

Pūlehu Solar

Community Outreach Plan

Updated September 29, 2026

Hawai'i's 100% Clean Energy Future

As Hawai'i accelerates its transition to a 100% renewable future by 2045, AES Hawai'i is partnering with utilities, communities, landowners and customers to deliver greener, smarter energy solutions and help ensure a responsible and equitable transformation to clean energy. Since the 1990s, our people have worked passionately to meet Hawai'i's growing energy needs. We are co-creating solutions that support Hawai'i's renewable generation goals, stabilize rates, and increase grid reliability.

Contact Us

We appreciate your interest and participation in Hawai'i's renewable energy future and look forward to hearing your ideas and comments.

Community Outreach Representative: Carrice Gardner

Email: pulehusolar@aes.com

Project Hotline: +1 (808) 800-3942

Project Description

Pūlehu Solar is a proposed utility-scale renewable energy project on Maui, consisting of a 20 megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) facility paired with an 80 MWh battery energy storage system (BESS). The project is located approximately three miles from Kula, on the makai (west) side of Pūlehu Road, within an approximately 363-acre site on Haleakalā Ranch land. The project is intended to connect to the existing power system through a project substation and deliver power to the island-wide grid, producing up to 5% of Maui's electricity annually.

Hawaiian Electric originally selected the project through its Stage 2 RFP. Supply-chain constraints and rising equipment costs later required the project to be re-bid through the Stage 3 RFP, where it was selected again. AES acquired the project in September 2026, as part of its commitment to advancing Hawai'i's clean energy transition and delivering long-term benefits to the Maui community. Under a 20-year agreement, the project is expected to provide clean energy for approximately 9,873 Maui households at a fixed rate.

- **Specifications:** 20 MW solar photovoltaic array plus 80 MWh containerized lithium-ion Battery Energy Storage System (BESS).
- **Power Purchase Agreement:** The Project will deliver power to serve Maui residents under a 20-year Power Purchase Agreement with Maui Electric (MECO) at a fixed cost over its operational span.
- **Decommissioning:** At the end of the Project's life, AES Hawai'i will restore the land to its existing condition (or comparable).

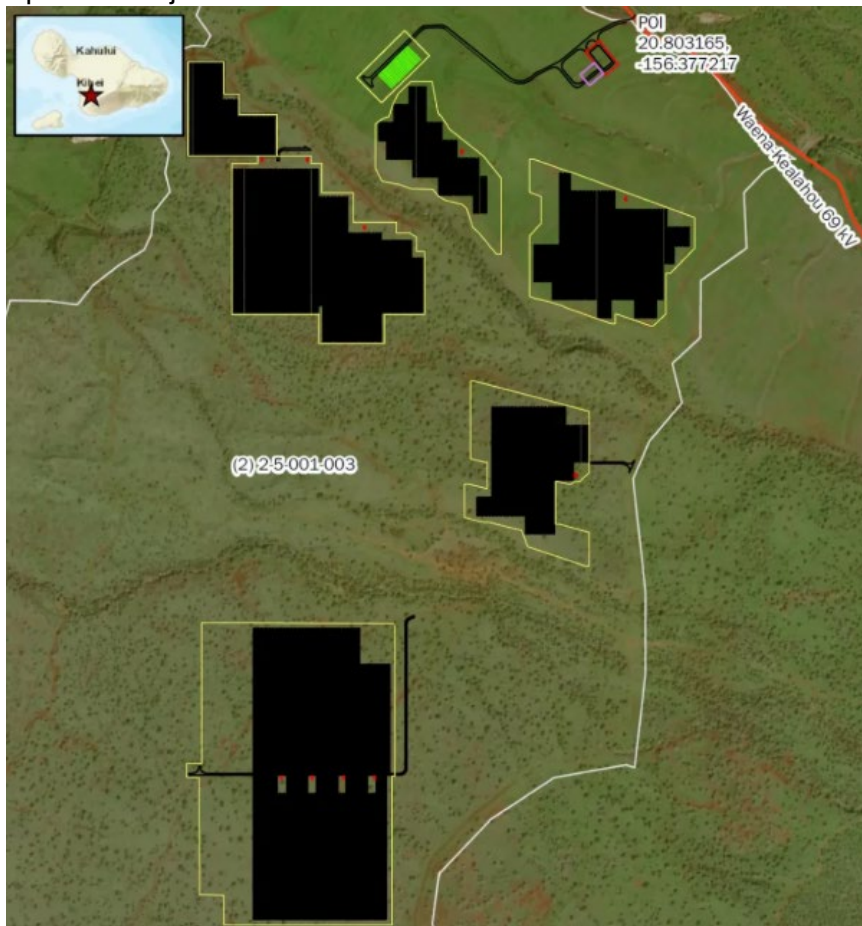
- **Project area:** The Project will be sited with a Project Permit Area of 363 total acres, with a smaller subset expected to house project infrastructure.

