

August 23, 2010

Regional Director Pacific West Region
National Park Service 1111 Jackson Street,
Suite 700 Oakland, California 94607
Attention: Concession Program Manager

Dear Director:

It is not often that something proposed has a benefit beyond financial gain.

Among the projects that fall into this category is the type of proposal that the non-profit “Volcano Project” (www.volcanoproject.org) envisions for the Volcano House concession management contract, located at Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park.

The stated benefits include, but are not limited to: promotion of numerous Hawaiian cultural activities and events; support of the local economy; and a multi-facet program of visitor interaction.

One of the identified paramount goals is to provide a strong educational opportunity. As a life long learner, and part-time instructor, I place a strong importance on knowledge, and pride myself in being accepted for membership in Mensa. With more than fifty thousand individuals belonging to American Mensa, we all share a passion for learning. One of the stated goals of Mensa is, “to promote education.” While I can not propose endorsement of the “The Volcano Project” as an official Mensa position, I can, and do support it without reservations as an individual member of Mensa.

Serious consideration should be given to the aims and goals of “The Volcano Project”. To disregard the merits of this unique endeavor would amount to a major detriment to visitors of Hawai’i Volcanoes National Park, the National Park Service, as well as the residents of Hawai’i.

Thank you for your consideration.

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