The Hawaii Natural Energy Institute is responsible for providing visibility, focus, and encouragement in bringing renewable energy activities and ocean resources technology into viable systems that will:

(1) diminish Hawaii’s total dependence on imported fossil fuels,
(2) meet the State’s increasing energy demands with little or no environmental degradation,
(2) help the State utilize its ocean resources, and
(3) contribute to the technology base for finding solutions to the national and global energy shortage.

HNEI interacts with and supports UH faculty and staff in renewable energy and ocean resources related activities. The objectives of HNEI are carried out through:

• Administering state, federal, and private funds allocated for renewable energy and ocean resources technology research.
• Maintaining cognizance over ocean resources and renewable energy related projects campus-wide and encouraging cooperative research among academic programs and research institutes.
• Maintaining liaison with government funding agencies, industry and private foundations with energy R&D interests.
• Providing representation on appropriate state and university committees.
• Interacting with state agencies to ensure compatibility of university efforts with state goals and objectives.
• Providing the university community and the public with pertinent information on ocean resources technology and renewable energy research matters.
• Encouraging the development of institutional courses and programs on renewable energy and ocean resources.
• Providing background data information on sources of material for educational program development.
• Sponsoring graduate programs to encourage top caliber students to participate in ocean resources and renewable energy research projects leading toward theses.
• Developing national and international cooperative agreements for collaborative research efforts.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER