Dear Regent Board Members,

“Space: the final frontier. These are the voyages of the starship Enterprise. It’s continuing mission: to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations, to boldly go where no one has gone before.”

I am writing this letter in support of STOPPING the building of TMT (Thirty Meter Telescope). I do NOT believe in adding another telescope to the already over saturated locations of Maunakea and Haleakala; it will NOT benefit all Po`e Hawai`i (Peoples of Hawai`i). Although the science community finds these locations ideal and beneficial to world and evolution, the negative impact on the environment, culture, and community CANNOT be ignored. As it is now, the current telescope sights are driven by international interests that supersede local interests. The monies collected and solicited to build, sustain, and maintain these sites do not positively impact Native Hawaiians or respect the culture and history. Perhaps consider spending billions of dollars to “Explore” why Hawaiians lead every negative statistic in Hawaii when disproportionately being a minority class according to population trends. Why the native Hawaiians need to pay for college? Why over-engineering of our natural resources continue? Why politicians who don’t need a degree get paid higher than Teachers, who do need a degree? Why all Hawaiians do not have land or free medical just like all other indigenous peoples around the globe? Or I have a great science inquiry yet to be discovered…why is there not enough opihi on O`ahu? These are just a few things to “explore”…this may impose huge positive, if not significant, impacts on us; the Kānaka Maoli!!

“Aloha `Āina….reconsider STOPPING the construction of TMT.

`O wau iho nō,

Kula Haili-Gaughen