

Dan Inouye

U.S. SENATOR FROM HAWAII



HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY RECEIVES \$750,000 FOR NEW WIND ENERGY PROJECTS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Senate Appropriations Chairman Daniel K. Inouye and Senator Daniel K. Akaka announced today the Hawaiian Electric Company (HECO) will receive \$750,000 in funding for the development of wind power initiatives, another step toward the proliferation of renewable, sustainable energy solutions in Hawaii.

The award, from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), funded primarily by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, will support HECO's Hawaii Utility Integration Initiatives.

"Grants like this will help Hawaii as we continue to strive for energy independence through the creation of renewable power solutions that utilize our unique access to wind, water, solar and other sustainable resources," said Chairman Inouye and Senator Akaka.

Currently, HECO operates the Kaheawa Wind Power Farm on Maui. Wind farm projects are also being planned for Kahuku, Maui and Lanai.

Nationwide, wind power capacity increased by 8,558 megawatts (MW) in 2008, according to DOE's *Annual Report on U.S. Wind Power Installation, Cost, and Performance Trends* released today. More information on new wind energy projects can be found at <http://www.energy.gov/>