

Stephen K. Yamashiro
Mayor



Diane S. Quitiquit
Director

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County of Hawaii

DEPARTMENT OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

25 Aupuni Street, Room 219 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4252 • (808) 961-8366 • Fax (808) 935-1205
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October 27, 1994

Dr. Bruce Anderson, Acting Director
Office of Environmental Quality Control
220 S. King Street 4th Floor
Honolulu, HI 96813

Dear Dr. Anderson

SUBJECT: FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (EA) FOR FOREIGN-TRADE
ZONE, TMK 2-1-12: 9 POR, HILO, HAWAII

Enclosed are four copies of the Final EA for the Foreign-Trade Zone project, as well as a completed OEQC Bulletin Publication Form. The Draft EA for this project was submitted to the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC), and the notice of its availability appeared in the OEQC Bulletin on August 23, 1994. The deadline for comments on the Draft EA was September 22, 1994.

During the thirty-day comment period, no comments were received by the OEQC from either governmental agencies or the public. The County of Hawaii Department of Research & Development has determined that this project will not have significant environmental impacts and has issued a negative declaration. Please publish this notice in the November 8, 1994 OEQC Bulletin.

If you have any questions or require further information, you may contact either Mr. James Leonard at 961-3333, or Howard Nakamura at 961-8366.

Thank you.

Sincerely

Diane S. Quitiquit
Diane S. Quitiquit

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1994-11-08-HI-PEA-Hilo International

NOV - 8 1994

Airport Foreign Trade Zone No. 9

Final Environmental Assessment

Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes

For

Foreign Trade Zone (No. 9)
Hilo International Airport Site
Hilo, Hawaii

TMK: 2-1-12: Portion of 9

October 1994

OEQC BULLETIN PUBLICATION FORM

TITLE OF PROJECT: Foreign Trade Zone Number 9
Hilo International Airport Site

LOCATION: ISLAND Hawaii DISTRICT South Hilo

TAX MAP KEY: 2-1-12: 09 por

PLEASE CHECK THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES:

Type of Action: Agency Applicant _____
Applicable State of Federal Statute: QUALITY _____
 Chapter 343, HRS Chapter 205A, HRS NEPA (Federal Actions Only)

Type of Document:

Draft Environmental Assessment (Negative Declaration anticipated) Draft EIS NEPA NOP
 Final Environmental Assessment Negative Declaration Final EIS NEPA Draft EIS
 Final Environmental Assessment (EIS Preparation Notice) NEPA FONSI NEPA Final EIS

Type of Revision (if applicable):

Revised Supplemental Addendum Other (please explain)

Prior to general distribution, please submit to OEQC: 4 copies of the Draft EA, Final EA (Negative Declaration or EIS Preparation Notice), 4 copies of the Draft EIS or Final EIS (For Draft and Final EIS's an additional copy is mailed to OEQC).

PROPOSING AGENCY OR APPLICANT SHOULD SUBMIT COPIES OF THE DOCUMENTS TO THE APPROVING AGENCY OR ACCEPTING AUTHORITY PRIOR TO SUBMITTING COPIES TO OEQC.

APPROVING AGENCY OR ACCEPTING AUTHORITY: County of Hawaii, Department of Research & Development

ADDRESS: 25 Aupuni Street, Suite #219
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

CONTACT: Mr. Howard Nakamura PHONE: (808) 961-8496

PROPOSING AGENCY OR APPLICANT: County of Hawaii, Department of Research & Development

ADDRESS: 25 Aupuni Street, Suite #219
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

CONTACT: Mr. Howard Nakamura PHONE: (808) 961-8496

CONSULTANT: PBR HAWAII

ADDRESS: 101 Aupuni Street, Suite #310
Hilo, Hawaii 96720

CONTACT: Mr. James M. Leonard, AICP PHONE: (808) 961-3333

COMMENT PERIOD END DATE:

CONDITIONS WHICH TRIGGERED THE EIS LAW: PLEASE CHECK ALL THAT APPLY TO THE PROPOSED ACTION

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Use of State or County lands or funds
HRS 353-5(a)(1) | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of lands in the Waikiki Special District
HRS 343-5(a)(5) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Conservation District Lands
HRS 343-5(a)(2) | <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment to a County General Plan
HRS 343-5(a)(6) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Shoreline Setback Area
HRS 343-5(a)(3) | <input type="checkbox"/> Reclassification of Conservation Lands
HRS 343-5(a)(7) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Use of Historic Site or District
HRS 343-5(a)(4) | <input type="checkbox"/> Construction or modification of helicopter facilities
HRS 343-5(a)(8) |

OTHER CONDITIONS:

- Use of Special Management Area (City & County of Honolulu)
- Other* _____

* If the project does not trigger HRS 343, please explain why document is being submitted to OEQC.

