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For Immediate Release

The Joint Fact Finding Study Group’s draft report on “Pesticide Use by Large Agribusinesses on Kauai” originally scheduled for release on January 6, 2016 has been postponed. Likewise, an “Informational Briefing” for the public that was to have been held on January 11, 2016 is also postponed. Both have been deferred to allow additional time for the gathering and analysis of data, due to unforeseen circumstances. Both events will be rescheduled at the earliest opportunity.

The study group made up of science-trained Kauai residents began meeting in March 2015 and is examining available data from Kauai and reviewing pertinent national and international studies. This independent body is working on answers to the following:

1. Quantitatively, what are the actual agricultural “footprints” Kauai’s seed companies occupy and farm?
2. What pesticides do they use, in what quantities, and at what rates?
3. Are there detectable and measurable human or environmental health impacts on Kauai associated with seed company pesticide practices?
4. Is current oversight and regulation effective?
5. If the answer is a possible “yes”, what are the documented health or environmental impacts on Kauai and what should be done?

Joint Fact Finding is a process used to deliberate complex public policy issues by gathering, assessing, and interpreting relevant facts about specific issues. It does so by convening a group of volunteers who are conversant with science and willing to analyze and debate

facts in a civil manner that leads to collective findings and conclusions. It is designed to help government and the public move towards resolution of divisive issues.

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