Hauʻoli Pōʻahā to the University of Hawaii Board of Regents,

I am writing testimony to all of you in regards to the issue of the TMT (Thirty Meter Telescope) being placed atop Mauna Kea.

Enough is enough. There are 13 telescopes up on Mauna Kea right this second. Are all 13 telescopes still being used? Was it worth it to construct these telescopes on Mauna Kea? How many Hawaiian sacred ʻahu or alters have been knocked aside since the University has become the so-called "land manager" of Mauna Kea?

The TMT is massive. It will need a massive foundation! How would your family feel about building a massive telescope like that on their grandparents bones, or on their sacred church?

If you want to create jobs for the Big Island, why not construct a multi-purpose center for Hilo to hold events, such as the Annual Merrie Monarch Festival? It is unfortunate that you, the University, is so financially tied to this project. You have already put so much time and effort into the TMT. It will be hard for you to turn back.

The Kānaka Maoli, as well as the Hawaiian people, are waking up. We are united in stewardship of the land, because when we are gone, the land will remain. The land of yesterday will last a lot longer than the money of today. If you think that the Mauna Kea protectors will eventually get cold feet, think again. The TMT will not work, and you will need to have an EXIT strategy.

Me ka haʻahaʻa,
Kinohi Neves