SUMMARY of the proposed action or project to be published in OEQC Bulletin. Please submit it as a summary ready for publication. The description should be brief (300 words or less), yet provide sufficient detail to convey the full impact of the proposed action.

The proposed Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) site is situated in the city of Hilo, County of Hawaii. The approximately five acre State owned parcel is part of the Old Hilo Airport (General Lyman Field Complex). It is adjacent to and bounded by the current Hilo International Airport facility.

As proposed, the County of Hawaii will lease approximately three acres of the proposed site to initially develop a 20,000 square foot storage and distribution warehouse facility for use by the general public. Other improvements would include a parking lot area for FTZ employees and visitors, and construction of a security fence on the perimeter of the site. As demand for use of the initial facility increases, additional warehouse structures and parking areas would be built on the remainder of the site adjacent to the first increment.

NOTE: Since the deadline for EIS submittal is so close to the publication date for the OEQC Bulletin, please assist us by bringing the Document for Publication Form and a computer disk with the project description (size 3 1/2" or 5 1/4" disks are acceptable; preferably WordPerfect 5.1 or ASCII text format) to the Office of Environmental Quality Control as early as possible. Thank you.

Final Environmental Assessment

Chapter 343, Hawaii Revised Statutes

For

Foreign Trade Zone (No. 9)
Hilo International Airport Site
Hilo, Hawaii

TMK: 2-1-12: Portion of 9

Prepared for:

**Department of Research & Development
County of Hawaii**

Prepared by:

PBR HAWAII

October 1994

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Section 1: Summary

1.0 SUMMARY

Proposing Agency: County of Hawaii
Department of Research and Development

Project Name: Foreign Trade Zone No. 9
Hilo International Airport Site

Project Location: The proposed Foreign Trade Zone (FTZ) site is situated in the city of Hilo, County of Hawaii. The approximately five acre State owned parcel is part of the Old Hilo Airport (General Lyman Field Complex). It is adjacent to and bounded by the current Hilo International Airport facility (Figures 1 and 2).

Project Description: As proposed, the County of Hawaii will lease approximately three acres of the proposed site to initially develop a 20,000 square foot storage and distribution warehouse facility for use by the general public. Other improvements would include a parking lot area for FTZ employees and visitors, and construction of a security fence on the perimeter of the site. As demand for use of the initial facility increases, additional warehouse structures and parking areas would be built on the remainder of the site adjacent to the first increment.

Tax Map Key: 2-1-12: portion of 9

Area: Approximately five acres

State Land Use Designation: Urban

DOCUMENT CAPTURED AS RECEIVED

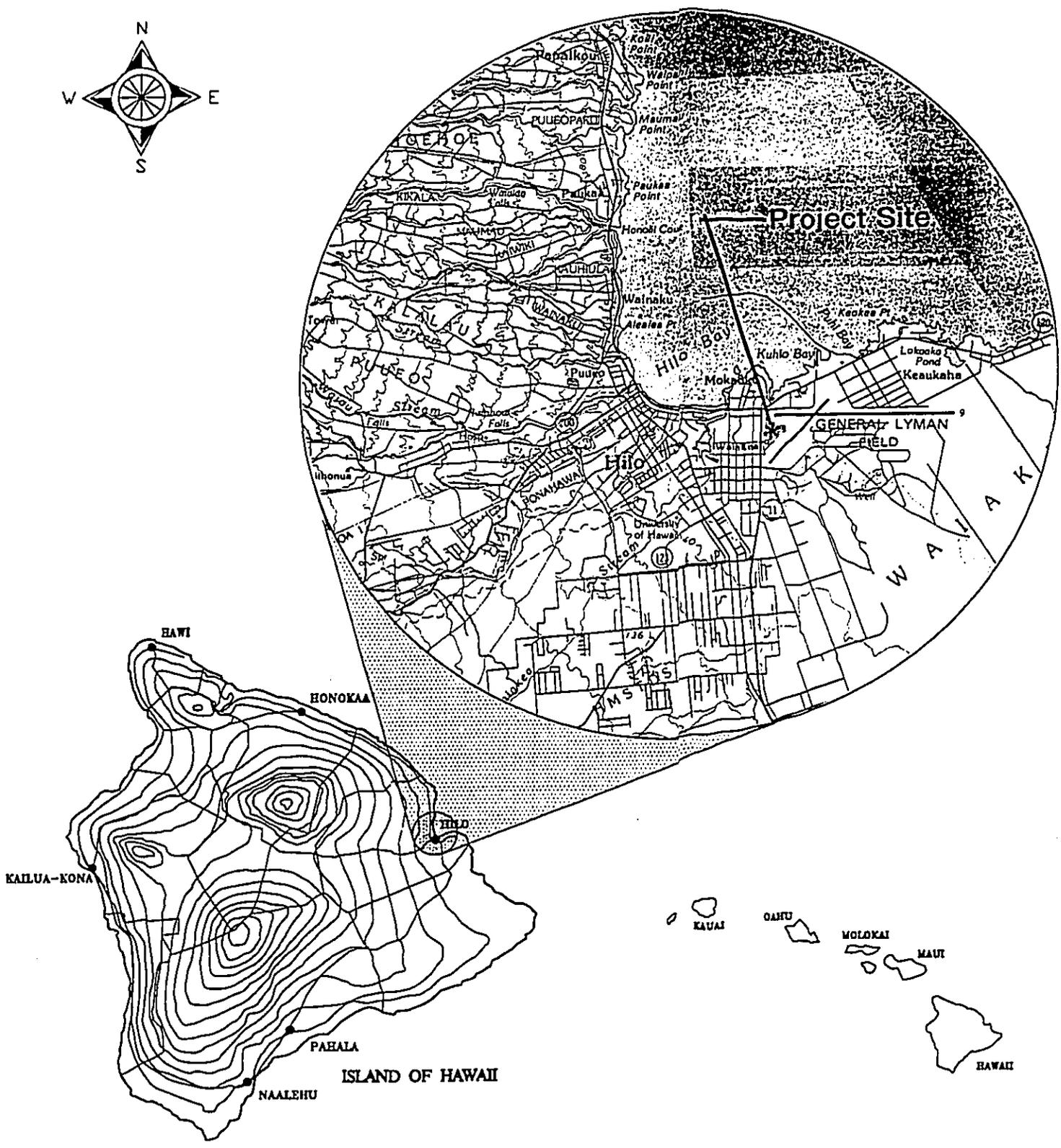
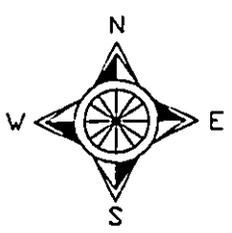
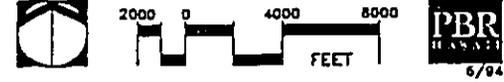


FIGURE 1
 ISLAND LOCATION MAP
 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
HILO AIRPORT



**General Plan Land Use Pattern
Allocation Guide Map:**

Industrial

County Zoning Designation:

Industrial

Land Owner:

State of Hawaii

Consultant:

James M. Leonard, AICP
PBR HAWAII - Hilo Office
101 Aupuni Street, Suite 310
Hilo, Hawaii 96720
(808) 961-3333

Section 2: Project Description

2.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

2.1 Technical Characteristics

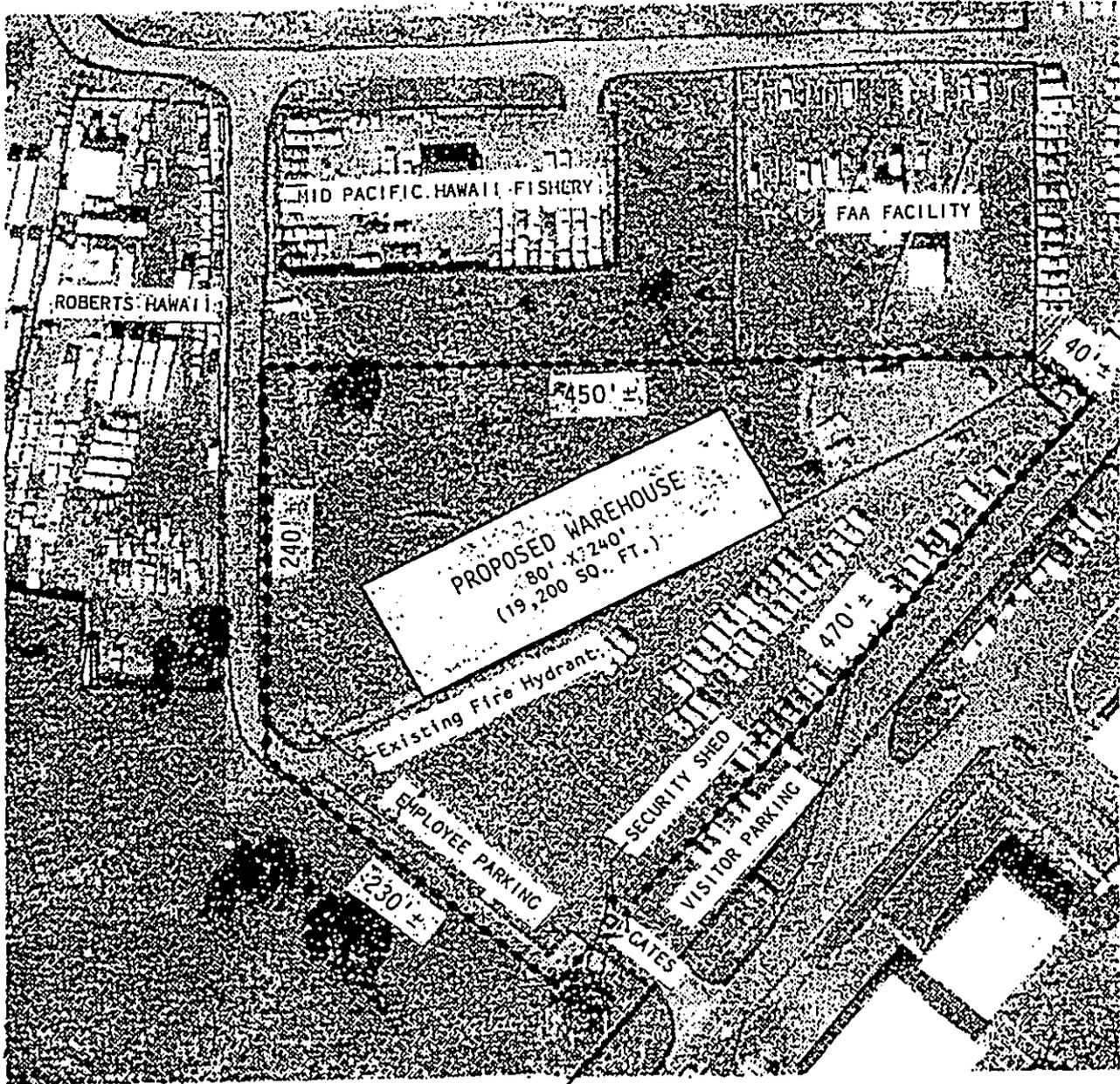
The proposed development would initially use about three acres within the northern portion of the approximately five acre project site. Roughly half of this portion of the site is presently paved from previous uses. The project site is generally level and is readily accessed by existing airport service roads, including Brig Road, which runs along the southeastern boundary of the site and separates it from several air cargo facilities. The unpaved portion of the site is overgrown with scrub vegetation and grass. A fire hydrant is located on the west-central side of the site proposed for initial development, adjacent to the service roadway, which accesses the project site.

