The issue of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) on Mauna Kea is understandably a very difficult one to find a solution that everyone can be at least satisfied with. There are valid arguments on both sides of the debate of whether or not TMT should be built atop Mauna Kea, but these have been addressed over the previous seven to ten years of court hearings. The current protests against the construction of TMT were expected, I believe, as the construction began, but the Department of Land and Natural Resources, the University of Hawaii, and the TMT organization have failed to adequately prepare for the level of disruption and opposition that it has been met with these last couple of weeks. It should be up to these establishment to control to the outlandish remarks that have been made, but little action has actually been done. The opposition of TMT is making claims that TMT has not fulfilled the eight requirements for building in a conservation area when in fact TMT has met these requirements. On the other hand, the protesters building their own Hale on Mauna Kea have not met these requirements and therefore might be further endangering the wildlife and/or disrupting special or sacred locations since they have not done the proper tests to insure there are no graves or ads quarries there. I could say a lot more on this issue, but due to time constraints I face as a working Astronomy student (and time restrictions the board presents on written testimonies) I must end here.

Thank you for taking the time to read and consider this. Aloha.

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