



Board of Regents <bor@hawaii.edu>

Aloha aina. Aole tmt

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To: "BOR@HAWAII.EDU" <BOR@hawaii.edu>

Aloha my name is katelyn Vaughn. And may not be of Hawaiian ancestry. But being born and raised, I consider myself a part of Hawaiian culture. Meaning taking care of the land and living aloha life is my responsibility and priority. To raise my future family in such a beautiful home and to experience the adventures I did as a child, we need to bless the land and not destroy it anymore.

Hawaii is full of beautiful creations. Starting from its people, it's animals, plants, beaches, rivers, volcanos, mountains and so much more. It's a rare piece of earth that is still a natural habitat and has sustainable resources for survival straight from the land. No need for mass production of processed foods or waters. Everything us hawaiian residents need to live, we can obtain from our "backyards."

Because of Mauna Kea we have fresh waters nourishing our entire island. Anything that happens up there, affects EVERYTHING below the mountain. By placing a 30 meter telescope you are threatening our natural link to survival. By poisoning our water, you cripple us into NEEDING to depend on bottle water shipped from the mainland. When at this moment we have fresh water that is cleansed from our land naturally. No chemicals added to purify the water so it is drinkable.

By placing a 30 meter telescope, you threaten to poison our oceans with the chemical wastes that will be used to run this telescope. That waste will flow into every stream and river around our island. Into the oceans and throughout our island chain. By poisoning our beaches, you cripple us into eating fish and other sea foods brought in from other parts of the world in which we do not know where it comes from. Or the safety of environments that they come from. Where as of now, it is safe to eat the fish and other sea creatures that are caught straight from our own ocean waters.

I do not discourage the thought of moving forward in life. But what's the sense of looking to the future if we do not protect the land that will put grow us at be left for future generations. Building all these unnecessary telescopes does not help anyone. And there are a few reasons to why this is so...

1. ANYTHING YOU SEE IN THE TELESCOPE, has happened already, BILLIONS OF LIGHT YEARS AWAY. So it's not looking into the future. Instead you are looking into the past. And in this life time. We will not be able to make a change for what we see in the telescope now. It's a waste. With the way the world is going downhill now, there will be no land or life in the next couple hundred years.

2. The Hawaiian people gain nothing from this scope being built. Billions of dollars and none is being spent to take care of Hawaiian lands or people. Maybe if you offered to build a system to ensure the safety of the maunas ecosystem.

The Hawaiians care about Mauna Kea. Especially the tip top. Or as they call, piko. The birth place of their culture. As you already know. There is many telescopes already built. Some of them not even being used due to no funds.

How can you ensure this new telescope will be payed for and will last as long as planned. Or will it even be worth. Anyway, to make everyone happy. You should knock down 3 or 4 of the telescopes not being used and use that vacant area to build the 30 meter. At least no more land will be destroyed or bombed. Main thing you leave the piko of the Mauna at peace. Give some respect for our culture and leave that sacred and special. We are a dying culture. Tending to our mountain is all we have left. Hawaiians have nothing. Except each other and the aina. So please Malama the Mauna and it's people. Find another place on earth that doesn't feel so connected and cares so much about their home.

Please reconsider the location of this telescope if you can't decide to not build it at all.