

Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative 

CURRENTS



*A message
of belonging,
connection
and unity*



INSIDE

Sustainable
Transportation
on Kaua'i

Small Co-op;
Big Results

New Kaua'i Renewable
Energy Project Earns
PUC Approval

**SPRING
2026**



2026 REBATES

HOME APPLIANCES



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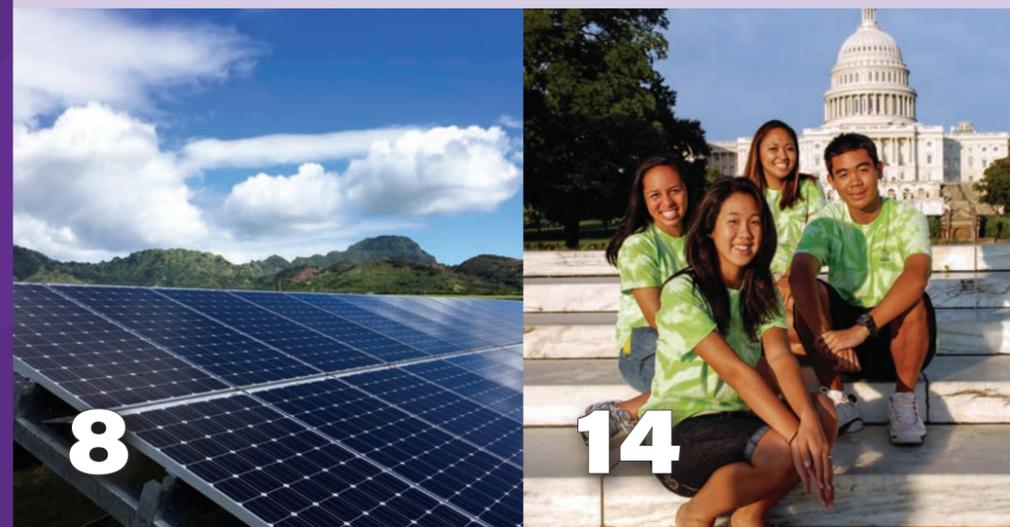
inside CURRENTS



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Currents is mailed quarterly to members of Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative. All issues are available online at kiuc.coop/currents. Want to go paperless? Send a note to info@kiuc.coop with your name and account number to be taken off the mailing list. Mahalo for reading Currents.

KIUC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.



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Editor

Beth Amaro

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On The Cover

Waimea High School's Brynn Lee Hirata shares a message of aloha in Nashville, Tennessee.



Chairman's Message



Aloha,

One of the seven cooperative principles upon which KIUC is based is Democratic Member Control. Every year, our members participate in elections for the board of directors, who set policies and make decisions to benefit our island.

Thanks to your participation in the elections, KIUC has become a leader in the three R's: renewables, rates and reliability. You can learn more about how the three R's work together in this issue.

This year, we are offering a new medical device power

backup rebate program in addition to our other energy-efficiency rebates and payment assistance programs. We continue to sponsor our community partners and educate future generations. It is even more rewarding when our keiki are recognized for their leadership in exemplifying co-op values.

We could not reach these heights without your participation. Mahalo for helping us light the way.

Aloha pumehana,
Allan A. Smith

Board Actions

Actions taken by the KIUC Board of Directors from December 2025 to February 2026.
BAR = Budget Adjustment Request

Dec. 18, 2025

- Approved, Resolution 06-25, 2026 KIUC results of operations budget
- Approved, Resolution 07-25, KIUC capital budget
- Approved, Resolution 08-25, authorizing amendment Executive Comp 457(b) Plan
- Approved, BAR form, STRAT Professional Services
- Approved, preliminary survey and investigation expenditures

Jan. 29, 2026

- Approved, 2025 corporate performance results
- Approved, Policy 2, authority and responsibility of the CEO
- Approved, agreements for habitat conservation sites
- Approved, PPA termination
- Approved, KIUC real estate matter

Feb. 26, 2026

- Approved, Resolution 01-26, board authorization to execute contract for Kaua'i wildfire mitigation grant with the Hawai'i State Energy Office
- Approved, 2026 corporate performance targets
- Approved, Policy 5, conflicts of interest and conduct of interested persons
- Approved, RLF approval, Explore Kaua'i Scuba, LLC
- Approved, PPA modification
- Approved, annual review of CEO

Election Results



KIUC BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Allan A. Smith



Jim Mayfield



Bryson Ponce

Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative's incumbent directors Allan A. Smith and Jim Mayfield, along with Bryson Ponce, have been elected to the KIUC Board of Directors. These three directors will each serve a three-year term ending March 2029.

KIUC mailed 27,029 ballots and received 4,322 responses with a 16% turnout.

Merriman River Group, a Connecticut-based election management firm, conducted the election.

The elected board members will be inaugurated March 24 at the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors.

Merriman River Group submitted the official results for the 2026 board of directors election. The results are:

1. Allan A. Smith, 2,306
2. Jim Mayfield, 2,122
3. Bryson Ponce, 2,012
4. Janet Kass, 1,704
5. Dan Giovanni, 1,375
6. Alicia Leong, 1,219
7. Greg Kamm, 826



Mahalo to our dedicated group of election volunteers.

BON DANCE SCHEDULE

June 12-13 Waimea Higashi Hongwanji

June 19-20 Lihu'e Hongwanji Mission

June 26-27 Waimea Shingon Mission

July 10-11 Kaua'i Soto Zenshuji Temple

July 17-18 Kapa'a Hongwanji Mission

July 24-25 West Kaua'i Hongwanji-Hanapēpē Temple

**All Bon Dances start at 7:30pm and Obon services are held prior*



King Kalākaua Meets Edison: Electricity in Hawai‘i

By Jan TenBruggencate, Board of Directors

Hawai‘i embraced the electrical age with surprising speed, illuminating ‘Iolani Palace four years before the U.S. White House did.

This early adoption was sparked by a Sept. 25, 1881, meeting in New York between King Kalākaua and Thomas Edison at Edison Electric Light Co. near the end of Kalākaua's famous world tour as the first reigning monarch to circumnavigate the planet. The king was so impressed by Edison's vision that he returned to the Islands determined to bring Edison's illuminating technology to his kingdom.

‘Iolani, the Hawaiian royal palace, was electrified for the first time July 21, 1886, as a demonstration. Kalākaua authorized the installation of a small steam engine in the basement. The palace was wired for lights, and they were turned on June 1, 1887.

The next step was hydroelectric power generated from a 10-horsepower and a 45-horsepower generator in Nu‘uanu Stream. These small hydro plants were fed by water in about 7,000 feet of wood-stave pipe. The facility was called Nu‘uanu Government Electric Light Station, and was funded by a \$35,000 appropriation by the Hawai‘i Legislature. In 1888, Princess Ka‘iulani threw the switch that powered streetlights in Honolulu. By 1890, nearly 800 Honolulu homes had power.

A few cities on the mainland got street lighting earlier than Hawai‘i, but Honolulu was among early adopters.

‘Iolani Palace underwent a retrofit in 2017 and now uses energy-efficient LED lights throughout the palace.



Photo credit: The Friends of ‘Iolani Palace



The Kingdom of Hawai‘i was ahead of its time with the integration of electricity at ‘Iolani Palace.