Remnants of previous use of the site, including foundations of former structures, are evident in the northern portion where the initial increments of development are planned. According to State Department of Transportation records, the site has been previously used by the military and as a storage area for recreational vehicles and rental automobiles. Current uses in the area immediately surrounding the initial development site include air cargo facilities, a swimming pool, a U.S. Weather Service office, Federal Aviation Authority facilities, a Mid-Pacific Hawaii Fishery fish processing plant, a Robert's Hawaii Tours bus garage facility, and a standby power facility. All the uses mentioned occupy areas outside the five acres designated for the FTZ. No conflict with these occupants involving site usage is anticipated.

The proposed initial improvements, as shown in Figure 3, include the following:

- Repaving and possible expansion of the existing paved area, with the addition of a security shed and gate at the project entrance;
- Construction of a warehouse facility containing about 20,000 square feet in the central portion of the site;
- Employee and visitor parking; and
- Installation of a perimeter fence for security purposes.

Utilities, including water, electricity, communication, and waste disposal, are readily available in the area. The project site is serviced by the Hawaii County Fire and Police Departments.



LEGEND

-  WAREHOUSE SITE/SECURITY FENCING
-  FOREIGN TRADE ZONE BOUNDARY

SOURCE: ENGINEERING DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, COUNTY OF HAWAII

FIGURE 3
PROPOSED SITE PLAN
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
HILO AIRPORT



The site is currently designated by the State Land Use Commission as within the Urban district, and further designated for Industrial use on the County of Hawaii General Plan Land Use Pattern Allocation Guide (LUPAG) map. Similarly, the County's zoning designation for the entire project site is Industrial. The proposed use is, therefore, consistent with the existing regulatory designations for the project area.

Given the relatively level character and the previous uses of the site, the proposed development will require relatively little alteration to existing site conditions during its first phase. Portions of the site are covered with what appears to be secondary vegetation that has grown over a period of less than forty years. The vegetation is primarily California grass, with an open canopy forest of gunpowder tree, Java plum, African tulip, and guava. Development of the proposed FTZ would, over the course of time, change the existing character of this area to a more urban, Industrial use, quite similar to the land uses in the surrounding area.

2.2 Social and Economic Characteristics

The proposed site is an industrially zoned parcel that served as part of the Old Hilo Airport (General Lyman Field complex) prior to its expansion into the present Hilo International Airport. It is partly a remnant of the development and enlargement of the airfield facility, which took place in the 1970's. Hilo Harbor, located less than a mile from the site, is a deep-water harbor and port of entry. Existing roadways connect the site both with the harbor cargo facilities and the airport. All necessary utility services are available.

