Opposition of the University of Hawaii's support in the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope

Marisa Hidalgo (2016) <marisa.hidalgo@halaukumana.org>

To: bor@hawaii.edu

Wed, Apr 15, 2015 at 11:08 AM

Aloha University of Hawaii Board of Regents,

I, Marisa Hidalgo-Wong, strongly oppose the construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Mauna Kea.

The first reason why I am opposing to the construction of TMT on Mauna Kea is because Mauna Kea is the piko of Hawaii; a sacred land that was, and still is respected as an elder sibling and was taken care of by our kupuna for generations. Derived from a long line of genealogy tracing back to the sky father, Wakea and earth mother, Papahanaumoku. Secondly, the building of TMT on our mauna is not only going to effect the people of Hawaii spiritually, but will effect all of Hawaii's people physically. Mauna Kea is the home to a water aquifer that feeds all of Hawaii island. It has been known that there has already been 7 mercury spills from the existing telescopes, and with a big project like TMT, there is bound to be more "significant and adverse harm" done to Hawaii's ecosystem. What will Hawaii's water be like in the next 20 years? What are the types of ecological challenges our generations keiki will have to face? Ola i ka wai. Water if life. without water, THERE IS NO LIFE. Lastly, I believe the that the building of TMT is wrongful and should not be done, because there are different animals and organisms that are significant to Mauna Kea like the Wekiu bug, and more known animals like the Nene goose. Destroying the habitat of endangered indigenous species is wrong and hypocritical to the idea of science and environmental studies in all.

Mahalo for your consideration, I continue to stand firmly in my beliefs and in solidarity with the rest of my ohana protecting our mauna.

Aloha Aina Warrior
Marisa Hidalgo-Wong