Oddly, while there was electric power in Washington, D.C., as early as 1882, the White House wasn't electrified until 1891, four years after ‘Iolani Palace. Edison supplied the generator in the basement of the White House that lit that building and a neighboring office building.

President Benjamin Harrison was afraid to touch the light switches for fear of getting electrocuted—he let the staff turn on the lights. The royalty of Hawai‘i was much more comfortable with technology than the president of the United States.

The Hawaiian sugar industry was key to the further growth of electrical installation in the islands, initially using steam engines to power generators. On Kaua‘i and other islands, they first lit the sugar mills, then ran wires out to plantation residences near the mills. Eventually, those lines extended to other communities.

The growing demand for electrical service drove the development of new sources of power. The plantations started using electrical power generated from steam—often created by burning sugar fiber called bagasse—and then moved to coal, diesel and other fossil fuels. But following the Nu‘uanu example, hydroelectric power also developed across the archipelago.

Hydropower came to Kaua‘i in 1906. That's when contractors built the Wainiha hydroelectric plant for Alexander & Baldwin. The Wainiha plant continues to provide power to the Kaua‘i electrical grid 120 years later.

By 1910, Līhu‘e Plantation had built two smaller hydro plants on Waiahi Stream and, in subsequent years, other plantations set up water-powered generators. Gay & Robinson is now the island's biggest supplier of hydroelectric power, with a hydro plant using water from its Olokele Ditch.

To this day, hydro is a small but important component of KIUC's renewable energy mix. ⚡

Sustainable Transportation on Kaua‘i

By Allison Young

The Kaua‘i Bus celebrated the launch of its first Battery Electric Buses and new routes in January. This marks an exciting and significant step in the county's ongoing commitment to sustainable transportation.

“We are excited to introduce the new 900/950 routes and highlight our commitment to a cleaner, greener Kaua‘i,” Mayor Derek S.K. Kawakami says. “The addition of electric buses represents a meaningful investment in sustainable infrastructure and the health and well-being of our island community.”

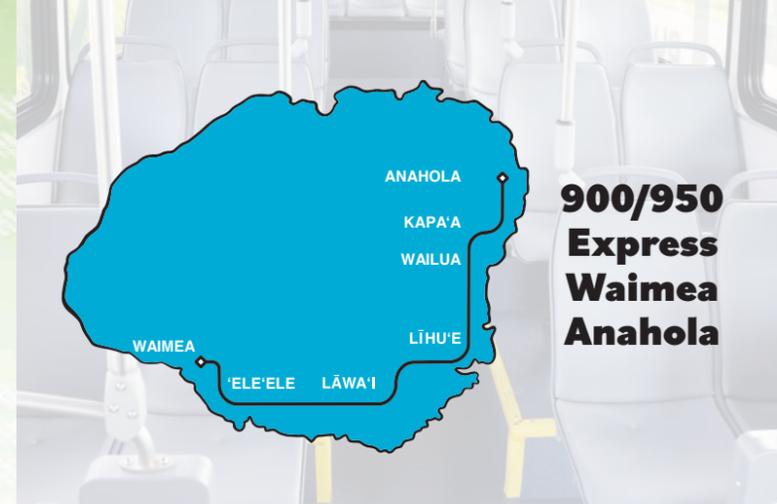
The buses were procured through a combination of federal and local funds, including support from the Federal Transit Administration's Low or No Emission Vehicle Program. This program helps local transit agencies modernize their fleets with clean, energy-efficient technology that reduces greenhouse gas emissions, lowers operating costs, and improves air quality for residents and visitors alike.

“KIUC has been an active partner with the County of Kaua‘i since the onset of this project, with our EV charger and engineering teams, ensuring that the bus facility has the necessary and proper electrical infrastructure to support the BEBs and the electrification of transportation here on

The Kaua‘i Bus celebrated the launch of its first Battery Electric Buses and new routes in 2026.



Photo credit: Teak Ruby-Ano, County of Kaua‘i



900/950 Express Waimea Anahola

The 900/950 route provides expanded access across the island and convenient stops at Līhu‘e Airport in both directions for residents, commuters and travelers.

the island,” says Scott Sato, KIUC's Government Affairs and Energy Services Manager.

The 900/950 route operates Monday through Friday between Anahola and Waimea Athletic Field, providing expanded access across the island and convenient stops at Līhu‘e Airport in both directions. The route enhances connectivity for residents, commuters and travelers, offering direct access to key destinations along Kaua‘i's southern corridor, including educational, recreational and commercial areas.

Riders can download The Kaua‘i Bus mobile e-ticket app on their devices for all routes. Discount fares are available for individuals with disabilities and youth ages 7-18, with proof of eligibility. Children 6 years old and younger ride free with a fare-paying adult. For those traveling in a group, up to 10 tickets per ticket type may be bought in a single purchase.

For more information, visit kauai.gov/Government/Departments-Agencies/Transportation or contact The Kaua‘i Bus at 808.246.8110 or TheKauaiBus@kauai.gov. ⚡



Community members learn more about the AES Kaawanui Solar project at the Hanapēpē Neighborhood center.

New Kaua'i Renewable Energy Project Earns PUC Approval

By Beth Amaro

The Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission has given the green light to a new solar-plus-storage project on Kaua'i that will contribute significantly to Kaua'i Island Utility Cooperative's plans to reach 100% renewable generation.

AES Hawai'i's Kaawanui Solar project, on land in Makaweli owned by Robinson Family Partners and managed by Gay & Robinson Inc., will include a 43-megawatt photovoltaic array paired with four hours of battery storage capacity, and could store up to 172 megawatt hours of electricity that can be used during non-solar periods.

The project will annually power the equivalent of more than 16,000 homes with clean, locally produced energy and will meet approximately 17.5% of Kaua'i's energy needs. More than 179 million gallons of fossil fuel will be offset over its 25-year lifespan, avoiding 2.3 million metric tons of carbon dioxide emissions.

"KIUC routinely operates at 100% renewable on sunny days," KIUC President and CEO David Bissell said. "Our main

challenge in reaching the state's mandate of 100% renewable by 2045 is eliminating our fossil fuel use during non-solar periods. Projects like this are critical to reaching that goal."

In addition to the climate benefits, the Kaawanui Solar project will provide an estimated \$365 million in savings to KIUC over the course of the 25-year fixed-price power purchase agreement with AES. The savings for residential customers in the first year are estimated at \$4.26 a month, increasing to an estimated \$21.08 a month in savings in the last year of the 25-year PPA term.

The State Division of Consumer Advocacy, in its supportive position statement to the PUC, said, "The proposed AES Kaawanui PPA is anticipated to provide significant benefits to KIUC's members/customers in monthly bill savings, decreasing fossil use and greenhouse gas emissions, and contributing to the KIUC's Renewable Portfolio Standard goals and, in doing so, increasing reliability and energy resiliency with the addition of a firm-like resource."

To interconnect the project to KIUC's grid, a new switchyard will be built adjacent to the Kaawanui Solar project, enabling KIUC to decommission the Kaumakani and Kekaha substations.

The project will include a component of compatible agriculture. AES expects to partner with a local, Kaua'i-based company that brings deep expertise in land stewardship, ranching and sustainable practices to co-locate agricultural activities on site.

