

Assessment of the scope of tasks to completely phase out fossil fuels in Hawai'i

Simon P. Michaux Peter Sternlicht





Sustainable Energy Hawai'i

Why this study, why Hawai'i



- What is a sensible plan to phase out fossil fuels?
 - The Green Transition
- If the conventional plan won't work, what might?
- How big is the Circular Economy and how does it relate to the Green Transition?
- What kind of resources do we need to do this and what kind?
- This is the third in the "Assessment to phase out fossil fuels" series
- The plan was to do one of these for each Nordic country
 - Finland, Sweden, Norway, Demark, Iceland, Greenland
- Develop this methodology for a region that has different challenges to Finland
- Hawai'i is an isolated and discrete system that can be quantified
 - Heavily dependent on fossil fuels, oil in particular
 - Economy not based in any industrial or commodity production capability

Many ideas for this project are documented in full in GTK report 29/2025

- The viability of the Green Transition
 - Full electrification Scenario HA
 - Wind and solar power storage calculation
 - Hydrogen economy Scenario HB
 - Biofuels- Scenario HC
- The Circular Economy– Scenario HG (Appendix Gamma, γ)
 - Recycling (Appendix Delta, △)
 - Pyrolysis of human sewage syngas (Appendix Kappa, κ)
 - Production of diesel from pyrolysis of rubber tyres (Appendix Mu, μ)
 - Harvesting plastics from the sea (Appendix Nu, v)
- Degrowth Scenario HF
- 100% food production with organic regenerative permaculture
 - Scenario HH
- The Purple Transition Scenario HI
 - Thorium fueled MSR units (Appendix Theta, θ)
 - Combustion, and recycling of pure iron powder (Appendix Iota, 1)
 - Resource Balanced Economy (Appendix Zeta, ζ)
 - New form of transport (Appendix Eta, η)





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Report Serial: 29/2025

Assessment of the Scope of Tasks to Completely Phase Out Fossil Fuels in Hawai'i

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Assessment of the scope of tasks to

completely phase out fossil fuels in Finland

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Electrical Power Grid Expansion Scenario 4 Hybrid - 2 with Geothermal (Current Footprint)

Extra annual power generation

Produce hydrogen for H-Cell Maritime Shipping

use out oil, gas, co

Existing Finnish power co year 2019

Net imports (to be replaced

CHP / industry (some fossil fue

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Wind power
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https://tupa.gtk.fi/julkaisu/bulletin/bt_416.pdf

Paradigm of report

- Map out the State of Hawai'i economy for 2019
- Fully electrify the whole system
 - Electricity generation
 - Passenger cars, trucks, buses vans
 - Domestic maritime
 - International aviation
- All fossil fuel systems (oil, gas & coal) are removed
- Model for 1 calendar year based on 2019 reported data
- Same physical activity and mechanical work done as in 2019 as a footprint

The ideal, would be all problems and challenges are data mapped and are placed on the table, along with all possible solutions (conventional and unconventional). Around that table, all stakeholders are present, and a constructive dialogue then commences.

Assemble data for all practical options and technology paths to do this



Electricity generation





Figure 29. **ELECTRICITY GENERATION IN HAWAI'I** in 2020 (Source: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, State Energy Data System (SEDS) • 9.2 TWh of electricity sold



Transport



Figure 44. **VEHICLES IN HAWAIIAN TRANSPORT FLEET** in 2019 (Source: Hawai'i Energy Data DBEDT Data Warehouse)

- 507 million gallons of gasoline (land)
- 193.2 million gallons of diesel (land)
- 1.38 million gallons of gasoline (domestic maritime)
- 3.4 million gallons of diesel (domestic maritime)
- 271.7 million gallons of aviation fuel
- 36.9 TWh of thermal energy
- 6.2 TWh of mechanical work done

Transport



Table 11. TAXABLE REGISTERED VEHICLES by Type and by County, 2019

(Source: DBEDT Data Warehouse, Registered Vehicles, Taxable, 2019)

Type of vehicle	State total	County of Honolulu	County of Hawaii	County of Kauai	County of Maui
All Vehicles	1,308,344	809,128	218,487	90,019	190,710
Motor vehicles	1,279,843	795,949	210,358	86,650	186,886
Passenger vehicles 1/	1,038,642	662,567	163,483	63,932	148,660
Ambulances	101	49	20	13	19
Buses	2,146	1,569	319	90	168
Trucks 1/	194,263	101,179	40,608	20,174	32,302
Truck tractors	1,723	657	206	773	87
Truck cranes	3,831	3,457	194	77	103
Motorcycles, motorscooters 2/	39,137	26,471	5,528	1,591	5,547
railers and semi-trailers	28,501	13,179	8,129	3,369	3,824

1/ Vans, pickups, and other trucks under 6,500 lb. in personal use, legally classified as passenger vehicles, are included in the totals for trucks.

2/ Effective January 1, 2017 new mopeds were included in the motorcycles count, by December 31, 2017 all mopeds were included in the motorcycles count.

Source: Hawaii State Department of Transportation, Safe Communities Program, records.

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Table 14. STATE OF HAWAI'I: DAILY DISTANCE TRAVELED BYVEHICLE CLASS (2019 Reference Case)

Source: Hawai'i Department of Transportation, Highways Division, Planning Branch, Survey Section

Vahiala Class	Daily Dist	ance 2019	Annual Distance - 2019		
Venicle Class	miles (km)		miles	(km)	
Motorcycles Class 1 ¹	261,289	420,504	95,370,485	153,483,918	
Passenger Cars Class 2 ²	20,526,122	33,033,591	7,492,034,530	12,057,260,819	
Pickups/Vans Class 3 ³	8,106,110	13,045,519	2,958,730,150	4,761,614,615	
Buses Class 4 ⁴	267,077	429,819	97,483,105	156,883,850	
Trucks Class 5-7 ^{5, 6, 7}	667,430	1,074,124	243,611,950	392,055,430	
Trucks Class 8-13 ^{8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13}	244,049	392,759	89,077,885	143,356,960	
Total	30,072,077	48,396,317	10,976,308,105	17,664,655,591	

Source: Hawaii Department of Transportation Highways Division, Planning Branch, Survey Section

¹ 2 axels, 2 or 3 tires	8 thru 13
² 2 axels, 4 tires, can have 1 or 2 axel	⁸ 3 or 4 axels, single trailer
³ 2 axels, 4 tire,	⁹ 5 axels, single trailer
Can have 1 or 2 axel trailiers	¹⁰ 6 or more axels, single trailer
⁴ 2 or 3 axels, full length	¹¹ 5 or less or more axels,
5 thru 7	multiple trailers
5 2 axels, 6 tires (dual rear tires), single unit	¹² 6 axels, multiple trailers
⁶ 3 axels, single unit	¹³ 7 or more axels, multiple trailers
⁷ 3 axels, single unit	



Table15. LIQUID FUEL CONSUMPTION by County, REGISTERED VEHICLES BY FUEL TYPE by County (2019)

Source: Hawai'i Energy Data DBEDT Data Warehouse 2019, DBEDT Databook 2020

Indicator (2019 Annual Values)	Units	Honolulu County	Hawaii County	Kauai County	Maui County	State Total	
Liquid Fuel Tax Base							
Liquid Fuel Tax Base- Gasoline	Gallons	282,986,516	84,083,677	30,827,504	67,646,607	465,544,304	
Liquid Fuel Tax Base- Diesel oil, Non-Hwy	Gallons	78,711,674	22,010,350	6,886,518	38,602,681	146,211,223	
Liquid Fuel Tax Base- Diesel oil, Hwy Use	Gallons	25,748,586	11,968,755	3,271,489	6,009,152	46,997,982	
Liquid Fuel Tax Base- LPG, Hwy Use	Gallons	5,694	1,179	1,477	595	8,945	
Liquid Fuel Tax Base- Other fuel	Gallons	1,442,303	26,853,581	12,873,045	266,051	41,434,980	
	Vehicles	- Taxible by Fue	el Type				
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Electric, Passenger	Vehicles	7,273	526	303	1,122	9,225	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Diesel, Passenger	Vehicles	2,710	2,918	1,006	1,427	8,061	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Gasoline, Passenger	Vehicles	614,915	180,687	77,639	162,130	1,035,372	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Hybrid, Passenger	Vehicles	17,029	3,180	1,105	3,646	24,959	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Misc fuel, Passenger	Vehicles	540	352	84	287	1,262	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Electric, Freight	Vehicles	14	0	0	1	15	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Diesel, Freight	Vehicles	11,431	6,848	2,249	3,690	24,218	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Gasoline, Freight	Vehicles	33,931	7,173	1,892	6,300	49,296	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Hybrid, Freight	Vehicles	73	3	2	4	81	
Reg. Vehicles, Taxable- Misc fuel, Freight	Vehicles	89	5	1	7	102	

Source: Hawai'i Energy Data DBEDT Data Warehouse 2019, DBEDT Databook 2020



Same footprint and physical work done as in 2019

- Existing electrical demand
- Gasoline based transport
- Diesel based transport
- Domestic Maritime
- International aviation

Figure 50. SCENARIOS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT IN THE STATE OF HAWAI'I





Scenario H0: No action is taken







(Source: Labyrinth Consulting, Art Berman, Our World in Data)



Scenario H0: No action is taken



Figure R9, Appendix R. Conventional oil resource discovery 1920-2020 (Source: John Peach, data from Laherre et al 2022, Court & Fizaine 2017, BP Energy Statistics 2022)

Scenario H0: No action is taken





https://ourfiniteworld.com/2024/09/11/crude-oil-extraction-may-be-well-past-peak/

81% of existing oil reserves are being annually depleted at a rate ranging between 5 to 15%