Foreign Trade Zone No. 9 is headquartered in Honolulu. The proposed site is thus a noncontiguous expansion whose development will extend FTZ benefits to Hilo, Hawaii's second-largest city, and to the entire County of Hawaii. Honolulu's FTZ has played an important role in attracting industries to and promoting growth and development of Oahu. With the County of Hawaii becoming part of this support infrastructure, it is anticipated that the Hilo FTZ will play a similar role in stimulating growth on the Big Island. The project is expected to employ five to six persons within the first phase of development, including security personnel.

2.2.1 Archaeological Resources

A pedestrian survey of the project site found no evidence of archaeological features. Although a review of the State Department of Land & Natural Resources (DLNR) Site Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) records indicated no previous archaeological surveys of the project area, it is assumed that any evidence of archaeological features, if present, would have been eliminated through previous use of the project area, which shows evidence of extensive historic modification.

2.3 Environmental Characteristics

The project site is a five acre parcel located between runways on the west side of the Hilo International Airport, just east of Kanoelehua Avenue. It contains remnants of facilities left over from the days when it served as part of the old Hilo airport (General Lyman Field). It also contains paved areas, areas covered by grass, and areas of secondary scrub vegetation.

2.3.1 Vegetation

The original vegetation of the project area was lowland wet forest, but the vegetation within the entire Hilo region has been extensively modified by urbanization, cultivation, cattle grazing, wild pig rooting, and the effects of Western flora and fauna introductions. Remains of structural footings, equipment, and garbage indicate that the parcel has been cleared at least once during the last hundred years.

The site is partly covered with asphalt and mowed lawns. The remainder of the area appears to be covered with secondary vegetation that has grown up over a period of no more than forty years and is composed of a mosaic of three basic vegetation types:

1. Open expanses dominated by California grass (*Brachiaria mutica*);
2. Open-canopy forests of various trees, including gunpowder tree (*Trema orientalis*), Java plum (*Syzygium cumini*), African tulip (*Spathodea campanulata*), bingabing (*Macaranga mappia*), and guava (*Psidium guajava*); and
3. Small closed canopy clumps of mango (*Mangifera indica*), hala (*Pandanus tectorius*), and Chinese banyan (*Ficus microcarpa*).

2.3.2 Species Composition

The species composition is a diverse flora of weedy herbs, shrubs, and trees. Most abundant among herbs are Spanish needle (*Bidens pilosa*), sensitive plant (*Mimosa pudica*), sourbush (*Pluchea odorata*), malle pilau (*Paederia scandens*), Jamaican vervain (*Stachytarpheta jamaicensis*), and sow-thistle (*Sonchus oleraceus*). Grasses include California grass (*Brachlaria mutica*) and Hilo grass (*Paspalum conjugatum*).

Native vascular plants are generally uncommon but include several indigenous species: hala (*Pandanus tectorius*), morning glory (*Ipomoea congesta*), whisk fern (*Psilotum nudum*), and sword fern (*Nephrolepis* spp.).

2.3.3 Native Animal Habitat

The size, urban context, elevation, and vegetation of the project area make it an unlikely habitat for any native animal species, although the Hawaiian raptors or 'Io (*Buteo solitarius*) and the Hawaiian owl or pueo (*Asio flammeus sandwichensis*) are extremely adaptable and may make occasional use of the area. No impact upon these species would be likely from this project.

Indigenous and migratory seabirds such as the Pacific golden plover or kolea (*Pluvialis fulva*) also typically rest or forage on grassy areas such as the lawns, are present on the parcel. Again, the proposed project is not expected to impact such species.

The only native Hawaiian land mammal, the Hawaiian hoary bat (*Lasiurus cinereus semotus*), may also be present in the area, as it is common in many lowland forests on the Island of Hawaii. No impact on bat habitat, however, is anticipated.

2.3.4 Endangered or Threatened Species

No listed, candidate, or proposed endangered animal or plant species is found on the project site. In terms of conservation value, no botanical or zoological resources requiring protection are present.

Section 3: Project Funding and Phasing

3.0 PROJECT FUNDING AND PHASING

3.1 Funding

The Hawaii County government will operate the Hilo FTZ expansion site, which will function as a public utility serving the Hawaii Islandwide community. The County will be responsible for providing the necessary capital improvements, and the personnel and operating funds to develop, market, and conduct an effective zone operation. Initially, the County will lease from the State of Hawaii approximately three acres of the proposed site to develop a 20,000-square-foot storage and distribution warehouse for use by the general public. Potential sources of funds include the County of Hawaii General Fund, a County of Hawaii bond issue, grants of assistance from the State of Hawaii, and revenues generated from fees charged to users of the facilities.

The total cost of capital improvements in the first phase, including the construction of the warehouse, security fencing, and roadway construction, was estimated in 1992 to be about \$700,000.