"KIUC has set and continues to meet aggressive renewable energy goals well ahead of state-mandated targets, and at a pace that leads the state in reaching the ultimate goal of 100% renewable," said Senate President Ron Kouchi, 8th District (Kaua'i and Ni'ihau). "I am very pleased that the PUC and the Consumer Advocate have worked with KIUC to issue a timely approval, so the project can be completed in a way that will bring maximum benefit to the cooperative's members while also supporting our agricultural goals for Kaua'i."

"Today's PUC approval is another significant milestone enabling AES and KIUC to continue delivering on their shared goal for clean, reliable energy for Kaua'i," AES Senior Director of Development Nick Molinari said. "We're proud to partner with KIUC to help Kaua'i reach its clean energy goals."

This will be the third renewable energy project developed by AES for KIUC. In 2019, AES and KIUC made history together by bringing online the Lāwa'i Solar + Storage Project, which was the largest operational solar and energy storage system in the world at the time. In 2021, in collaboration with the U.S. Navy, AES' Kekaha Solar + Storage project, also known as the AES PMRF Project, was placed into service.

AES Hawai'i is committed to engaging with the community throughout the Project's lifespan. Open houses were held for Pākalā, Ka'awanui and Kaumakani villages, and a public community meeting was held in September 2025 in Hanapēpē, where dozens of residents engaged with AES and KIUC representatives to pose questions and learn more about the project. A project website has been created and can be accessed at aes-hawaii.com/kaawanuisolar. 

The AES Lāwa'i project incorporates sustainable agricultural practices for vegetation management.



Small Co-op; Big Results

Focus on Rates and Renewables Pays Off

By Beth Amaro



KIUC's Anahola Service Center and solar facility.

Did you know that within 20 years of becoming a cooperative, KIUC went from having the highest residential rates in the state—by a large margin—to having the lowest rates in the state?

“In 2002, KIUC's rates were 70% higher than rates on O’ahu,” KIUC President and CEO David Bissell says. “The status quo was unacceptable to KIUC's newly elected board of directors. They moved decisively—along with their successors—to set the cooperative on a better course.”

In May 2022, KIUC's rates dropped below rates on all other islands for the first time and have remained the lowest or among the lowest since. In addition, between January 2021 and September 2025, KIUC's residential electricity price has increased just 7%, compared to a 34% increase on O’ahu, and a range of 25% to 47% increases on other islands, according to the State of Hawai'i Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism.

“This is a remarkable accomplishment considering the relative size of Kaua'i compared to all other islands—especially O’ahu,” David says.

He notes that, while having the lowest rates in the state has long been a primary goal of KIUC, it could not have been achieved without the framework of a not-for-profit cooperative, coupled with decisive action by the board of directors and staff and the support of KIUC member-owners.

Strategic Planning Creates the Path

KIUC's board of directors adopted the cooperative's first strategic plan in 2007 and has revisited that vision several times throughout the years. The main components of all KIUC's strategic plan documents have been similar and are articulated in the 2023 plan as follows:

- Delivering electricity at the lowest possible cost
- Contributing to a sustainable Kaua'i by reducing our carbon footprint
- Prioritizing resiliency and reliability

“I think I can speak for all board members past and present when I say that minimizing the financial burden of our residents' electric bill has been of paramount importance from day one,” KIUC Board Chair Allan Smith says.

KIUC board and staff visited with House Speaker Nadine Nakamura at the Hawai'i State Capitol.



KIUC's Kōloa Solar facility.

He notes that huge strides have been made in all three areas, with KIUC logging the lowest rates in the state while using a rapidly increasing percentage of renewables and maintaining favorable reliability metrics.

Responsible Financial Management Lays the Foundation

“Operating as a not-for-profit cooperative has made a significant difference in making electricity on Kaua'i more affordable,” KIUC Chief Financial Officer Erin Tsuda says. “Our customers are our owners, and we're governed by our locally elected board of directors who are KIUC members themselves.”

What does it mean to be a member-owner?

“Each of our members has a patronage capital account, which represents their investment—or equity—in KIUC,” Erin says. “When the cooperative earns more than it spends in any given year, those margins are returned to members' patronage capital accounts in an amount representative of the share of electricity they used during the year.”

When margins exceed established regulatory thresholds, the excess is retired to members via a check or bill credit.

Another benefit of being an electric cooperative is having access to low-interest loans from the U.S. Rural Utilities Service and other specialized lenders, such as CoBank and the National Rural Utilities Cooperative Finance Corporation.

“Utility operations are highly capital intensive,” Erin says. “Having access to low-interest loans from these organizations has saved KIUC tens of millions of dollars over the years.”

Using financial strategies such as restructuring debt, rightsizing its workforce, seeking Federal Emergency Management Agency reimbursement for disaster-related costs and securing federal grants, KIUC has been able to limit its requests for a general rate increase to only two times in the past 24 years. In addition, nearly \$40 million has been returned to members' pocketbooks since 2003 in patronage capital retirements.

KIUC's achievements were recently featured on **Empowered Hawai'i: Kaua'i Lights the Way** on KHON2 News, hosted by Kelly Simek and Jeff Mikulina.

Kaua'i's Clean Energy Revolution: A Global Model



Watch to learn how KIUC's renewable progress is helping keep costs low for members.

Renewable Energy Lights the Way

KIUC has become a globally recognized pioneer in accelerating the adoption of renewable resources, such as solar paired with battery energy storage systems. Through ground-breaking partnerships with renewable energy leaders, such as Tesla and AES, Kaua'i has moved from being more than 90% dependent on fossil fuel for power generation in 2012 to more than 50% renewable today. This has dramatically reduced our carbon footprint and resulted in nearly \$70 million in savings for KIUC members since 2011.

“Fossil fuel is generally expensive, and the pricing is volatile,” David says. “Being so highly dependent on diesel is the primary reason electricity rates were so historically high on Kaua'i, relative to the other islands.”

He says replacing diesel with lower-priced renewables using long-term, fixed-price power purchase agreements has been a driving force in KIUC's journey to having the lowest rates in the state.

David says members will feel the full benefit of this shift in the coming decades as we move toward 100% renewable. Prices for these resources will remain fixed over the course of a 20- or 25-year power purchase agreement, anchoring rates and buffering members from the price volatility of the past.

Members Power Our Success

“Thirty years ago, becoming a member-owned cooperative was a dream that felt almost unattainable,” KIUC Director Jim Mayfield says.

With a small group of business colleagues, Jim first pitched the idea to the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association in the mid-1990s. He played a significant role in the formation of KIUC and was recently elected to the board for the fifth time.

“Having KIUC join the collective of more than 900 electric cooperatives nationwide should be a huge source of pride for us all,” he says. “Please engage with your board members, as well as your family and friends who work for KIUC. We're here for you, and we hope you'll be an active participant in our collective success.”

Making Her Mark on Kaua'i and Beyond

By Allison Young



Brynn Lee Hirata's family traveled to Nashville, Tennessee, to watch her speak at the PowerXchange. From left are Brynn's uncle Cadman Kanahele, grandmother Helene Kanahele, Brynn, and parents Lei Lynn and Dan Hirata.

"Each flower is a part of the story."

This quote from her grandmother served as a metaphor in Waimea High School senior Brynn Lee Hirata's nationally recognized speech about lei, community and belonging.

Brynn represented KIUC as a delegate at the 2025 Youth Tour and the 2025 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Leadership Council. Formed in 1976, the YLC focuses on developing leadership, advocacy and communication skills among outstanding students.