Scenario HA: 'Boundary Condition', All Systems are Electrified, All ICE Transport is Substituted with Electric Vehicles (EV)

- All transportation was electric propulsion powered by a lithium-ion battery
- All conventional non fossil fuel power generation systems were looked at and exclusive context for electricity production
- It was found that it was more sensible to have a combination of transportation technology systems, where each one was matched to its engineering efficiency window
- It was not sensible to have all transport as battery supported electric vehicles



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Figure 59. ELECTRIFICATION OF THE ICE TRANSPORT FLEET CALCULATION FLOW CHART



Stationary power storage



Total All

Systems

Scenario HA

(kWh)

2.11E+09

2.04E+09

2.64E+09

2.76E+09

2.98E+09

3.12E+09

3.21E+09

3.10E+09

2.84E+09

2.45E+09

2.00E+09

1.93E+09

Table 40. MONTHLY SPECIFIC YIELD DATA BY PV TYPE IN HAWAI'I

Table 41. ESTIMATED ELECTRICAL POWER DELIVERED BY MONTH

x 20')

(kWh)

4.3E+08

4.2E+08

5.6E+08

6.0E+08

6.5E+08

6.9E+08

7.0E+08

6.7E+08

6.0E+08

5.1E+08

4.1E+08

3.9E+08

6.6E+09

in the proposed Hawaiian solar power grid

for the proposed Hawaiian solar pov	wer grid in Scenario HA
-------------------------------------	-------------------------

Parking Spaces (9' Fixed-Tilt Ground

Mount *

(kWh)

1.2E+09

1.2E+09

1.5E+09

1.6E+09

1.7E+09

1.8E+09

1.9E+09

1.8E+09

1.7E+09

1.4E+09

1.2E+09

1.1E+09

1.8E+10

Monthly Specific Yield Data	CED 11-1-1-1-*	Commercial	Parking Spaces	Fixed-Tilt Ground	Single-Axis Tracker
by PV Type in Hawai'i	SFR Housing	Rooftop *	(9' x 20') *	Mount *	Ground Mount $^{\Psi}$
	(kWh/kW)	(kWh/kW)	(kWh/kW)	(kWh/kW)	(kWh/kW)
Jan	1.2E+02	1.1E+02	1.1E+02	1.1E+02	134.5
Feb	1.1E+02	1.0E+02	1.0E+02	1.1E+02	130.2
Mar	1.4E+02	1.4E+02	1.4E+02	1.4E+02	169.9
Apr	1.5E+02	1.5E+02	1.5E+02	1.5E+02	178.0
May	1.5E+02	1.6E+02	1.6E+02	1.6E+02	201.5
Jun	1.6E+02	1.7E+02	1.7E+02	1.7E+02	209.7
Jul	1.6E+02	1.7E+02	1.7E+02	1.7E+02	216.3
Aug	1.6E+02	1.6E+02	1.7E+02	1.6E+02	207.1
Sep	1.5E+02	1.5E+02	1.5E+02	1.5E+02	187.1
Oct	1.4E+02	1.3E+02	1.3E+02	1.3E+02	157.3
Nov	1.1E+02	1.0E+02	1.0E+02	1.1E+02	124.7
Dec	1.1E+02	9.6E+01	9.6E+01	1.0E+02	122.9
Annual	1.7E+03	1.6E+03	1.6E+03	1.7E+03	2,039.2

Notes:

Simulations Run with NREL SAM 2022.11.21 Location (SAM weather file database): 21.29N, -157.86W (Oahu) Panel Efficiency Assumed to be 20.5 W/sqft

Estimate shows that single-axis trackers take up ~60% more land for fixed-tilt systems for the same energy generation.

Policy supporting "net zero" housing construction can focus new builds on increasing solar PV installations.

Parking Spaces are an under-utilized asset for PV in Hawai'i, providing 6.6 out of the modelled 31 TWh. There are an estimated 9,000 acres of parking spaces in Hawai'i.

This analysis is done for annual production, but energy storage in the state will likely only be one month in duration or less. For this reason, PV should be oversized (~30%?) to match the monthly demand. However, better demand data is necessary.

A Single-family rentals, SFR, Assumed 15 degree roof slope and 33% each azimuth: 135 degrees, 180 degrees, 225 degrees.

♦ 85% GCR, E-W Layout (GCR - Ground Coverage Ratio)

- ♥ E-W Layout
- \clubsuit 50/50 mix of: 10 degree tilt @ 75% GCR and E-W @ 85% GCR

 ψ Assumed 42% GCR overall.

Notes:	

Energy Produced Per

Month by PV Type

Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct Nov

Dec

Annual

Simulations Run with NREL SAM 2022.11.21 Location (SAM weather file database): 21.29N, -157.86W (Oahu) Panel Efficiency Assumed to be 20.5 W/sqft

SFR

Housing '

(kWh)

2.7E+08

2.5E+08

3.2E+08

3.2E+08

3.4E+08

3.5E+08

3.7E+08

3.6E+08

3.4E+08

3.0E+08

2.5E+08

2.5E+08

3.7E+09

Commercial

Rooftop ⁴

(kWh)

2.2E+07

2.1E+07

2.8E+07

3.0E+07

3.2E+07

3.4E+07

3.5E+07

3.4E+07

3.0E+07

2.6E+07

2.1E+07

2.0E+07

3.3E+08

Estimate shows that single-axis trackers take up ~60% more land for fixed-tilt systems for the same energy generation.

Policy supporting "net zero" housing construction can focus new builds on increasing solar PV installations.

Parking Spaces are an under-utilized asset for PV in Hawai'i, providing 6.6 out of the modelled 31 TWh. There are an estimated 9,000 acres of parking spaces in Hawai'i.

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+ Single-family rentals, SFR, Assumed 15 degree roof slope and 33% each azimuth: 135 degrees, 180 degrees, 225 degrees.

- ◆ 85% GCR, E-W Layout (GCR Ground Coverage Ratio)
- ♥ E-W Layout

▲ 50/50 mix of: 10 degree tilt @ 75% GCR and E-W @ 85% GCR

 ψ Assumed 42% GCR overall.

Total annual power delivered 3

Single-Axis Tracker

Ground Mount Ψ

(kWh)

1.5E+08

1.5E+08

1.9E+08

2.0E+08

2.3E+08

2.4E+08

2.4E+08

2.3E+08

2.1E+08

1.8E+08

1.4E+08

1.4E+08

2.3E+09

3.12E+10 31.20 TWh





Figure 64. **ESTIMATED ELECTRICAL POWER DELIVERED BY MONTH** for the proposed Hawaiian solar power grid in Scenario HA



Table 43. ESTIMATED SIZE OF THE BUFFER NEEDED FOR SOLAR POWER GENERATION,AND SOLAR POWER SYSTEM AVAILABILITY in Scenario HA

Energy Produced Per Month by	Days in month for a standard	Electricity production assuming a 100% solar	Estimated electrical power delivered by month for the	Electric excess/sho	al power ortfall below	Estimated solar power specific yield
PV Type	calendar year	radiance efficiency $^{\Delta}$	proposed Hawaiian	grid ave	erage of	Scenario HA
			solar power grid	2.60 x 10 ⁹	wh/month	
	(number)	(kWh)	(kWh)	(kWh)	(kWh)	(%)
Jan	31	1.38E+10	2.11E+09	-4.87E+08		15.3 %
Feb	28	1.25E+10	2.04E+09	-5.59E+08		16.4 %
Mar	31	1.38E+10	2.64E+09		3.75E+07	19.1 %
Apr	30	1.34E+10	2.76E+09		1.60E+08	20.7 %
May	31	1.38E+10	2.98E+09		3.83E+08	21.6 %
Jun	30	1.34E+10	3.12E+09		5.23E+08	23.4 %
Jul	31	1.38E+10	3.21E+09		6.14E+08	23.3 %
Aug	31	1.38E+10	3.10E+09		5.04E+08	22.5 %
Sep	30	1.34E+10	2.84E+09		2.41E+08	21.3 %
Oct	31	1.38E+10	2.45E+09	-1.46E+08		17.8 %
Nov	30	1.34E+10	2.00E+09	-6.04E+08		14.9 %
Dec	31	1.38E+10	1.93E+09	-6.66E+08		14.0 %
Annual total			3.12E+10	-2.46E+09	2.46E+09	()
Monthy average			2.60E+09			19.2 %

^A Assumed installed capacity of total proposed Hawaiian solar powered grid was 18.57 GW

Across the year, there was a shortfall of 2.46 TWh (almost 1 month of capacity) over a sustained 5 months. Taking the average number of days in a month (30.4), this would be 28.8 days of power storage, or 2.46 TWh of capacity required in this buffer. Effectively, that quantity of power would need to be stored for five months.





28 April 2025

50000







This puts to rest the idea that a 3 times build out of solar, and wind will negate the need of a power storage buffer for renewable energy

Scenario HB: 'Boundary Condition': All Systems are Electrified: All ICE Transport Substituted with Fuel Cell Electric Vehicles (FCEV)



- The annual quantity of hydrogen required to do this was calculated, as was the electrical power required produced the hydrogen
- Once again, all conventional non fossil fuel power generation systems were looked at and exclusive context for electricity production



Scenario HC: 'Boundary Condition', ALL SYSTEMS are Biomass Supported

- All electrical power demand was delivered through the combustion of biomass in a combined heat and power (CHP) plant
- All ICE technology was retrofitted to be powered with biofuel
- The quantity of biomass needed, and the area of arable land required to annually grow the biomass was calculated
- It was found that the required arable land area to grow the biomass feedstock (wood, corn, and soybean), far exceeded what was possible with the land that was available
- While all non-fossil fuel systems have their place, and have they fit for purpose application, the large-scale production of biofuels with these conventional feedstocks is simply not viable



Scenario HD: Boundary Condition, All ICE technology Substitutes Ammonia Fuels for Liquid Fossil Fuels

- All ICE technology was retrofitted and fueled with ammonia
- The annual quantity of hydrogen, and the quantity of electrical power required to produce the ammonia was calculated
- Once again, all conventional non fossil fuel power generation systems were looked at and exclusive context for electricity production
- This scenario proved to be the most energy intensive by far
- Ammonia is a useful fuel to consider, but certainly not for all applications
- Ammonia fuel may be the most practical way to maintain the international maritime shipping industry



Scenario HE: Hybrid 1 – The Green Transition – Existing Hawai'i Regulatory Framework

- The Green Transition was used as a paradigm template to phase out fossil fuels
- All short-range light vehicles were EV's
- All long-range heavy vehicles were considered to be hydrogen fuel cell FCEV H2-cell vehicles
- The power generation energy mix used was what the IEA proposed for 2050 but applied in the State of Hawai'i
 - That is, the Green Transition energy mix, using what current Hawaiian legislation and regulations would allow
 - This outcome meant the solar PV systems accounted for 80% of the energy mix.
- A logistical limitation shown in this scenario was the need for stationary power storage to support wind and solar PV electricity generation systems



Scenario HE: Hybrid 2 – Modernized Regulations

- To examine the implications of a change in Hawaiian legislation and regulations
- The electricity demand was the same as modelled in Scenario HE-Hybrid 1, but different electrical power generation systems were applied
- It was assumed that regulations would allow
 - the installation of a conventional nuclear power plant
 - the scale up of geothermal power
 - the application of wave and ocean energy systems
 - the application of especially bread perennial grass species (XanoGrassTM) used as feedstock for biofuels.

Reported Mineral Reserves + Estimated Resources + Undersea Resources







Scenario HF: Hybrid 3, Resource Depletion

- To model a 6 month disruption to maritime shipping and aviation imports
- Hawai'i would have to be more self reliant and have a smaller footprint in resource consumption in comparison to domestic capability
- The Hawaiian system was contracted by 40%

Scenario HG: The Circular Economy



- The Circular Economy was applied in full
- All annual waste produced by Hawaiian society was collected and recycled
 - The performance characteristics of a network of recycling plants in the United Kingdom we used to estimate the mass quantities of useful raw materials that will be generated each year from the State of Hawai'i, if this was done
- As there is very little manufacture in the State of Hawai'i, it was assumed that all recycled material
 was transported by maritime ship to Southeast Asia where it could all be inserted into the
 beginning of the manufacture value chain
- The size of the green transition could now be compared directly to the size of the circular economy, by comparing the required infrastructure between Scenario HE-Hybrid 1 and Scenario HG
 - It was observed that the infrastructure required for the green transition was orders of magnitude larger than the infrastructure required for a fully applied Circular Economy.

Mass Flows Imports/Exports in State of Hawai'i for 2016



Disposed





Digitalizing the circular economy System simulation



3D simulation

30

O-Q












Mass Flows Scenario HG Circular Economy in State of Hawai'i (based on 2019 footprint)







Appendix Mu (μ) shows a more complete discussion of the pyrolysis of rubber tyres, and the

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calculation path for Table 207.

Table 207. POTENTIAL ANNUAL DIESEL FUEL PRODUCTION VIA THE PYROLYSIS OF EOL TYRES IN THE STATE OF HAWAL'I

Number of EoL tyres	Mass of	Annual mass of EoL	Quantity of					
produced a year	each EoL	Tyre rubber to recycle	pyrolysis oil	Quanity of diesel fuel produced *				
State of Hawai'i *	tyre *		produced *					
(number)	(kg)	(tonnes)	(tonnes)	(tonnes)	(million liters) ^	(gallons)		
750,000	8	6,000	3,000	1,836	2.21	582,957		
* Assumed to be all passenger car tyres for this exercise								
* Where 1000 kg of rubber tyres produces 500 kg of oil with pyrolysis								
Where 1000 kg of pyrolysis oil produces 612 kg of diesel fuel								

Diesel for automotive use is around 832 kg/m3, or 0.832 kg/liter



Table 208. ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF SYNGAS FROM SEWAGE IN STATE OF HAWAI'I

(summation of Tables 241 to 243)

Human sewage produced in State of Hawai'i 2019 *		Annual dry sludge solids per capita	Thermal heat required to process sewage with pyrolysis *	Production of useful syngas [®]				
(millions of gallons)	(millions of liters)	(m ³)	(kg)	(MWh thermal)	(tonne)			
40,179	152,094	1.52E+08	3.04E+07	6,780.9	2,646			
 Appendix D, Table D Wastewater treatme cubic meter of wastew Calculation described Assuming 8.7% of the Appendix Kappa (κ) 	40,179 152,094 1.52E+08 3.04E+07 6,780.9 2,646 * Appendix D, Table D4 * Wastewater treatment typically results in the production of about 0.1 to 0.3 kg (assume 0.2 kg) of dry sludge solids per cubic meter of wastewater treated (Alth et al. 1992). * Calculation described in full in Appenidx lota (i) • Assuming 8.7% of the feedstock dried human sewage solids mass is converted into commercially useful syngas.							

