

3 MS. CARLEY: Yes. Okay. Aloha. My name is Ru,  
4 and I live in Honaunau, West Hawaii. I come here as a  
5 voice for those who cannot be here tonight, and that  
6 includes thousands of people who live in and near  
7 Kailua-Kona, Captain Cook, Kealahou, Honaunau, and Hawaii.  
8 I come as a voice for the creatures in the ocean who cannot  
9 defend themselves against this plan.

10 I tried to read the Draft EIS, but how does one  
11 go through 838 pages in two days? My understanding of the  
12 draft means that the Navy wishes to step up testing on land  
13 and in the sea around our islands and off the coast of  
14 Southern California. I am not alone when I say no to this  
15 plan.

16 What the Navy proposes is basically a death  
17 sentence to countless beings in and around Hawaiian waters.  
18 According to one of the Navy's Draft Environmental Impact  
19 Statements, the sonar sound field around this transmitting  
20 ship will be 180 decibels up to one mile away and 150 to  
21 160 decibels up to 100 miles. This means that many marine  
22 mammals will be exposed to low-frequency sonar levels  
23 capable of causing stranding and lung hemorrhaging over  
24 large areas of the ocean. I am not alone when I say no to  
25 this plan.

1 Hawaii's tourism depends on the sea. Many boats  
2 bring hundreds of people a day from Honokohau Harbor out to  
3 spend times with dolphins and catch glimpses of humpback  
4 whales, pilot whales, false killer whales, turtles, manta  
5 rays, sharks and more. The lure of the dolphin stretches  
6 all around the globe, and groups spend vast sums of money  
7 here in the islands because of their desire to be around  
8 dolphins.

9 It should be noted that back in the '90s when

10 sonar testing was present off Kona, people went into the  
11 water and developed nerve damage shortly thereafter.  
12 Marine mammals are no different if not more sensitive.  
13 Everybody knows, including the Navy, that sonar is deadly.  
14 I am not alone when I say no to this plan.

15           The National Marine Fisheries Act granted the  
16 endangered Hawaiian monk seals and humpback whales  
17 protection. By granting the Navy permission to play war  
18 games and low-frequency sound testing in Hawaiian waters or  
19 anywhere puts marine life in danger. The Navy's plan has  
20 the potential to harm and even kill the already low numbers  
21 of monk seals. I am not alone when I say no to this plan.

3           MS. CARLEY: Equally important, low-frequency  
4 sonar levels also affect fish, and business and family  
5 fishermen could be affected. This in turn translates to  
6 reduced state and federal taxes.

7           I understand that the Navy wants to test new  
8 equipment, new weapons, new ways of killing for the defense  
9 of this nation, but don't we already have enough fire power  
10 to destroy the world many times over? I am not alone when  
11 I say no to this plan.

12           Thank you. Aloha kakou.