Project Maps

Project Vicinity Map



Updated Project Area

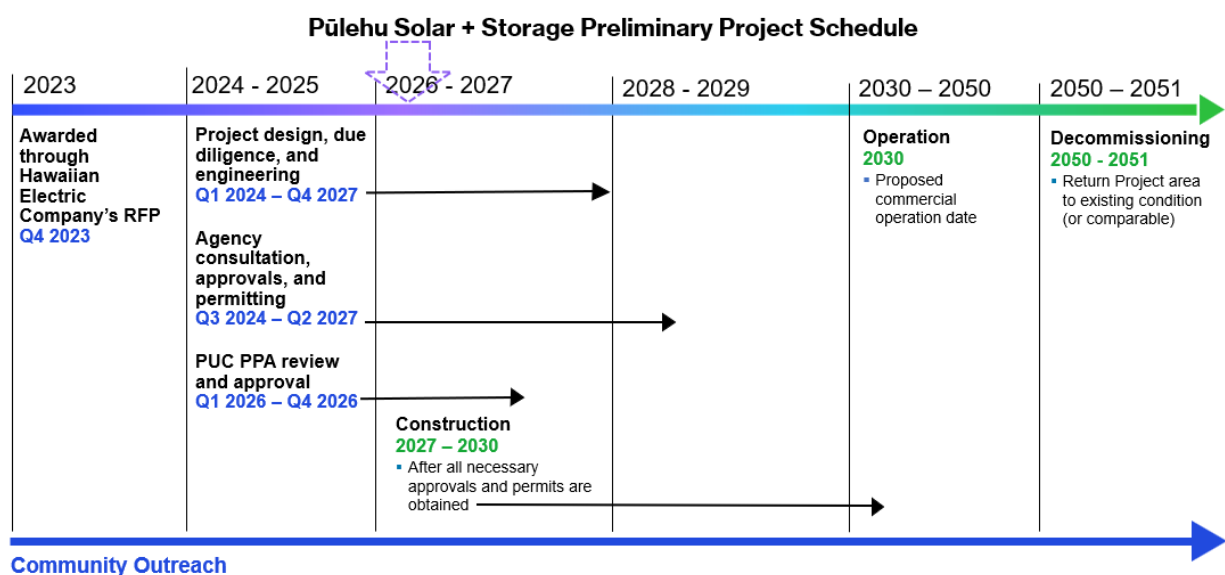


Note: Project maps are currently being updated and will be posted on the project website once available.



Project Schedule

The proposed timeline for project development and execution is included below. Please note: this schedule is subject to change and will be updated as necessary.



Government Approvals

Anticipated Permit/Approval	Authority Having Jurisdiction
County Special Use Permit (SUP) and any required extensions/validations	County of Maui Planning Department and Maui Planning Commission
HRS Chapter 6E Compliance (Historic Preservation Review)	State Historic Preservation Division (SHPD)
Grant of Access	State of Hawai'i Department of Transportation (HDOT) Right-of-Way Branch
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit	State of Hawai'i Department of Health (DOH), Clean Water Branch
Noise Permit	DOH, Indoor and Radiological Health Branch
Building and Electrical Permits	County of Maui Department of Public Works
Grading, Grubbing and Stockpiling Permits	County of Maui Department of Public Works

Community Outreach

AES Hawai'i is deeply committed to being an active, invested member – and neighbor – of the communities we serve.

