

Betty Lau  
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January 28, 2005

Marlene H. Dortch  
Office of the Secretary  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: **Letter of Support – Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc.  
Petition for Waiver of the Definition of “Study Area”, CC Docket No. 96-45**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

I ask that you support and approve the Sandwich Isles Communications, Inc. petition for waiver. The granting of the waiver is so important to Hawaiian Home Lands residents, like me, who have been deprived of the modern conveniences that are taken for granted by city folks.

I live in a rural area called Puukapu, in Kamuela. For a long time, we have not had access to modern infrastructure, including reliable and affordable telephone service. I have a private business where access to broadband internet service is advantageous. I know that SIC is working on providing DSL to me and my neighbors. This is very important. Besides, we did not have to pay for the construction cost to get my home connected to their underground lines. My friends that live elsewhere, are not provided this same level of service.

I am convinced that if you never granted the study area waiver previously or with the current petition by Sandwich Isles Communications, we would not have modern, reliable and affordable telephone service where I live. Accordingly, I urge your speedy and favorable determination, so that SIC can continue their efforts to assist other homesteaders. We really do need this service!

Mahalo,



Betty Lau  
Homesteader, Puukapu Tract