted Resolutions 851,2015 and 860,2015 in February and September 2015 respectively supporting the installation of tank-within-a-tank secondary containment and no more fuel contamination of Oahu's groundwater now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED by the Members of the Board of Water Supply, City and County of Honolulu, that this Board reaffirms the need to protect and preserve our water resources; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board supports the department in taking the measures necessary to protect, defend and safeguard the groundwater; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Members of this Board reaffirm the unacceptability of additional fuel contamination of Oahu's groundwater aquifers by the Navy's facility and urges the Navy to install comprehensive measures to both prevent and contain future spills from tanks, pipelines and infrastructure via secondary containment or to relocate the fuel away from the groundwater aquifer.

ADOPTED:

  
Bryan Andaya  
Chair

Honolulu, Hawaii  
May 24, 2021

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTION NO. 924, 2021, REAFFIRMING THE PROTECTION OF OAHU'S GROUNDWATER AQUIFERS FROM FUEL CONTAMINATION, ADOPTED ON MAY 24, 2021			
	AYE	NO	COMMENT
BRYAN P. ANDAYA	X		
KAPUA SPROAT	X		
RAY C. SOON	X		
MAX J. SWORD	X		
NA'ALEHU ANTHONY	X		
JADE T. BUTAY	X		
ROGER BABCOCK JR.	X		