Harry Kim

Mayor



County of Hawaii PLANNING DEPARTMENT

101 Pauahi Street, Suite 3 • Hilo, Hawaii 96720-4224 (808) 961-8288 • FAX (808) 961-8742

September 11, 2007

Mr. Barney Elders and Ms. Pamela Elders P.O. Box 8544 Santa Cruz, California 95061-8544

Dear Mr. and Ms. Elders:

SUBJECT:

Additional Farm Dwelling Agreement (FDA-07-000176)

Applicants:

Barney Elders and Pamela Elders

Land Owners:

Barney Elders and Pamela Elders

State Land Use:

Agricultural

County Zoning:

A-20a

Land Area:

3.955 Acres

Tax Map Key:

(3) 3-5-004:055

Pursuant to authority conferred to the Planning Director by Chapter 25, Article 5, Division 7, Section 25-5-77 of the Zoning Code and Planning Department Rule 13, Farm Dwellings, we have reviewed your request for an additional farm dwelling on the subject property. Your submittals included the following information:

- 1. Names, address and signatures of the applicants/landowners.
- 2. A farm plan or evidence of the applicant's continual agricultural productivity or farming operation within the County, including an explanation of why this AFD is needed in connection with the agricultural productivity or farming operation.

Your farm plan included the following ongoing income producing agricultural activities:

(a) Ongoing agricultural activities include the following:

Christopher J. Yuen

Director

Brad Kurokawa, ASLA LEED® AP Deputy Director Mr. Barney Elders and Ms. Pamela Elders Page 2 September 11, 2007

- i. Presently the applicants are part time residents but have expended, on average, approximately 8 hours per week preparing the land for the proposed agricultural activities; and
- ii. The existing single-family dwelling (to be designated as the additional farm dwelling upon completion of the second dwelling) has also required much time and money to rehabilitate.
- (b) Proposed agricultural activities include the following:
 - i. Continuation of the above preparation work (i.e. soil remediation due to past sugarcane growing practices); and
 - ii. Vegetables, flowers and noni will be the main commercial crops and will be planted once the soil is prepared (approximately 3 seasons); and
 - iii. The activity will cover approximately 2 acres of the almost 4 acres; and
 - iv. At full implementation, (by approximately 2010) the activity is anticipated to require upwards of 20 hours per week.
- 3. In support of the application, evidence of a State of Hawaii Department of Taxation's General Excise Tax License has been presented.
- 5. Applicant's commitment to the farm plan will be shown in the form of the enclosed Additional Farm Dwelling Agreement affidavit, to be notarized and submitted for recordation with the Bureau of Conveyances, which states that the additional dwelling shall be used for farm-related purposes.

Findings:

- 1. In Chapter 205, Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS), the State Land Use Law does not authorize residential dwellings as a permitted use in the State Land Use Agricultural district unless the dwelling is related to an agricultural activity or is a farm dwelling. A farm dwelling as defined in Section 205-4.5, Chapter 205, HRS, means a single family dwelling located on and used in connection with a farm, including clusters of single family farm dwellings permitted within agricultural parks developed by the State, or where agricultural activity provides income to the family occupying the dwelling. (emphasis added)
- 2. The subject lot was created prior to June 4, 1976, which, pursuant to HRS §205-4.5(b), allows the first dwelling on the lot to be a single-family dwelling.

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- 3. The Farm Plan, GE Tax License (ID number W84377841-01), and the agreement to use the dwelling for agricultural or farm-related activity on the building site demonstrate that there will be income producing agricultural activity and that the income will be taxed.
- 4. In addition, the following agencies have submitted their comments as stated below:
 - (a) Department of Water Supply (DWS):

The DWS did not comment on this application as of this date.

(b) Real Property Tax Office (RPT):

The RPT office did not comment on this application as of this date.

(c) Department of Health (DOH) (Memorandum dated August 29, 2007):

"The use of individual wastewater systems is allowed. The type and number of individual wastewater systems to be used will be determined by the wastewater rules in effect at the time of building permit application.

Lands formerly used for sugarcane production are now being developed into communities where residential homes, schools and commercial businesses are being constructed. Chemicals associated with the sugarcane industry persist in the soil today and may be a threat to public health and the environment. Elevated arsenic levels were discovered in soil at former sugarcane production areas on the islands. The HEER Office has identified former sugarcane production areas for assessments throughout the state and plans to work with property owners to conduct environmental assessments to identify and address elevated soil arsenic levels prior to finalizing development plans for the properties.

We recommend that you review all of the Standard Comments on our website: www.state.us/health/environmental/env-planning/landuse/landuse.html. Any comments specifically applicable to this project should be adhered to."

Decision:

In view of the above, your request to construct a **second (first AFD) dwelling** on the property is approved subject to the following conditions:

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- 1. The AFD shall only be used to provide shelter for persons involved in the agricultural or farm-related activity on the building site. Family members who are not engaged in agricultural or farm-related activities are allowed to reside in the farm dwelling.
- 2. The agreement shall run with the land and apply to all persons who may, now or in the future, use or occupy the additional farm dwelling. The enclosed AFD Agreement must be returned to the Planning Department with the appropriate notarized signatures along with a check made out to the Bureau of Conveyances in the amount of \$25.00 in accordance with the enclosed AFDA Instructions. The Planning Department will not approve a building permit application for the additional dwelling until the AFDA document and all required attachments have been accepted for recordation.
- 3. Applicant shall contact the DWS to determine the availability of county water for the AFD and to arrange for payment of any fees associated with the approval of water, should it be available.
 - Should sufficient water not be available for the AFD, may we suggest the following:
 - a. Any dwelling not serviced by a County water system should be provided with and maintain a private potable rain catchment system which includes a minimum 6,000 gallons for domestic consumption or potable uses. This catchment system should adhere to the Department of Public Works, Building Division's "Guidelines for Owners of Rain Catchment Water Systems" as well as the State Department of Health requirements related to water testing and water purifying devices.
 - b. Any dwelling on a water catchment system should be provided with and maintain an additional 3,000 gallon water storage capacity for fire fighting and emergency purposes. The emergency water supply system, including the necessary compatible connector system and location of the water storage facility on the property, should meet with the approval of the Hawaii County Fire Department.
- 4. All other applicable rules, regulations, and requirements of the Planning Department (including but not limited to the Zoning Code, Chapter 25), Department of Public Works, Department of Water Supply, Fire Department and State Department of Health and other reviewing agencies/divisions listed on the Building Permit Application shall be adhered to.

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- 5. Your AFDA has been approved based on ongoing and expanded agricultural activity as summarized previously in this letter. It is required that the First Party (property owners) to the Agreement shall have implemented at least 75% of the proposed farm plan within three (3) years of approval of the building permit for the additional farm dwelling. The Second Party (County of Hawai'i Planning Department) of the Agreement may allow time extensions and modifications for good cause shown by the First Party.
- 6. The First Party shall allow the Second Party or its representative to inspect the farm upon reasonable prior notice.
- 7. This AFDA shall be valid for a period of two (2) years from the date of this approval letter to secure a BP for the additional farm dwelling. Failure to secure a BP for this additional farm dwelling on or before September 4, 2009, may cause the Director to initiate proceedings to invalidate the AFDA.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Jonathan Holmes of this Department.

Sincerely,

CHRISTOPHER J. YUEN

Planning Director

JRH:cd

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Enclosures:

AFDA document

AFDA document instruction sheet

xc: N

Mr. Milton Pavao, DWS

Mr. Mike McCall, RPT