To produce 1 tonne of syngas, the annual sewage generated by 443 people (57,544 m³ of wastewater containing 11.45 tonnes of dried sludge) is to be collected. This approach not only provides an energy source from a waste stream, but it also provides a much more logistically simple way to deal with a waste stream. But, if it's handled inappropriately, it has the capacity to seriously damage public health. This is one of those rare win/win solutions.

Appendix Kappa (κ) shows a more complete discussion of the pyrolysis of human sewage as an energy source.





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Assessment to phase out fossil fuels in Hawai'i

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Table 209. DAILY PRODUCTION OF PYROLYSIS OUTPUTS FROM PLASTIC WASTE COLLECTION

Daily plastic ocean waste recovered Put through pyrolysis plant	Solid char produced	Gaseous Products (Syngas)	Pyrolysis oil produced	Diesel fuel produced		uced
(tonne)	(tonne)	(tonne)	(tonne)	(tonne)	(gallons)	(liters)
40	8	4	28.0	17.696	5,447	20,616

If it is assumed that this vessel was able to harvest 40 tonnes of plastic waste per day (to feed four 10 tonne pyrolysis plants), and the mass of plastic in the Great Garbage Patch pacific gyre was considered to be 87,000 tonnes, then this one ship could completely clear that gyre in 6.2 years (assuming 350 days a year of production).

Conventional Circular Economy (Scenario HG)

Small capacity MRF recycling facilities	12	
Medium capacity MRF recycling facilities	13	Existing waste streams
Large capacity MRF recycling facilities	13	domestic & Industrial
Extra large capacity MRF recycling facilities	4	42 plants
Small capacity MRF recycling facilities	2	
Medium capacity MRF recycling facilities	1	Recycling EoL ICE, EV's, solar
Large capacity MRF recycling facilities	2	panels, wind turbines & batteries
Extra large capacity MRF recycling facilities	4	
Small pyrolysis plant to recycle EoL tyres	1	Recycle EoL vehicle tyres, and
Small pyrolysis plant to process human sewage	1	numan sewage into energy fuel
Total	53	



Electric Vehicles (EV), various classes	1.27 million (60.4 GWh battery capacity)		
Electric Vehicle charging stations	1.1 million EV charging stations (privately owned, and publically assessible)		
Hydrogen fuel cell (H ₂ -Cell) land transport heavy vehicles	7,801		
Hydrogen fuel (H ₂ -Cell) 17% of maritime vessels	1,928		
Ammonia ICE 46% of maritime vessels	5,218		
Biofuel ICE 38% of maritime vessels	4,197		
Annual hydrogen production & storage capacity	164 315 tonnes		
Annual ammonia production & storage capacity	20 413 tonnes		
Annual ethanol biofuel production & storage capacity (37% of domestic maritime gasoline)	511 232 gallons, 1.7 miles ² area of arable land		
Annual aviation bio fuel production & storage capacity (domestic maritime and domestic aviation)	271 million gallons, 904 miles ² area of arable land		
Annual biodiesel production & storage capacity (37% of domestic maritime diesel)	1.28 million gallons, 33.8 miles ² area of arable land		

Green Transition Electricity Generation (Scenario HE-1)

Solar PV installed capacity	12.51 GW, or 27.8 million 450 watt capacity solar PV panels
Wind trubine installed capacity	1.8 GW, or 275 turbines of 6.6 MW capacity
Stationary power storage intsalled capacity (assumed 28 days storage)	627.2 GW, or 3 390 Kapolei Energy Storage sites of 185 MW/565 MWh capacity
Combined Heat & Power (CHP) biowaste to energy installed capacity	605 MW, 2.5 million m ³ of wood biomass, sustainably harvested annually from 1 608 miles ² of mature forest land
Hydroelectric installed capacity	112 MW



Stationary power storage



Figure 197. ELECTRICITY TO BE STORED AND DELIVERED TO THE POWER GRID WHEN THERE IS A SHORTFALL IN SUPPLY FROM WIND AND SOLAR PV SYSTEMS

Figure 198. INSTALLED BATTERY BANK CAPACITY NEEDED TO MEET POWER STORAGE REQUIREMENTS





Figure 199. THE NUMBER OF 185 MW/565 MWH STATION POWER STORAGE STATIONS (EXAMPLE: KAPOLEI ENERGY STORAGE) REQUIRED TO MANAGE INTERMITTENT ELECTRICITY GENERATION FROM WIND AND SOLAR PV SYSTEMS. Kapolei on the island of Oahu (Source: Kapolei Energy Storage)

Scenario HH: Regenerative Permaculture



- This scenario was developed to examine the question of what would be needed if the entire state of Hawai'i sourced its food from completely organic sources
- All petrochemical fertilizers, herbicides, and pesticides were assumed to be 100% phased out and replaced with organic systems
- Paradigms to be examined were regenerative agriculture, permaculture, and food forest agriculture
- A model was developed to assess what kind of arable land footprint, a community of 200 people would require in this context
- This was then projected onto a map of the Hawaiian island chain in context of the available arable land of all kinds.