3.2 Phasing

During the initial phase of the project, the first three to five years, only about two to three acres in the northern half of the site will be developed. Here a basic storage and distribution warehouse of about 20,000 square feet will be built, along with a security shed and an employee parking lot. The warehouse site and employee parking lot will be enclosed by a security fence with an entrance gate to separate this initial FTZ facility from other site occupants. A visitor parking lot will be provided outside the security fence. As demand for use of the initial warehouse facility exceeds its capacity, additional warehouse storage or other structures and parking areas will be built in other unused portions of the site.

Existing and currently used roadways provide access to the proposed site from both Hilo Harbor and Hilo International Airport. The addition of roads or the widening of existing roads to better connect the proposed FTZ warehouse facility and provide safe and effective access by trucks will occur as conditions warrant.

Section 4: Affected Environment

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Geographical Characteristics

4.1.1 Topography/Drainage

The five acre site is part of the Old Hilo Airport complex and contiguous with the present Hilo International Airport. It is relatively level and possesses good drainage.

The proposed site is not located in a flood zone. As indicated by the County of Hawaii Department of Public Works Flood Insurance Rate Maps, the project site is situated within Zone X, denoting that it is outside the area of the 500 year flood plain.

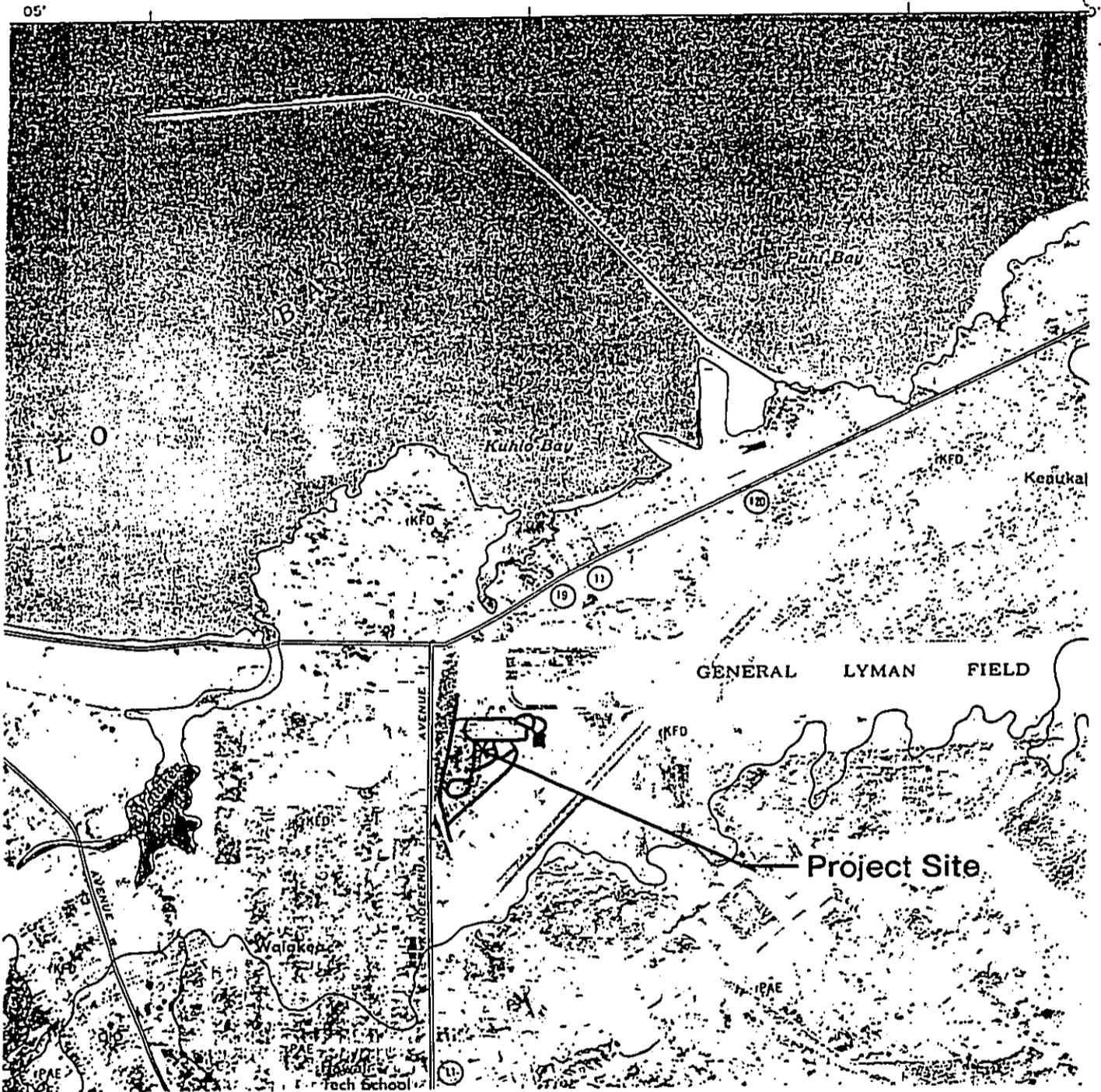
4.1.2 Soils

Soils on the project site are from the Keaukaha Series, which consists of well-drained, thin organic soils overlying pahoehoe lava bedrock (Figure 4). The Soil Survey of the Island of Hawaii, State of Hawaii (U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, 1973), describes this soil as follows:

