



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

P.O. BOX 2360
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96804

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

March 28, 2019

Via email: kykanesh@hawaii.edu and info@emhawaii.com

Kenneth Y. Kaneshiro, Ph.D.
Director, Center for Conservation Research & Training
University of Hawaii at Manoa
3050 Maile Way, Gilmore 406
Honolulu, HI 96822

Dear Dr. Kaneshiro:

I am pleased to convey my support for the Ala Wai Watershed, "*Genki Ala Wai Project: Testing Effective Microorganisms (EM) Technology® as a Solution for Flood Mitigation, Water Quality Improvement and Eco-System Restoration.*" This project seeks to revitalize the waters and environment of the Ala Wai Canal in seven (7) years using EM Technology®.

Hawaii public school teachers and students are familiar with EM® through service learning workshops and previous projects focused on using EM technology® that results in the enhancement of solid food waste to compost into soil.

In this project, the University of Hawaii at Manoa, The Hawaii Exemplary State Foundation, and EM HAWAII, LLC, are focused on a system approach that empowers communities and stakeholders in the *ahupua'a* to collaborate in solving environmental issues. Assistance and support will be provided to K-12 schools in the *ahupua'a* that impacts the Ala Wai Canal to develop place-based STEM collaborations with Hawaiian cultural experts, researchers, engineers, and technologists.

Students will engage in a "real" environmental restoration and service learning project as they apply their learning in science in an in-depth investigation of using EM technology® in the revitalization of the Ala Wai Canal.

My best wishes in this endeavor and we look forward to the launch of this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Christina M. Kishimoto".

Dr. Christina M. Kishimoto
Superintendent

CMK:stg