New installed power generation capacity to be installed



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Figure 201. ARABLE LAND AREA REQUIRED TO GROW BIOMASS AS FEEDSTOCK FOR ENERGY IN EACH RELEVANT SCENARIO FOR THE STATE OF HAWAI'I, NOT INCLUDING SCENARIO HC Figure 200. ARABLE LAND AREA REQUIRED TO GROW BIOMASS AS FEEDSTOCK FOR ENERGY IN EACH RELEVANT SCENARIO FOR THE STATE OF HAWAI'I, INCLUDING SCENARIO HC

Conventional thinking won't work





- All conventional strategies to phase out fossil fuels have logistical scaleup bottlenecks that make them probably unviable
- When the orthodox conventional fails, turn to the unorthodox and the unconventional, or accept failure

Scenario HH – Regenerative Permaculture



Table 227. PROPOSED NUTRITIONAL ANNUAL DIET FOR A SINGLE PERSON AND FOR 200 PEOPLE in Scenario HI

(Source: Ward & Poly 2016, Hoffmann 2016, Hawaii Department of Agriculture 2020, Fielding 2015, HDOA 2024, Schoenfeld & Aragon 2018)

Food type	Proposed capi	posed nutritional daily diet per capita for Scenario HH		utritional annual diet per ta for Scenario HH	Proposed annual diet for 200 people in Scenario HH	
	(g/day)	(estimated calories/day)	(kg/year)	(estimated calories/year)	(kg)	
Rice	219.2	789	80	288,000	16,000	
Corn	82.2	82	30	30,000	6,000	
Fruits & Berries	68.5	103	25	37,500	5,000	
Leafy Green vegetables	123.3	31	45	11,250	9,000	
Cruciferous Vegetables	95.9	24	35	8,750	7,000	
Sweet Potatoes	164.4	141	60	51,480	12,000	
Coconuts	54.8	60	20	22,000	4,000	
Avocardo	43.8	104	16	38,000	3,200	
Pork	32.9	82	12	30,000	2,400	
Poultry	82.2	196	30	71,700	6,000	
Eggs	82.2	148	30	54,000	6,000	
Seafood and fish	68.5	49	25	18,000	5,000	
Dairy	151.1	69	55.2	25148,4 *	17,264	
Soybeans, Legumes,	/12 5	306	15 5	111 600	2 000	
Nuts, and Seeds	42.5	500	15.5	111,000	2,000	
Fats and oils	54.8	316	15	115,500	4,000	
Total Mass	1,222.3	2,501	494	912,928	104,864	
* includes milk and cheese made from milk						

All food is grown locally, 100% organic without the use of petrochemical fertilizers or GMO tech









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11 acre	Seasons of Year (each 3 months)						
field	1	2	3	4			
1	Crop human feed	Fallow	Chicken grazing (meat)	Pigs grazing			
2	Crop animal feed	Fallow	Chicken grazing (eggs)	Pigs grazing			
3	Crop animal feed	Chicken grazing (eggs)	Cows grazing	Pigs grazing			
4	Pigs grazing	Crop human feed	Pigs grazing	Chicken grazing (meat)			
5	Pigs grazing	Fallow	Fallow	Crop animal feed			
6	Pigs grazing	Crop animal feed	Fallow	Chicken grazing (eggs)			
7	Fallow	Chicken grazing (meat)	Fallow	Cows grazing			
8	Chicken grazing (meat)	Pigs grazing	Pigs grazing	Crop animal feed			
9	Chicken grazing (eggs)	Pigs grazing	Crop human feed	Fallow			
10	Cows grazing Pigs grazing		Crop animal feed	Fallow			
11	Fallow	Cows grazing	Crop animal feed	Fallow			
12	Fallow Crop animal feed		Pigs grazing	Crop human feed			
13	Food forest for human food						

(acres total)









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What are we really trying to do?

Reliable and consistently stable power generation in all weathers, in all geographical regions

Preferably in concentrated form

Preferably with a low materials footprint

A long working life

Designed to be recycled

Minimal waste plume with very low environmental impact

We want electricity generation

We want transport

We want manufacture

If the Green Transition won't work, what might we do instead?

