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CC: Fisher, Ronald <FTA>; Longo, David <FTA>; Ossi, Joseph <FTA>; Bausch, Carl <FTA>
Sent: 12/12/2008 12:15:34 PM
Subject: FW: Extension of Comment Period for Honolulu DEIS

Sherry and Wes—you may get a call from the Mayor of Honolulu or the press about this: FTA has extended the public review period for the Honolulu DEIS, adding another 30 days onto the existing 45 days. So the comment period will end on Feb. 6, instead of Jan. 7, 2009.

It is not unusual for FTA to extend the review time for an environmental document if there are serious requests from the public or from other agencies. Also, a couple other environmental documents that FTA just put out for review are granting longer than the mandatory 45 days because of the holiday season. Susan

From: Ossi, Joseph <FTA>
Sent: Friday, December 12, 2008 3:29 PM
To: Borinsky, Susan <FTA>
Cc: Matley, Ted <FTA>; Sukys, Raymond <FTA>
Subject: Extension of Comment Period for Honolulu DEIS

The FTA regional office (Region 9) decided to extend the comment period for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Honolulu rail transit project by 30 days. The Region had received formal requests from local organizations in Honolulu for an extension and also considered the fact that the comment period spans the holidays, which effectively compresses the time for local review and discourse.

The grantee has been informed of the extension. The grantee wanted to argue against it, but we informed them that we had already sent the request to EPA to announce the extension in next Friday's Federal Register. We had to notify EPA today in order to have the extension announced in next Friday's weekly notice of EIS actions.

Joe Ossi
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