

The Senate

STATE CAPITOL HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813

OFFICE OF SENATOR JOSHUA BOOTH GREEN M.D.

October 25, 2011

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

Aloha e Director,

It is my pleasure to offer strong support for The Volcano Project's (TVP) bid on the Volcano House concession management contract.

The concept of having a local community-based 501(c)3 non-profit, staffed by industry professionals, indeed some world famous, to run the historic Volcano House in an elegant, old world and truly Hawaiian manner is welcome to all. However, most appealing is that 100% of all profits will be kept in the Park, the community and Hawai'i.

During these most difficult economic times, it is refreshing to see a proposal which addresses job training and job creation by providing educational and economic opportunities in a rural area where both are most needed, and sustainably funded by the profits of the operation.

I agree that in such a sacred place as Kīlauea, it is more appropriate for the monies made to be used for the greater good of all. Both Puna and Ka'u will benefit greatly from The Volcano Project's hospitality and culinary school, as well as, the 110 full time jobs created.

By having an information table at the Volcano Farmers Market for 139 weeks in a row, sharing their concept and receiving feedback from residents, many of whom work in the Park, Anne and David have clearly demonstrated successful community outreach. Overwhelming support is reflected in the wonderful and diverse comments and opinions in their many letters of support bridging political, cultural, social, economic and ethnic divides.

Our National Parks are "outdoor classrooms". The Volcano Project is a wonderful opportunity for the National Park Service to turn Volcano House into an indoor one.

Senator Joshua Booth Green M.D.

3rd District – North Kona / South Kona / North Kohala / South Kohala

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I wholeheartedly support The Volcano Project in their bid for concessioner for the Volcano House.

Should you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me at 808-586-9385.

Sincerely

Josh Green, M.D.

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State Senate

3rd District