In January, Brynn competed with 45 other YLC delegates for the honor of becoming the YLC National Spokesperson. She was asked to deliver her speech in March at the 2026 NRECA PowerXchange conference in Nashville, Tennessee, in front of 5,000 attendees representing electric co-ops around the

country. This is the first time a KIUC YLC delegate has been chosen to speak at the event.

"For me, that word 'ohana isn't just a word we say in Hawai'i, it's what ties us together in the painful moments and the joyful moments," Brynn said. "This is what we need, to see each other as part of the lei: different, beautiful and essential. None of us should ever be left behind or forgotten."

Brynn continued to describe an electric cooperative as a circle—like a lei—that unites everyone in the community.

Traveling alongside Brynn for the speech was KIUC Public Affairs Specialist Shelley Paik, who has been a longtime mentor to Kaua'i's youth through her work with Youth Tour, Youth Leadership Council and local schools.

"It was incredibly moving," Shelley says, noting NRECA paid for Brynn's parents and grandmother to attend the event. "Her grandmother heard the speech for the first time there, and we were all so proud that she had the opportunity to share this heartfelt message with our cooperative colleagues from all over the country."

As a YLC delegate, Brynn was required to lead a community service project. She chose to work with the Save Our Shearwaters program in collaboration with Archipelago Research and Conservation to bring awareness about the endangered seabirds: 'a'o (Newell's shearwater), 'ua'u (Hawaiian petrel), and 'akē'akē (band-rumped storm-petrel).

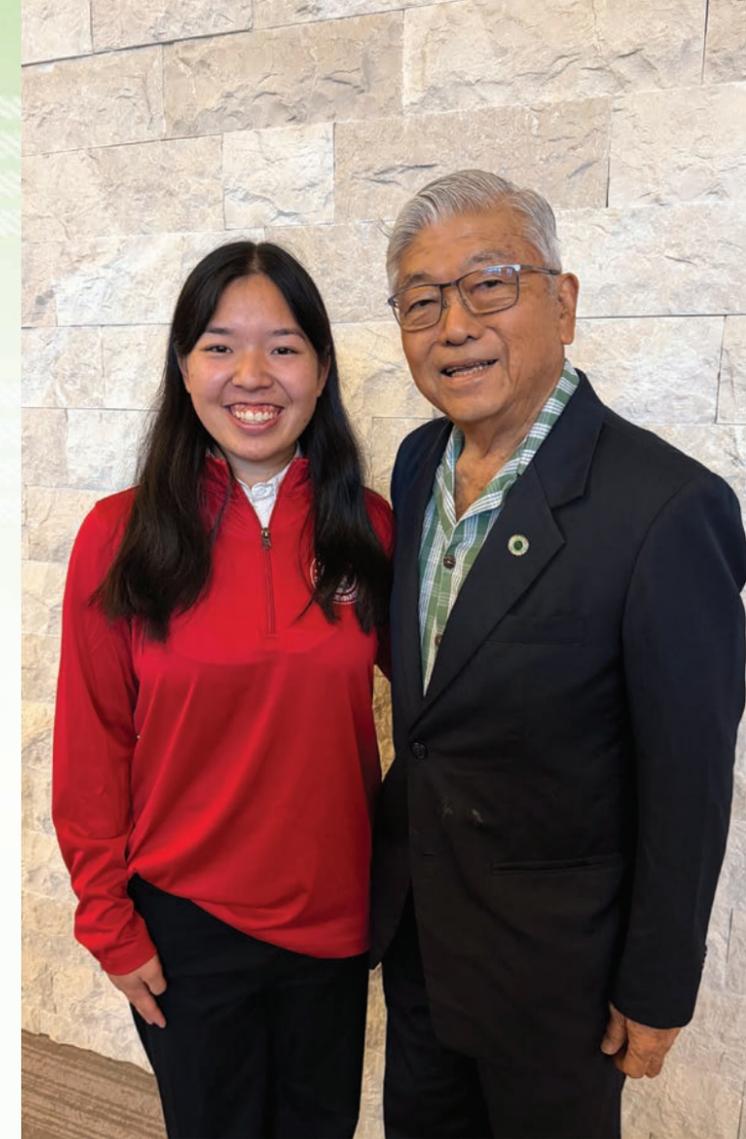
Brynn invited guest speakers to educate the Waimea High LEO service club about shearwaters, visited a nesting site and organized three search-and-rescue events on the west side, and filmed a short video about how to rescue a downed bird.

Asked what advice she would give students who want to make a difference in their community, Brynn says, "Get involved at school in lots of opportunities, try new things and meet new people. It's a very rewarding experience." ⚡

Text and video of Brynn's award-winning speech can be found here:



Watch Brynn's PSA on how to handle a grounded seabird here:



Brynn with KIUC Board Member David Iha in Nashville.

Brynn organized Save Our Shearwaters searches in collaboration with Archipelago Research and Conservation to bring awareness about downed seabirds.



Where Are They Now? Jessika Orozco - Youth Tour 2008

By Allison Young



Jessika and her husband, Angel, at Disneyland during Halloween.

For this issue, we talked story with Jessika Orozco, an alumnus from Youth Tour 2008. Jessika is from Hanapēpē and graduated from Kamehameha Schools, Kapālama Campus. She is communications professional and content creator living in Honolulu, Hawai'i.

Aloha, Jessika. What's your favorite memory from Youth Tour?

My favorite memory from Youth Tour was meeting students from other co-ops. It was also my first time to the mainland! Facebook launched the year I went, and I remember everyone was so excited to stay in touch online.

Youth Tour was also my first time to the mainland. We visited many memorable sites, but the Holocaust Museum and the Newseum left a lasting impression. In fact, the Newseum inspired me to major in Communications. Seeing all of the different methods of communicating the news overtime solidified my passion for storytelling and made me want to learn more.

I also remember having dinner at Mount Vernon and the rosemary potatoes being amazing. I tell everyone about it all the time.

Tell us about your path after graduation.

After high school, I attended Chaminade University of Honolulu and received my B.A. in communications mass media. I've had the pleasure of working in various communications, marketing, and public relations roles in the education and health industries since then.

I also manage a personal blog, YouTube Channel, and social media profiles where I share my journey with intentional living and self-care—monthly resets, realistic planning videos,

travel, reading vlogs, etc. With all that's going on in the world, I believe it's important to have safe spaces to share my voice because vulnerability is a superpower, not a weakness.

I love connecting with my online community about these topics as they are an important part of my life. People can find me at [@jessikalynorozco](#) on Instagram and YouTube.

What do you like to do in your free time?

In my free time, I enjoy traveling, cozy hobbies such as crocheting, journaling, coloring, reading and managing my blog and YouTube channel.

Your father works at KIUC. Do you have any memories of KIUC growing up?

My dad started with KIUC a few years before I left for Kamehameha Schools. I remember going with my family to the summer picnics at Lydgate. It was always fun to see everyone at these annual events.

KIUC has been a huge part of my life for many years. Aside from my dad working there and having the opportunity to go on Youth Tour, KIUC was my first job. For two or three summers I interned in the Member Services Department and in Communications. I'm so grateful for those early opportunities because they helped me get to where I am today.

Which one of KIUC's Ho'oka'ana Waiwai shared values most resonates with you?

Laulima resonates with me the most because I truly believe in the value of community. You don't need to do things alone, you just need to find the right people to support you. ⚡

Jessika with her niece and siblings. From left are Jessika, Moani, Kawehi, Ian, Camryn and Kaitlyn.



