Kealakekua Heritage Ranch
P.O. Box 2240
Kealakekua, HI 96750

March 10, 2006

PLANNING DEPARTMENT COUNTY OF HAWAII

Mr. Christopher J. Yuen Director County of Hawaii Planning Department 101 Aupuni Street, Suite 3 Hilo, Hawaii 96720-3043

Re:

<u>Kealakekua Development Corporation (Kealakekua Heritage Ranch, LLC) Tax</u> <u>Map Key: 8-2-012:012 and Portion 001</u>

Dear Mr. Yuen,

We are writing this letter to request an extension of time to meet the conditions associated with the forest management plan for the Kealakekua Heritage Ranch. Over the past half a year we have been working at the ranch and helping to advance its sustainable forestry program. There has been a great amount of time spent in planning for reforestation to bring back the natural forest, not just the commercial species, but all the naturally occurring species that will promote a healthy forest. There has been considerable work done in trying to create a conservation easement on the property which will carry long term benefits for not only the ranch, but the community as well, as it will protect vital watershed areas of this island.

Sheldon in particular has been rebuilding the nursery located on the ranch, gathering seeds and cuttings, and propagation of the various plant and tree species. Currently there are about 4000 Koa tree seedlings and about a hundred Sandalwood seedlings. Propagation has also included Mail Mamaki, Ohia, and a variety of other plants and trees. It is in its infancy stage and research continues on the types of plants needed to reforest.

Clark is directing our forest planning efforts on the ranch. This has included analyzing the current stands and location of areas suitable for natural regeneration and planting. He is responsible for gathering and analyzing the weather patterns and determining their impact on site and forest quality.

Our planning has been done in the context of the entitlement contained in Ordinance 98-63. Changes would require in many cases starting over, and some aspects may no longer be a part of the overall plan. We ask that you allow for the extension of time to meet the water requirements of the entitlement in order to avoid the significant loss of time and efforts.

Thank you,

Sheldon Nakamoto Nursery Supervisor

Clark Allred

Forest Management

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