



12 January 2005

## **INFORMATION PAPER**

**SUBJECT:** Hawaii Water Management, Various Hawaii, Hawaii

1. Purpose: To provide information on the subject project.
2. Points of Major Interest and Facts.

a. The Congressional delegation has long recognized the importance of agriculture in the State of Hawaii and the need to maintain its agricultural water systems prior to and since the demise of the sugar industry. In FY01, Congress added appropriations in both the Energy and Water Bill [General Investigations (GI): \$200K] and the Consolidated Appropriations Bill [Construction General (CG): \$2M] for construction of irrigation improvements. In FY02, the Senate Appropriations Committee inserted another add to initiate further technical studies (CG: \$200K). In FY03, under the Consolidated Appropriations bill, Congress added \$1M for additional technical studies. An additional \$500,000 in CG funds was added in FY 05 to supplement the FY 01 construction funds.

b. Approximately \$100K of the FY01 GI funds was used to prepare a reconnaissance-level report that defines the scope of the entire repair and rehabilitation program. The report completed in April 2002, described the Federal interest, costs, benefits and environmental issues. The remaining funds were used to prepare and execute a design agreement on 9 September 2004 with the State of Hawaii, Department of Agriculture (local sponsor) for improvements recommended at Waiahole (Oahu) and Kokee (Kauai). SEY Engineers was awarded a contract on 29 September 2004 to design the irrigation improvements at Waiahole and Kokee. The Hawaii Water Management project will improve existing reservoirs, irrigation lines and flow control devices. The design is expected to be completed by July 2005.

c. The FY02 CG funds (\$200K), entitled Hawaii Water Systems, were used to conduct technical studies of irrigation systems in the State of Hawaii. Technical studies were completed for Pioneer Mill irrigation system (Maui), Kokee/Kekaha Ditch irrigation system (West Kauai), East Kauai Irrigation System, and Waiahole Ditch in June 2003. The FY03 funds (\$1M) will be used to prepare plans and specifications to construct a new agricultural water line in Upper Kula, Maui. SEY Engineers will complete the design of the Upper Kula line in November 2005. The balance of the FY03 funds will be used to award a contract to RM Towill to prepare a water shed study and Environmental Impact Statement for a agricultural water distribution system in Lower Kula. The Lower Kula Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will be completed in July 2005.