The Modern Grid

Nearly every facet of the electric power industry has undergone significant change over the past decade. What was once a centralized, “one-way” system is rapidly evolving into a dynamic and interconnected network. The modern grid is characterized by a diverse generation mix, an explosion of technological advances in things like automation, sensors and data analytics, and platforms that allow consumers to better understand and control their energy use.

Local Generation

Local solar, storage and wind help shave peaks and improve reliability.

Step-Down Transformer

Smart distribution transformers enable remote monitoring and predictive maintenance.

Distribution Lines

Advanced materials and composite cores improve strength and reduce thermal expansion.

Distribution Transformers

High-efficiency cores and digitally enabled transformers reduce load loss and improve resilience.

Meter

Advanced meters allow real-time data transmission and two-way communication.

Breaker Box

Smart panels enable real-time circuit-level monitoring and remote control.

Wiring

Structured wiring combines power and data cables to support smart home automation.

Power Generation

Advanced gas turbines, hybrid renewable plants and system digitalization are improving uptime and reliability.

Transmission Lines

Composite-core conductors boost line capacity and reduce sag.

Step-Up Transformer

Smart and solid-state step-up transformers improve visibility, functionality and reliability.

Transmission Substation

Digital substation gear allows better monitoring and automation.

Consumer and Commercial Use

Distributed energy resources and Internet of Things devices allow users to better manage energy use.

How Power Is Restored

By Peter Yukimura, Board of Directors

Power outages can happen for many reasons: overgrown vegetation, windy or stormy weather, damage to infrastructure from accidents, or wear and tear.

When the power goes out at your home or business, KIUC workers quickly spring into action at any hour, whether that's in the middle of a sunny workday or after-hours during a storm.

KIUC is always monitoring our grid at our control center where, within seconds, our system can receive information and alerts from sensors and meters around the island.

When an outage is detected, a troubleshooter is dispatched to the area to look for physical signs of the outage. The dispatcher looks for an open circuit breaker, which indicates the flow of electricity is stopped. He also inspects the area for signs of what could cause the outage, such as nearby downed poles or lines or vegetation on lines—the most common cause of outages, especially during severe weather.

If possible, electricity is rerouted to the affected homes. If repairs are needed, lineworkers gather the necessary equipment, don their personal protective equipment, shut off or ground lines to make sure no electricity is flowing, and begin repairs. When repairs are complete, the circuit is reconnected, and members are switched back on.

If a line is underground, the process from diagnosis to repair may take considerably longer. Remote locations on Kaua'i, such as Kōke'e or Hā'ena, usually take longer to repair due to the location, dense vegetation and lack of redundancy—lines that can be rerouted and serve as backup while repairs are made.

KIUC's first priority is safety, and crews try to work as quickly as possible while respecting the dangerous nature of

Crews work as safely and quickly as possible when there is an outage.

So, You Want to be a Lineperson

Does the idea of working with a team outdoors and at extreme heights appeal to you? Do you like problem solving, and can you be flexible with your work hours?

Perhaps you might be interested in a career as a lineperson.

Becoming a lineperson usually starts with a Helper Apprentice Qualified position and four-year training program. Apprentices receive on-the-job training under the supervision of a senior lineperson. The curriculum includes electrical theory, operating equipment, climbing techniques, first aid and safety standards. A lineperson must pass the Edison Electric Institute (EEI) aptitude test and be able to pass all physical assessments, such as climbing poles, carrying heavy equipment and working in various weather conditions.

After completing these requirements, an apprentice can officially become a journeyman lineperson. An advanced career in linework has the potential to lead to becoming a Journeyman Lineperson, Working Foreperson or Primary Troubleshooter.

Being a lineperson is a lifelong and rewarding career. If you are interested in a future career as a lineperson, KIUC regularly updates all open positions at kiuc.coop/careers.

electricity. Linework has been ranked among the top 10 most dangerous jobs in the United States due to the risks of high-voltage exposure, working at extreme heights and severe weather conditions. To maintain and improve upon our culture of safety, KIUC works with the Rural Electric Safety Achievement Program to train workers in best practices in all our locations.

We appreciate your patience as our lineworkers restore power as safely and quickly as possible. During an outage, follow the outage map online and watch our Facebook page for updates. Read KIUC's line safety tips at kiuc.coop/line-safety to keep yourself and our lineworkers safe. ⚡





Lineworker Appreciation Day Is April 18

We thank our lineworkers and all employees working to keep our members' lights on through every type of weather condition and event.

In honor of our lineworkers, prioritize safety by following these six important tips:

ELECTRICAL LINE SAFETY TIPS

1



Don't Post on Poles

Keep poles free of tacks, nails, signs, balloons and other debris that can tear lineworkers' protective clothing and increase their risk of electric shock, serious injuries or death.

2



Stay Clear from Downed Lines

If you see a downed line, always assume it's energized. Call 911 and stay clear.

If you're in a car accident with a power pole, stay in the car until first responders tell you it's safe to exit.

3



Call Before You Dig

Don't plant trees near lines. Call 811 to avoid both overhead and underground lines.



4



Maintain Clearance from Electrical Equipment

The green metal box transformer is not a safe place to play or sit! There is hazardous voltage inside that can shock, burn or cause death.

5



Caution Around Lines

Be cautious when picking fruit or trimming trees near lines. Keep ladders, antennas, tools and other equipment at least 20 feet away from lines.

To be safe, hire a certified tree trimmer for branches near lines.

6



Slow Down in the Cone Zone

Respect our linemen and keep a safe distance while they're working. Don't cross or move barriers or cones.

When approaching utility workers on the side of the road, move over and slow down.

E huaka'i me ka palekana. (Travel safely on your journey.)



KIUC in the Community



Anahola Wildfire Safety Outreach



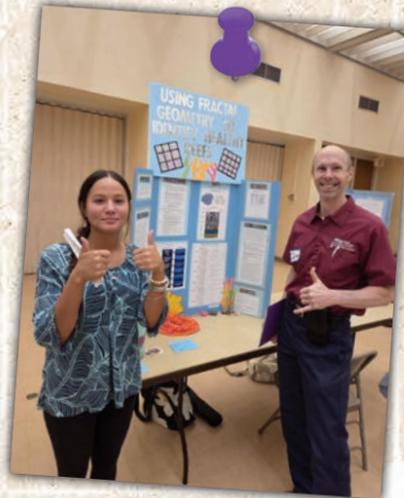
Nā Kūpuna O Kaua'i Legacy of Aloha Walk and Roll Event at Lydgate



Big Brothers Big Sisters Bowling Spirit Award



KIUC's Allison Young is honored at the Pacific Edge Young Professionals event on O'ahu.



