

EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

HONOLULU

LINDA LINGLE GOVERNOR

September 2, 2010

Mr. Chris E. Ostrander, Director Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System 1680 East-West Road c/o CMMED, POST 105 Honolulu, Hawaii 96822

Dear Mr. Ostrander:

I am writing in support of the Pacific Islands Ocean Observing System (PacIOOS) grant submission proposal that will continue the development of the PacIOOS system under the NOAA Integrated Ocean Observing System (IOOS) program. The PacIOOS work strengthens the effort of Hawaii and the Insular Pacific to promote a safe, healthy, productive ocean and resilient coastal zones.

The PacIOOS effort has provided real-time and forecast ocean information in addition to outreach, education, and extension of ocean information through student participation in research and field studies. These activities have supported the development of K-12 curriculum in public school systems and provided timely, relevant and accurate information on the open and coastal ocean to Hawaii, the US territories, and US-affiliated nations in the Pacific Islands region.

Continuing the work of the PacIOOS program will aid in improving the health of our ocean resources; assist businesses and developers on ways to minimize adverse environmental impacts; enhance the conservation of protected species, unique habitats, sustain biological diversity; support ocean science and technology, including alternative energy and local ocean observation capability.

I commend PacIOOS and their Governing Council for their work in educating and informing the public about our ocean and the care we must use to assure the perpetual care of this critical natural resource.

In this regard, I wholeheartedly support your effort to seek additional grants and funding that will enable the continuation of this important effort.

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