Scenario HI – The Purple Transition

Resource Balanced Economy

- The Circular Economy evolved & reinvented
- Liquid fuel fission: thorium fueled molten salt modular reactors
 - Generation of electricity & heat at (560 °C)
- Electric Vehicles: powered by alternative battery chemistries
 - Not Lithium-ion chemistry systems
 - Short range transport less than 100 km, applied in cities
- Combustion of iron powder as a thermal fuel
 - High temperature fuel (1960 °C)
 - To replace coal as a thermal fuel in manufacture
- Pyrolysis of human sewage to produce syngas
 - Production of hydrogen assisting Sulfur Iodide Cycle
 - Recycle oxidized iron powder fuel
- Ammonia fueled ICE technology
 - Long range transport
 - Maritime shipping, intercity freight trains, possibly some aviation applications







OAK RIDGE NATIONAL LABORATORY

PERATED BY UNION CARBIDE CORPORATION . FOR THE U.S. ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

ORNL (1972): The Development Status of Molten Salt Breeder Reactors, Report ORNL - 4812, Oak Ridge Nuclear Laboratory, United States Atomic Energy Commission (AEC)

6000 hours power generation



The MSR used in the Oak Ridge Molten salt rea (7.4 MW) commercial pilot 1969

Already done in China



The LFTR (2 MW) used in Circa Whuhai, China in 2022 – now commercially selling power



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Operating permit issued for Chinese molten salt reactor 15 June 2023

The Shanghai Institute of Applied Physics (SINAP) of the Chinese Academy of Sciences has been granted an operating licence for the experimental TMSR-LF1 thorium-powered molten-salt reactor, construction of which started in Wuwei city, Gansu province, in September 2018.



A cutaway of the TMSR LF1 reactor (Image: SIRA

"The thorium-fueled molten salt experimental reactor operation application and related technical documents were reviewed, and it was considered that the application met the relevant safety requirements, and it was decided to issue the 2 MWt liquid fuel thorium-based molten salt experimental reactor an operating licence," the National Nuclear Security Administration (INNSA) said in a 7 June statement.

The NNSA noted that, when operating TMSR-LF1, SINAP "should adhere to the principle of 'safety first', abide by the regulations of the operating licence and permit conditions, and ensure the safe operation" of the reactor.

Construction of the TMSR-LF1 reactor began in September 2018 and was scheduled to be completed in 2024. However, it was reportedly completed in August 2021 after work was accelerated.

In August last year, SINAP was given approval by the Ministry of Ecology and Environment to commission the reactor.

The TMSR-LF1 will use fuel enriched to under 20% U-235, have a thorium inventory of about 50 kg and conversion ratio of about 0.1. A fertile blanket of lithium-beryllium fluoride (FLIBe) with 99.95% Li-7 will be used, and fuel as UF4.

If the TMSR-LF1 proves successful, China plans to build a reactor with a capacity of 373 MWt by 2030.

https://www.world-nuclearnews.org/Articles/Operating-permit-issuedfor-Chinese-molten-salt-re





Mass balance Th MSR to U ALWR to generate 1 GWh of electricity

Reactor fuel consumed

SNF waste produced



3.27 kg/GWh

Th 0.143 kg/GWh

2.80 kg/GWh

Th 0.0044 kg/GWh







The Onion Core®



Loops and containment



copenhagen atomics

Non-fission prototype



Copenhagen Atomics

- Each commercial rector is planned to be able to produce 100 MW of thermal heat, or 40 MW of electricity
 - This is a modular system, where many units can be fitted together to construct a range of power capacities
- Each reactor is the size of a 40 foot shipping container
- Electricity will be sold at a projected 2 cents/kWh
- 1g of thorium or uranium produces 24 MWh of thermal energy.
 - A plant producing 1 GW electricity needs 800kg of Th_{232} metal in salt form each year.
- First test of complete system (1 MW) to generate electricity in late 2026
- Reactors will be available for the sale of electricity in 2028 (at this stage)
 - Copenhagen Atomic will not sell the reactors. They will finance, build, own and operate them for the customer.

Test rig with a full sized reactor to pilot test the water circuit



https://www.copenhagenatomics.com/









Figure 169. Comparison of 90 passengers on a single public bus (LHS), the same number of people on bicycles (centre), the same number of people in 50 passenger cars (RHS) (Image & copyright Australia's Cycling Promotion Fund)








Figure 172. Electricity consumption for the transit of passengers

Figure 175. Electricity consumption for the transport of freight cargo





New installed power generation capacity to be installed



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Conclusions

- This task is much bigger than first thought
- A transport fleet split of EV's and H₂-Cells is appropriate
 - Light short range should be EV
 - Heavy long range should be H₂-Cell
- Wind and solar are going to struggle to be viable due to the required power storage requirements
- Biofuels should be reserved for aviation fuel only due to land requirements
- Conventional biomass feedstocks to produce biofuels like corn and soybean require too much arable land to be viable.
 - Consider specially bred species to do this instead
- All conventional approaches had practical bottlenecks that made them impractical for scaleup
 - *Recommend you look at Th MSR units very carefully*

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Kiitos & Thank you