Kaua'i Regional Science and Engineering Fair



Waimea High and Waimea Canyon Middle School Menhene 3Es Fair



Kalāheo Elementary School Career Day



Kaua'i Economic Development Board Career Fair - November 2025

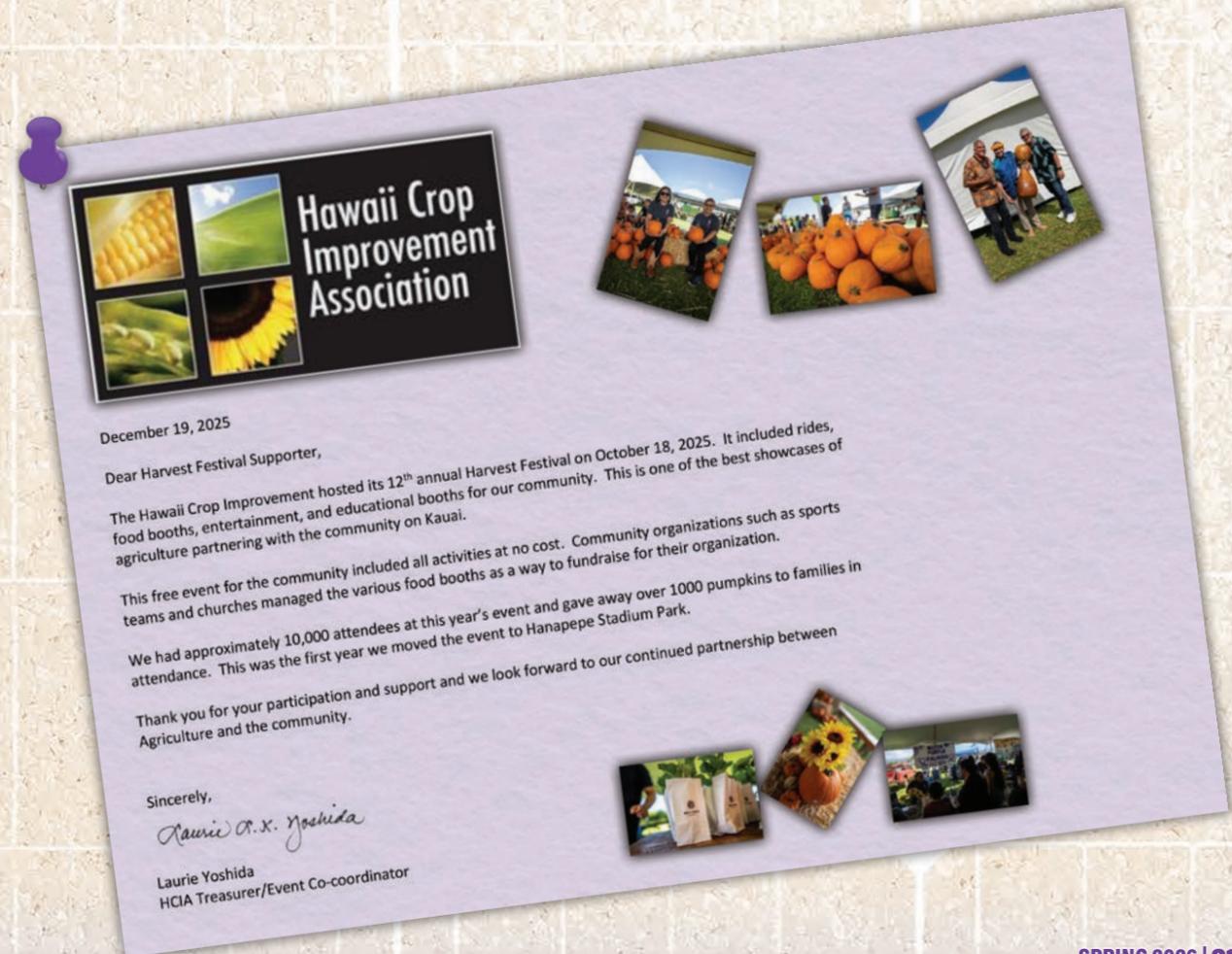
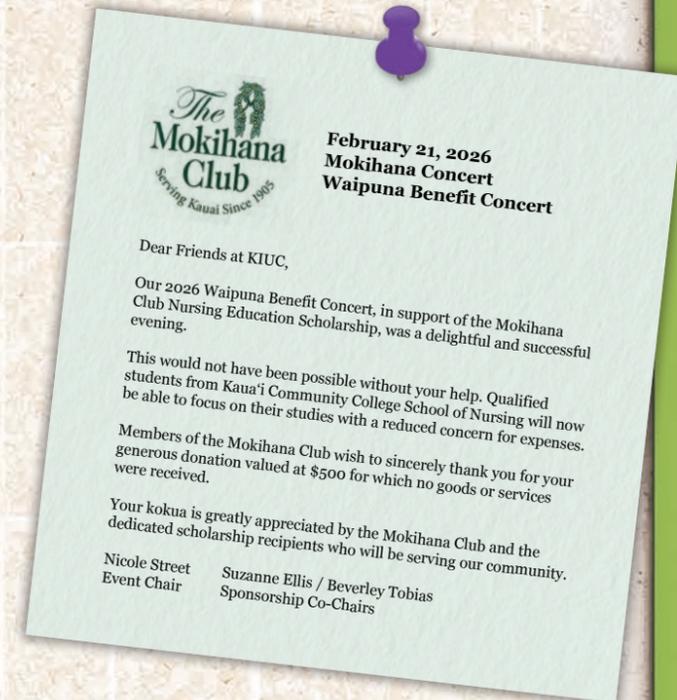


Breakfast and Learn with Commercial Members

Member Mahalos



*Aloha friends at KIUC,
Thank you for your donation and support for our mission! We're very grateful!
Mahalo,
Jody Kuschky*



Spring Cuisine



Instant Pot Oxtail Soup

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 2 packages oxtail
- 2 fingers ginger about 2 inches long; one smashed, the other grated
- 2 tablespoons rock salt
- 5 dried shiitake mushrooms, sliced
- 1 tablespoon black peppercorn
- 3 star anise
- ¼ cup shelled raw peanuts
- 1 bunch mung bean thread
- 1 bunch cilantro, chopped

Directions

Put Instant Pot on sauté mode. Add oil. Brown oxtails for 4 minutes on each side. Remove from pot, and set aside. Add onions and smashed ginger, and char. Add oxtail, salt, shiitake, peppercorn, star anise and peanuts to pot. Cover with water, and bring to a boil.

Hit cancel, then select the stew/meat option for 45 minutes. Cover pot, and close seal. Release seal once the time is up, and add the mung bean thread. Wait 15 minutes, then serve with grated ginger and cilantro, to taste.



Eggroll Nachos

Ingredients

- 1 package wonton wrappers, cut in half
- Oil
- 1 pound ground pork or turkey
- 1 tablespoon black pepper
- 1 tablespoon ginger powder
- 1 tablespoon garlic powder
- ½ purple cabbage, thinly sliced
- ½ green cabbage, thinly sliced
- Onion, thinly sliced
- Carrot, shredded
- Green onions, chopped
- 1 tablespoon oyster sauce
- 1 tablespoon shoyu
- 1 teaspoon sugar
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- ⅓ cup sriracha
- Sweet chili sauce

Directions

Fry wonton wrappers in oil until they are browned and crispy. Set aside. Add oil to a skillet, and brown the meat. Add pepper, ginger, garlic, vegetables, oyster sauce, shoyu and sugar. Sauté until vegetables are soft. Place mixture in a bowl, and garnish with green onions. Combine mayonnaise and sriracha. Serve mixture with wonton chips, mayonnaise sriracha and sweet chili sauce.



