



## Solar projects brighten Big Island communities

In support of renewable energy, HELCO is pleased to announce the completion of two innovative solar electric (photovoltaic or PV) projects in the Hilo and Kawaihae communities. Both projects not only demonstrate the effectiveness of PV technology - producing electricity from sunlight - but also how public and private partnerships can successfully pool their resources to support and improve communities.

(l to r) Marco Mangelsdorf of ProVision Technologies, Warren Lee, HELCO President, Patricia Engelhard, Director of the County of Hawaii Parks and Recreation, County Council member Bobby Jean Leithead-Todd (representing the local canoe clubs) and Glenn Miyao also of the Department of Parks and Recreation show off the new Hilo bay front solar kiosk.



As part of the Million Solar Roofs Initiative (MSRI), a partnership including HELCO, the County of Hawaii and the U.S. Department of Energy has helped enhance the Hilo bay front with a multi-purpose, solar-powered kiosk and solar electric lighting for restroom facilities. The new restroom lights provide added security and convenience for many evening bay front visitors.

The kiosk itself features a dual purpose display board. One side of the board provides educational information about the MSRI program, solar technology information and photos of local solar installations. The other side serves as a bulletin board for public notices and canoe club activities. The kiosk's rooftop incorporates Building Integrated Photovoltaic technology (BIPV). Sunslate® roofing tiles, donated by Atlantis Energy and installed by HELCO and ProVision Technologies, not only produce energy from the sun to light the kiosk but also act as roofing for the structure.

With a grant from HELCO, through the HEI Charitable Foundation, two stand-alone solar electric lighting systems are now operating at the Ka Hale 'O Kawaihae Shelter to increase safety and security in the facility's parking lot at night. Each of the 150 watt PV lighting systems provide electricity to a flood light fixture with a 35 watt, low pressure sodium lamp. Support for the installation of the lighting equipment was provided by HELCO, ProVision Technologies, and C&H Ishii General Contracting, Inc.

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One of the two solar electric lights installed at Ka Hale 'O Kawaihae, the Catholic Charities Community and Immigrant Services transitional shelter in Kawaihae.



### HOMELAND SECURITY

NEW COLOR SYSTEM COMMUNICATES CONDITIONS

As part of the national Homeland Security Initiative, the State of Hawaii recently adopted a new federal color coded system to identify various levels of alert during times of potential threat to our national or local security. Information on the new Security Advisory System can be obtained on the website [www.scd.state.hi.us](http://www.scd.state.hi.us) or by calling 935-0031.

In the wake of September 11, Hawaii quickly took initiative to coordinate a joint Homeland Security effort involving the Federal government, Department of Defense, State and local police, fire, health and civil defense authorities, and businesses providing key services such as ours. In fact, Hawaii's initial efforts helped serve as a model for national review in developing the federal guidelines.

Because HELCO owns and operates electrical systems deemed *critical infrastructure* under the Homeland Security Initiative, we have taken precautions to incorporate and implement additional measures to protect our facilities and keep your service reliable.

In addition, you too can help protect critical infrastructure. Call 911 to report suspicious activity, such as individuals photographing electric facilities or other critical service facilities. Your heightened awareness will help contribute to our Homeland Security.

### Zoom, zoom, zoom

Coming up next month:

### The 2003 Electron Marathon...

**Date: Saturday, March 22**  
**Place: Ford Island, Oahu**  
**Time: 9:00 a.m.**



Lanakila Learning Center, West Hawaii Explorations Academy and Honokaa, Kealahoe, Kohala, and Waiakea High Schools are among the approximately 34 Hawaii high schools revving up their engines to pit their student-built electric go-carts in an exciting competition of performance and endurance at the 2003 Electron Marathon. HELCO and our affiliated companies HECO and MECO sponsor the annual event along with the State Department of Education, the U.S. Navy and U.S. Department of Energy with assistance from Young Brothers. The Hawaiian Electric Electron Marathon encourages students to learn about electric vehicle technology and builds research, writing and public speaking skills. For details, please call 969-0137.

### RECIPE OF THE MONTH

## Korean-style Fresh Watercress Salad



- 1 bunch watercress, cut into 3-inch lengths
- 1 tablespoon rice vinegar
- 2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 1 tablespoon roasted sesame seed
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- 1 teaspoon pure sesame oil
- 1/2 teaspoon Korean dried hot chili pepper flakes (gochoo karu), optional
- 1 cup cherry tomatoes

Place watercress in a large salad bowl. Combine remaining ingredients, except tomatoes; toss with watercress. Garnish with tomatoes. Serve immediately. Makes 4 to 6 servings.