We have a track record of successfully and sensitively engaging with the communities near our proposed projects. Being a responsible community partner is fundamental to our values and will guide how we approach community outreach for Pūlehu Solar. The outreach plan will build on the project's prior outreach history while refreshing engagement for the current project phase and providing regular updates following acquisition, redesign, permitting, or schedule changes.

Continuing to identify communities and other interested stakeholders affected by the Project is an essential part of project planning. Upon acquisition, the AES Hawai'i team plans to begin engagement with area organizations and leaders to provide timely and relevant project information and collect feedback to refine and finalize the Project's design.

AES Hawai'i will maintain a comprehensive and regularly updated stakeholder list and document all stakeholder engagement activities. To date, AES Hawai'i has identified the following organizations, landowners, community leaders, and key decision-makers that have or will be engaged in the project's outreach:

- Haleakalā Ranch Company
- Neighboring residents and landowners, including Kula Meadows and other nearby property owners
- Kula Community Association, Pukalani Community Association, Kihei Community Association, and other relevant community/neighborhood organizations
- Cultural consultants and Cultural descendants
- Mālama Kula, Kula Agricultural Park, Kula Community Watershed Alliance, Maui Economic Development Board, Hawai'i Wildfire Management Organization, and other nonprofit partners
- Hawaii State Energy Office
- State Senator
- State Representative
- Maui County Mayor
- Maui County administrators
- Maui County Council members

AES Hawai'i's standard practice is to invite stakeholders to help identify others in the community who should be contacted, enabling the Project Team to continually expand outreach. AES Hawai'i also invites other connections through the Project email address, website, and hotline.

Prior outreach and engagement

Pūlehu Solar has conducted community outreach since 2017, including individual meetings, community association engagement, cultural consultation, virtual open houses, webinars, and direct conversations with neighboring residents. More recent outreach has focused on project changes, community benefits, wildfire mitigation, visual impacts, and other topics of interest to the surrounding community.

As the Project advances, AES Hawai'i intends to build upon the outreach history of the project through proactive and ongoing engagement. The Project will share information, solicit feedback, address questions and concerns, and better understand community priorities and potential impacts.

Comprehensive Communications Plan

A significant goal of AES Hawai'i's Community Outreach Plan is to inform residents and neighboring communities about the Project and its progress and collect their feedback. AES Hawai'i will continue to provide timely updates through a comprehensive community outreach schedule. AES Hawai'i will share information about the Project in advance of any community meetings. Specific strategies include, but are not limited to:



- Issuance of Public Community Meeting Notice(s);
- Conducting Public Community Meeting(s) and/or Open Houses;
- Conducting strategic outreach to area organizations, community leaders, and elected and administrative officials;
- Dedicated Project email address (pulehusolar@aes.com) to invite input, comments, and questions;
- Dedicated Project phone number (+1 (808) 800-3942);
- Dedicated Project website (<https://www.aes-hawaii.com/pulehu-solar>) with updated information and a portal to gather input, comments, and questions;
- Issuance of monthly project status updates to the Project mailing list; and
- Posting Public Community Meeting Summaries to the Project website.

Our community outreach efforts will include informing stakeholders and neighboring communities about the Project, communicating potential environmental, social, economic, and land use changes, and answering questions.

AES Hawai'i will continue to plan for either in-person or virtual community meetings, as requested. Media advisories will be issued a minimum of 30 days prior to a public meeting to media, including but not limited to, The Maui News, Maui Now, Civil Beat, Hawai'i News Now, KHON2 News, and KITV4 News. Additionally, we will advertise in area community publications and send email notifications to our database and subscribers to the Project mailing list.

Public comments supporting and opposing the proposed project will be compiled and filed with the Public Utilities Commission.