Roast Beef

Ingredients

- Roast beef
- 4 garlic cloves, minced
- ¼ cup fresh rosemary leaves, chopped
- ¼ cup Hawaiian salt
- Fresh-ground black pepper

Directions

Rub roast with garlic, rosemary, Hawaiian salt and pepper. Leave at room temperature for one hour. Place beef fat side up in a roasting pan, uncovered. Heat oven to 350 F, and place the beef in the oven for 1 hour. Turn off heat, but do not open the oven door. At least 55 minutes prior to serving, check the following times for rare, medium and well-done beef below, and bake accordingly. For rare beef, bake at 300 F for 45 minutes. For medium beef, bake at 300 F for 50 minutes. For well-done beef, bake at 300 F for 55 minutes.



Guava Cake

Cake ingredients

- 1 box strawberry cake mix
- 1 ⅓ cup guava nectar juice
- ⅓ cup canola oil
- 3 eggs, room temperature
- 1 tablespoon vanilla extract

Cream cheese topping:

- 1 block cream cheese, room temperature
- ⅓ cup powdered sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 container Cool Whip

Guava jelly:

- 2 cups guava nectar juice
- ½ cup sugar
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- 3 tablespoons water

Cake Directions

Heat oven to 350 F. Combine all ingredients. Pour into a greased 9-by-13-inch pan, and bake for 30-35 minutes.

Cream Cheese Topping Directions

Use hand mixer to mix cream cheese, powdered sugar and vanilla. Fold in one container of Cool Whip. Refrigerate until assembling cake.

Guava Jelly Directions

Make a cornstarch slurry by combining cornstarch and water. Set aside. In a pot, add guava juice and sugar. Boil on high heat for a few minutes, then add cornstarch slurry. Whisk in the slurry quickly so it doesn't clump. Once it's reached a desired consistency, turn off the stove, and remove from heat. Let cool before pouring on cake. Evenly spread cream cheese topping on cooled guava cake. Before serving, pour cooled guava jelly over cream cheese topping, and spread evenly.



Do you need help with your utility bill?

The **Hawai'i Home Energy Assistance Program (H-HEAP)*** can help!

The **Energy Crisis Intervention** program provides households with a one-time payment deposited into their utility accounts.

Kaua'i Economic Opportunity, Inc. accepts applications from **June 1 - June 30.**

You must meet certain criteria to qualify.

Please call KEO at **808.245.4077 ext. 242** or email liheap@keoinc.org.

*formerly LIHEAP



How to File a Claim

PUC Decision and Order No. 19658

Effective: November 1, 2002

To file a claim, visit kiuc.coop/file-claim

A. The Company will exercise reasonable diligence and care to furnish and deliver a continuous and sufficient supply of electric energy to the customer, and to avoid any interruption of delivery of same. The Company will not be liable for interruption or insufficiency of supply or any loss, cost, damage or expense of any nature whatsoever, occasioned thereby if caused by accident, storm, fire, strikes, riots, war or any cause not within the Company's control through the exercise of reasonable diligence and care.

B. The Company, whenever it shall find it necessary for the purpose of making repairs, changes or improvements to its system, will have the right to suspend temporarily the delivery of electric energy, but in all such cases, as reasonable notice thereof as circumstances will permit, will be given to the customer, and the making of such repairs, changes or improvements will be performed as rapidly as may be practicable, and if practicable, at such time as will cause the least inconvenience to the affected customer.

C. Should a shortage of supply ever occur, the Company will apportion its available supply of electricity among its customers as authorized or directed by the Public Utilities

Commission. In the absence of a Commission order, the Company will apportion the supply in the manner that appears to it most equitable under conditions then prevailing. Any rules, regulations, rates or contracts of the Company which are inconsistent with such order or plan shall be deemed suspended while such order or plan is in effect and the Company shall not be liable when it acts in substantial compliance with such order or plan.

D. On a semiannual basis, the Company shall provide to the customer notification of the customer's right to file compensation claims with the Company for any loss, cost, damage or expense caused by an interruption of service. The notification shall be on a separate information sheet enclosed with the billing.

E. For a customer's compensation claim to be valid, it must be filed with the Company within thirty (30) days of the interruption of service. The Company shall review every claim and shall compensate the customer for any loss, cost, damage or expense as determined by the Company to be within the Company's control. ⚡





UP TO \$200

MEDICAL DEVICE POWER BACKUP REBATE

FOR KAUA'I RESIDENTS WITH ELECTRICITY-DEPENDENT MEDICAL NEEDS

This program raises awareness for emergency preparedness and the importance of planning for extended outages during an emergency, such as a wildfire.

If you depend on electricity for refrigerated medication, breathing machines, power wheelchairs and scooters, suction or home dialysis equipment, etc., a power backup system may be essential.



The Medical Device Power Backup Rebate Program provides eligible members with a rebate up to \$200.00 for the purchase of a qualifying backup power solution, such as a battery backup or portable generator.

To apply, members must:

- Have an **active residential account**. Commercial accounts do not qualify.
- Submit the required documents:
 - **KIUC's Elderly & Life Support Program Application** signed by a medical professional.
 - **Medical Device Power Backup Program Application** with itemized sales receipt (proof of purchase).

Additional information:

- One rebate per account.
- All rebates will be paid in the year the equipment was purchased.
- Rebates will be applied to the member's account after confirmation of purchase and fulfillment of all requirements by the Energy Services team.
- Rebate payments are offered on a first come, first served basis. KIUC reserves the right to discontinue the offer or change rebate levels without notice.

Forms are available on our website.

Email forms to energyservices@kiuc.coop or place in our dropbox.



CONTACT US
4463 Pahe'e Street, Suite 1
Līhu'e, HI 96766-2000
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KIUC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.

SPORTS. MENTORSHIP. COMMUNITY.

THE KAUAI POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE PROVIDES KEIKI ACROSS THE ISLAND SAFE, POSITIVE PLACES TO GROW THROUGH SPORTS, MENTORSHIP, AND COMMUNITY. ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE — MADE POSSIBLE BY VOLUNTEERS AND DONORS WHO BELIEVE IN OUR YOUTH.



BOXING
JIU JITSU
WRESTLING
FLAG FOOTBALL

**SIGN UP
TODAY**



MAHALO TO OUR 2025 DONORS

THE CLUB AT KUKUI'ULA COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND • THE DOYLE FOUNDATION • GATHER FEDERAL CREDIT UNION • GROVE FARM FOUNDATION • HAWAII CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION • KIUC CHARITABLE FOUNDATION • LARRY H. AND GAIL MILLER FAMILY FOUNDATION • MABEL I. WILCOX FOUNDATION • PAUL ENDO • RON WOOD • SHERATON KAUAI RESORT (RUM FIRE) • SPECTRUM REACH • STEPHEN & TIFFANY KNOX • TAKENAKA COMMUNITY FUND OF THE HAWAII COMMUNITY FOUNDATION



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All programs are funded by grants and donations. Contact us to make a donation.



Our
Bone & Joint
TEAM is here
for YOU.

Our team uses state-of-the-art technology to provide a wide range of orthopedic care for patients of all ages in Lihu'e, 'Ele'ele and Kapa'a. We offer specialists in joint replacement, robotics-assisted surgery, arthritis, foot/ankle, hand/upper extremity, sports medicine, podiatry, pediatrics and injections.

Call 808-245-1523 or visit WilcoxHealth.org/BoneAndJoint.