Keaukaha extremely rocky muck, 6 to 20 percent slopes (rKFD). This soil is near the city of Hilo. It is undulating to rolling and follows the topography of the underlying pahoehoe lava. Rock outcrops occupy about 25 percent of the area. In a representative profile the surface layer is very dark brown muck about 8 inches thick. It is underlain by pahoehoe lava bedrock and is strongly acidic. The soil above the lava is rapidly permeable. The pahoehoe lava is very slowly permeable, but water moves rapidly through the cracks. Runoff is medium, and the erosion hazard is slight.

4.1.3 Vegetation

As noted in Section 2.3, in addition to open grassy areas, there is a secondary growth of mostly introduced trees, weedy herbs, and shrubs. Initially, during construction of the FTZ warehouse facility, only the northern half (between two and three acres) of the five acre site will be affected. About half of this parcel is currently paved in asphalt. During later phases of the project, other vegetated areas of the site may be affected.

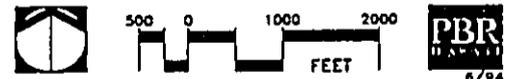


LEGEND

- [KFD]** KEAUKAHA EXTREMELY ROCKY MUCK, 6 TO 20 PERCENT SLOPE
- [PAE]** PAPAİ EXTREMELY STONY MUCK, 3 TO 25 PERCENT SLOPE

SOURCE: SOIL SURVEY, ISLAND OF HAWAII, STATE OF HAWAII,
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & UNIVERSITY OF HAWAII, DECEMBER 1973

FIGURE 4
SOIL SURVEY MAP
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
HILO AIRPORT



There are no endangered or threatened plant species on the site, nor are there any botanical resources requiring protection.

4.2 Biological Characteristics

Native animal habitat is discussed in detail in Section 2.1. As mentioned, Hawaiian birds including the 'Io, Hawaiian owl (pueo), and the Pacific golden plover (kolea) may visit the proposed site occasionally. The Hawaiian hoary bat, common in the lowland forests on the Island of Hawaii, may also be present in the area. No impact on any of these species is expected or likely from the proposed project. There are no endangered or threatened animal species on the proposed site.

4.3 Social and Economic Characteristics

The site is presently zoned for industrial use, which is compatible with the proposed FTZ use. Most of the commercial and light industrial or manufacturing activities and businesses in Hilo, who will likely be the major users of the FTZ warehouse facility, are located in the surrounding area. Power, water, telephone, and waste disposal service are all currently available, and the utility network would not be adversely affected.

The site is serviced by both the Hawaii County Fire and Police Departments. Security measures adequate to meet or exceed the U.S. Customs cargo security requirements will be employed at the FTZ warehouse facility.

There are a number of current occupants in different portions of the area surrounding the proposed site. None of these occupants will be affected by the initial development of the two-to-three-acre FTZ warehouse facility. In later phases, unused parts of the five-acre site will be converted into FTZ use, and thus no conflict with occupants involving site usage is anticipated.

Hilo Harbor, which contains 2,787 linear feet of berthing space, is capable of meeting the cargo-handling needs of the proposed FTZ facility. Hilo International Airport is presently used only for inter-island passenger and air cargo service, although it was designed for and can handle aircraft for international service, as well. This excess capacity is fully capable of meeting the cargo-handling needs of the proposed FTZ development.

Existing roads currently provide ample access to the proposed site from both Hilo Harbor and Hilo International Airport. Limited road improvements may be necessary to connect the proposed FTZ warehouse facility with these existing roadways. Based on State of Hawaii FTZ estimates, the total customer usage, which would be spread throughout the day, is anticipated to be less than twenty vehicles. As such, the project would have a negligible impact on the level of service for roadways servicing the project.

Additional employment opportunities generated by the FTZ project are expected to have a positive economic impact on the County of Hawaii. Because FTZ employees are expected to come from the surrounding area, the project is not expected to have significant impact on the demand for housing in the area.

Section 5: Summary of Major Impacts
and Mitigation Measures

5.0 SUMMARY OF MAJOR IMPACTS AND MITIGATION MEASURES

The major impact of the proposed expansion of Foreign Trade Zone No. 9 to Hilo is the economic benefit anticipated as a result of attracting business and industries to the Hilo urban area and providing a stimulus to the growth and development of the County of Hawaii. The goal of both the State and the County of Hawaii is to diversify the economy so that stable growth brings full employment, increased income and job choice, and improved living standards for Hawaii's present and future generations. In addition, the State of Hawaii desires to provide increased opportunities for Hawaii's people to pursue their socio-economic aspirations throughout the Islands.

