University Of Hawai‘i Board of Regents

Re: The management of Maunakea, the Maunakea Science Reserve and [TMT] Thirty Meter Telescope Kaiana Trask – Maritime Captain, Engineer, Commercial Fisherman and Native Hawaiian

Acting members of the UH Board of Regents, I want to thank you for this opportunity to address the current issues involving Maunakea and the construction of the [TMT] Thirty Meter Telescope.

I strongly urge you to stop all matters concerning the Construction of the Thirty Meter Telescope on Maunakea. I have traveled to Maunakea and seen first-hand the destruction and land altering processes that were necessary to produce the current 13 telescopes. One cannot fathom the amount of destruction that it will take to accomplish a project of TMT’s magnitude. Furthermore, it is very clear that all impact statements associated with this project, have failed to consider the negative impact it will have on the native people of Hawaii, surrounding communities and respectable people around the world. There is no denying the many negative impacts associated with the TMT project and any who do deny it, should be questioned for ulterior motives. The TMT project will allow humanity to observe the furthest areas of the universe, but the problems concerning our very existence on this planet can be viewed right here with the naked eye. The constant destruction of resources and lack of care for the natural environment have led the earth to the point of irreparable damage. Our decisions today will affect the quality of life for the next generation.

As the institute with access to the greatest resources on the planet, I urge you to take a stand and protect those resources. Exploitation and neglect of Human rights and the natural environment are inexcusable acts associated with the TMT project. We do not need a Thirty Meter Telescope built on Maunakea. The evidence is overwhelmingly clear.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue. Truly,

Kaiana K. Trask