HAWAII PACIFIC HEALTH | WILCOX BONE & JOINT CENTER

CREATING A HEALTHIER HAWAII



KIUC Statement of Operations For the period 01/01/2025 - 12/31/2025

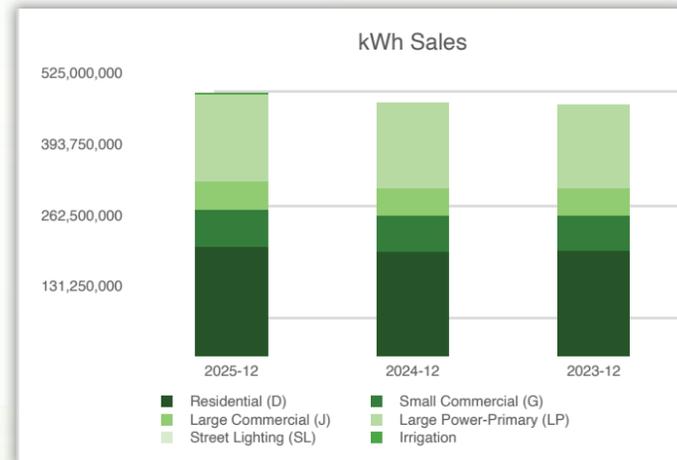
By Erin Tsuda, Financial Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

KIUC reported favorable operating results for 2025, achieving a positive net margin of \$6.9 million, compared to \$7 million in 2024. Annual electricity use totaled 487 million kilowatt-hours, representing a 3.2% increase over the prior year. Despite the year-over-year growth in kWh sold, revenues declined by \$7.7 million compared to 2024, primarily due to lower energy rates driven by a \$9.3 million decrease in commodities costs.

REVENUES

Operating revenues generated from energy sales totaled \$180.9 million in 2025, representing a decrease of \$7.9 million or 4.2% compared to the prior year. The decline was primarily attributable to lower electricity rates resulting from lower commodities costs. Average residential rates decreased to \$0.365/kWh in 2025 from \$0.388/kWh in 2024, a 6.6% year-over-year reduction. Other operating revenues of \$0.4 million, consisting primarily of rentals and fees, along with a \$3.5 million change in the lost gross margin regulatory asset, also contributed to net margins.

KIUC sold 487 million kWh of electricity in 2025, which is a 3.2% increase from the prior year. Kilowatt-hours sold increased across all classes of service.



POWER GENERATION

Power generation costs represent KIUC's largest expense, totaling \$97.4 million or 54.8% of revenues. Commodities—comprised of fuel and purchased power—are the primary component of these costs, totaling \$80.8 million or 45.5% of revenues. This reflects a decrease of \$9.3 million, or 10.3%

compared to the prior year, driven primarily by lower fuel prices. In 2025, KIUC and its members generated more than 241.1 million kWh from renewable sources, such as hydro, solar and biomass, representing 47.3% of total energy production.

EXPENSES

Operating expenses, excluding commodities, totaled \$54.5 million in 2025, an increase of \$0.9 million, or 1.6%, over the prior year. The year-over-year increase was primarily driven by higher costs associated with generation unit overhauls, expanded vegetation management efforts, and professional services in conjunction with the cooperative's regulatory activities and Habitat Conservation Plan. In 2025, the cost of operating and maintaining electric lines totaled \$10.9 million, or 6.1% of revenues. Member services expenses were \$3 million, or 1.7% of revenues, and member communications expenses were \$1 million, or 0.6% of revenues. Administrative and general expenses—including legislative and regulatory expenses, engineering, executive, human resources, safety and facilities, information services, financial and corporate services, and board of director expenses—totalled \$23 million, or 12.9% of revenues.

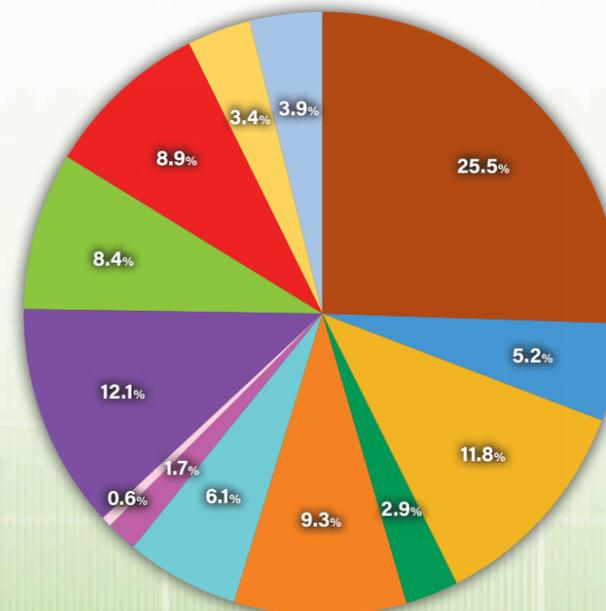
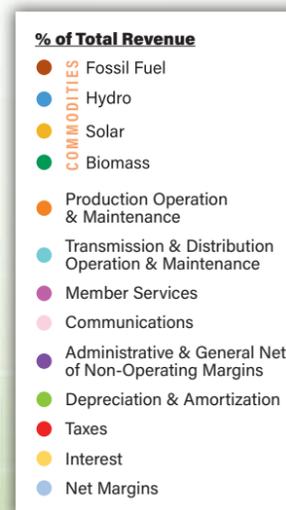
As a capital-intensive business, depreciation and amortization of utility plant assets totaled \$15 million, or 8.4% of revenues. As a cooperative, the company is not subject to federal income taxes; however, state and local taxes amounted to \$15.9 million, or 8.9% of revenues. Interest on long-term debt, at a favorable rate below 4%, totaled \$6.1 million, or 3.4% of revenues. Nonoperating net margins, including interest income, contributed an additional \$1.5 million to overall net margins.

KEY RATIOS

The equity-to-total-assets ratio measures the percentage of total assets owned by members and is one of the indicators used to monitor the cooperative's financial health. On Dec. 31, 2025, KIUC's equity ratio was 37.67%, compared to 35.02% in the prior year. The debt service coverage ratio measures the cooperative's ability to meet its debt obligations using operating income and is one of the primary metrics reviewed by KIUC's lenders. On Dec. 31, 2025, and 2024, KIUC's debt service coverage ratio was 1.695. KIUC also made principal payments of \$10.9 million toward its long-term debt in 2025. ⚡



Making sure everything is running smoothly at Kapaia Power Station.



	YTD 12/31/25	YTD 12/31/24
Total revenues	\$177.75	\$185.40
Fuel	45.35	72.69
Purchased power	35.44	17.41
Total commodities	80.79	90.10
Production	16.58	16.45
Transmission & Distribution	10.89	10.39
Member Services	2.99	3.28
Communications	0.98	0.93
Administrative, general and other	23.00	22.54
Total operations & maintenance expenses	54.47	53.61
Depreciation and amortization	15.01	14.88
Taxes	15.89	15.68
Interest	6.11	6.38
Non-operating margins	(1.52)	(2.31)
Net margin	\$6.98	\$7.05

Spring 2026
Volume 23, Number 1

David Bissell
President and CEO

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1st Assistant Secretary: Phil Tacbian

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Peter Yukimura

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JOIN OUR TEAM FOR THE SUMMER

- Engineering Intern
- KPS Operations Helper
- Communications Assistant
- IT Assistant
- Linecrew Helper



Apply online by May 8, 2026:

[KIUC.COOP/CAREERS](https://kiuc.coop/careers)



KIUC is an equal opportunity provider and employer.