In particular, it is expected that FTZ activity will help to bolster the troubled agriculture-based economy of Hilo and East Hawaii, and provide added incentive and stimulus for the attraction of nonagricultural industries to continue the ongoing diversification of Hawaii County's economy.

There are no major negative impacts foreseen in the placement of the FTZ on the proposed site. The conversion is characterized as a redevelopment of the site from its onetime use as an aviation facility to general-purpose FTZ use. The action conforms with both the Hawaii State Plan and the County of Hawaii's General Plan. Furthermore, the State Land Use designation is Urban, and the area is zoned Industrial. In summary, the proposed use is consistent with both existing and planned land uses in this area.

Minor negative impacts might include the loss of some of the second-growth trees and other introduced vegetation on the five acre site. Such loss can be mitigated by planning the expansion of the FTZ facilities to preserve more prominent tree specimens, where possible, and by planting compatible trees and shrubs in an appropriately landscaped environment.

Section 6: Alternatives Considered

6.0 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

A review by the County of potential sites in the Hilo area revealed no other State or County properties which meet the criteria with regard to access, accessibility, proximity to major transportation infrastructure, compatibility with surrounding uses and existing regulatory designations, lack of potential social or environmental impacts, and the compatibility of the site to the proposed use with regard to ease and cost of development. Other configurations for siting the facilities within the project area are possible, however, the proposed plan would utilize previously developed or modified areas of the site and therefore, would require the least amount of modification. The site contains adequate space to accommodate all phases of the FTZ, and there are no plans for expansion beyond the proposed five acre site at this time.

Section 7: Determinations, Findings and
Reasons Supporting Determination

7.0 DETERMINATIONS, FINDINGS, AND REASONS SUPPORTING DETERMINATION

It is recognized that, because the proposed FTZ expansion involves the use of State lands, compliance with the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process is required, as defined by HRS Chapter 343 and Chapter 200, Department of Health EIS rules, which is being met with the preparation of this Environmental Assessment (EA). Based upon the information available and developed specifically for this EA and the potential environmental effects of the project's implementation, and evaluating the long term future impacts of the project, it has been determined that an EIS is not required. Reasons supporting the determination are as follows:

- 1) The proposed action does not involve an irrevocable commitment to loss or destruction of any significant natural or cultural resource;
- 2) The proposed action increases the range of beneficial uses of the environment;
- 3) Granting the proposed Foreign Trade Zone No. 9 expansion to the Hilo site would result in actions being in concert with the State and County's long term environmental and land use policies, goals, and guidelines, as expressed in Hawaii State plans, applicable State functional plans, and the Hawaii County General Plan;
- 4) The proposed action does not potentially adversely affect the economic or social welfare of the community or State;
- 5) The proposed action does not involve substantial secondary impacts such as population changes or effects on public utilities;
- 6) The proposed action does not substantially affect public health;
- 7) The proposed action does not involve substantial degradation of environmental quality;

- 8) The proposed action does not substantially affect rare, threatened, or endangered species or habitats;
- 9) The proposed action does not detrimentally affect air or water quality or ambient noise levels;
- 10) The proposed action does not substantially affect an environmentally sensitive area, such as a flood plain, tsunami zone, erosion-prone area, geologically hazardous land, estuary or coastal waters; and
- 11) The proposed action is individually limited and cumulatively does not have a considerable effect upon the environment, nor does it involve a commitment for larger actions.

Further, it appears that the proposed action is compatible with the locality and surrounding project area and appropriate to the physical conditions and capabilities of the area to be served; the existing general physical and environmental aspects of the subject area will be preserved; the proposed action will not result in any significant adverse effects on the environment; and the proposed action is in keeping with the objectives and the purposes of the project site and area. The applicant will be responsible for and comply with all applicable statutes, ordinances, and rules of the Federal, State, and County governments.

Section 8: List of Preparers

8.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

- PBR HAWAII
Hilo, Hawaii - Environmental Assessment

8.1 List of Agencies and Others Consulted

- County of Hawaii
 - Department of Research & Development
 - Planning Department
 - Department of Public Works
- State of Hawaii
 - Department of Land and Natural Resources, Site Historic Preservation Office
 - Department of Transportation, Airports Division
 - Department of Business, Economic Development, and Tourism, Foreign Trade Zone
 - Office of Environmental Quality Control

The Draft EA for this project was submitted to the Office of Environmental Quality Control (OEQC), and the notice of its availability appeared in the OEQC Bulletin on August 23, 1994. The deadline for comments on the Draft EA was September 22, 1994. During the thirty day comment period, no comments were received by the OEQC from either governmental agencies or the public.