AES Hawai'i believes in the importance of maintaining community collaboration and consultation throughout the project lifecycle and has successfully implemented this strategy with Hawaiian Electric Company's RFP Phase 1 and 2 projects. Throughout this process, collecting, considering, and responding to feedback from stakeholders and neighboring communities enabled AES Hawai'i to garner support and make adjustments to each project that addressed issues, concerns, or feedback raised by the community.

Construction-related updates

AES Hawai'i is committed to providing project status updates via email to our Project mailing list at least once per month and in conjunction with key milestones to ensure community members and stakeholders have the opportunity to provide feedback as required by the RFP.

Community Benefits

While the primary benefit of the Pūlehu Solar project is the energy price stability and reliability that it brings to Maui, the community will realize other significant gains through the Community Benefits Program (CBP). AES Hawai'i understands that each community in Hawai'i is unique, with different issues, priorities, and needs. As outreach continues, the Project Team will gather input and feedback to further refine design, inform future engagement, and identify beneficiaries of the Community Benefits Program (CBP).



Based on preliminary meetings, the community identified four priority areas for support: wildfire mitigation, natural resource management, Native Hawaiian cultural programs, and education in clean energy. Needs and opportunities change over time, so the Project Team will continue to solicit guidance from the community on where these funds are needed most. This feedback will form the basis of the CBP, ensuring it is specifically tailored to meet the needs identified by the host community.

Community Benefits Program

The Seller, Pūlehu Solar, LLC, is committed to providing a Community Benefits Program (CBP) of \$3,000 per MW AC per year for the Pūlehu Solar Project. As part of this commitment, the Project has identified the AES Hawai'i Foundation (AHF or the Foundation) as a potential non-profit entity for the distribution of CBP funds. The Foundation is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded in December 2021 and is dedicated to empowering local communities through partnerships with other nonprofits to create a brighter, more sustainable future.

The primary advantage of utilizing AHF is that the Foundation will separately pay for its administrative costs, enabling all CBP funds to directly benefit the community without overhead expenses or additional costs being deducted from them. The Foundation's professional staff shall be responsible for disbursements to organizations, programs and projects supported by the community in relation to the Project, leveraging the focus and charitable giving experience of the Foundation. In addition, the policies, procedures, and reporting requirements of the Foundation will provide transparency under the PPA requirements.

About the AES Hawai'i Foundation

The Foundation was established in December 2021 and was formed to serve as the central hub of AES Hawai'i's social impact giving and to further the goal of unifying and amplifying AES Hawai'i's longstanding commitment to community engagement. The Foundation is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

The mission of AHF is to empower our local communities through partnerships with nonprofits to create a brighter, more sustainable future.

Additional Community Benefits

Additional Project benefits and impacts were assessed by commissioning a preliminary economic and fiscal analysis.

1. Project construction will bring economic benefits to Hawai'i's economy.
 - a. The Project is anticipated to create more than 100 direct, indirect and induced jobs during development and construction.*
2. Local Labor and Prevailing Wage
 - a. AES Hawai'i has existing partnerships with local unions and a proven track record of generating meaningful local employment opportunities with living wages.
 - b. Construction will create direct, indirect, and induced jobs that benefit the local labor market.
3. The Project is anticipated to reduce environmental impacts and increase energy resilience through local renewable power production.
 - a. Anticipated to generate approximately 5% of Maui's energy needs.*



- b. Upon completion, the Project is estimated to power 9,873 homes with clean, renewable energy annually.*
- 4. The Project provides fixed, reliable renewable energy pricing compared to the fluctuating cost of fossil fuels.
- 5. The Project helps to support the phasing out of traditional fossil fuel plants and grid modernization.
- 6. The energy produced from this Project will help the state achieve its goal of 100% renewable energy generation by 2045 and offset Hawai'i's reliance on price-volatile, imported fossil fuel.

As predevelopment of the Project proceeds, additional opportunities for benefits will be explored in direct collaboration with the area communities.

**Subject to change based on further analysis*

