

Community Power Accelerator Prize

Team Name:	Ho‘āhu Energy Cooperative Molokai
City and State:	Molokai, Hawaii
Submission Title:	Energy Sovereignty on Molokai



Organization Overview

- *Ho‘āhu Energy Cooperative Molokai’s is a community owned and managed energy cooperative whose profits are shared with its subscribers and vested toward community ownership of its projects. Our mission is to produce community-owned, affordable, renewable energy for the benefit of our members, the community, and environment. Our Vision is to have resilient, sustainable, equitable, culturally conscious energy for all. We are driven by justice which means that our relationship with energy is inclusive and complimentary to a healthy community and environment.*

Project Overview

Ho‘ahu has recently entered into its inaugural power purchase agreements with Hawaiian Electric, solidifying its position as a system owner for two noteworthy community-based renewable energy (CBRE) initiatives:

1. *Kualapu‘u Community Center : This endeavor entails the installation of solar canopies with a capacity of 250 kW AC (330 kW DC), accompanied by a 250 kW/1MWh BESS (Battery Energy Storage System). The project’s location is situated above the parking area at the Kualapu‘u Community Center, and it serves the dual purpose of supporting a resiliency center at that site.*
2. *Pala‘au Power Plant: Ho‘ahu has embarked on a substantial undertaking involving a ground-mounted solar system with a formidable capacity of 2.2 MW AC (3.3 MW DC). This solar installation is complemented by a 2.2 MW/10.1 MWh BESS and is situated on land owned by the utility near the existing power plant.*

Meaningful Benefits

- *Ho‘āhu’s projects will support the Five Meaningful Benefits by creating an alternative energy solution for low and moderate-income households that saves them money on electricity so they can better afford their everyday lives, increases energy resilience for our small island grid, enforces community ownership, and creates a positive workforce for community members to join the construction, preparation, and completion of the renewable energy transition on Molokai.*