CONFIDENTIAL DECLARATION OF Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) TO EPA

I, Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) declare as follows:

I am a resident of the County of Kauai, State of Hawaii. I currently reside in Hanapepe, in west Kauai. Previously, I resided in Waimea, Kauai.

I am a retired Fire Captain from Kauai Fire Dept., with 30 years of service.

I am a descendant of indigenous Kanaka Maoli who inhabited the Hawaiian Islands prior to western contact. My ancestors have lived and farmed taro in Makaweli Valley continuously to the present day.

I have been growing taro in Makaweli Valley for over 40 years.

I have always grown taro, bananas, breadfruit, papayas, mango, coconut and assorted vegetables. Most of these are foods that Hawaiians traditionally grew.

I have hosted students from various schools over the years. We try to instill in these students a desire to care for the land, as the Hawaiians did, and to leave it in better condition, for the next generation.

Directly above our taro patches in Makaweli Valley are DuPont Pioneer's experimental facility and open air test fields. These companies are experimenting with GMO corn, using combinations` of restricted use chemical. The drift from their pesticide spraying blows downwind into taro fields, homes, schools and hospitals.

Living and working under these conditions are not just detrimental to our resident's health, but are contaminating our water and our land, and are not sustainable in the long term.

For generations, Hawaiians have lived in this area and have always taken care of the land for the next generation. Their way of thinking was that you do not own the land, in the western sense, but are here to take care of the land, and leave it better for the next generation. We are the latest generation, and what we do now will affect our children and grandchildren. If these companies are allowed to continue to pollute our land and water with their pesticides, what will we leave for the future generations?

The west side of Kauai has increased incidences of cancer and birth defects. Many residents complain of asthma and other respiratory problems. These companies often claim there is no proof that pesticides are the cause.

My mother lives directly downwind of these experimental fields, and she has had a constant runny nose and respiratory problems that she never had before. There are many other residents with the same problems.

The problem with the apparently unrestricted use of "restricted use" pesticides, is the cumulative effect of so much pesticides going into the ground. These pesticides will leach into our rivers, into our drinking water, and into the ocean and our reefs, where it will affect our fish, which we depend on to feed our families.

Currently, another problem with these experimental GMO companies, is the diversion of water. These companies have taken over control of the water diversion system abandoned by the sugar plantations when they went out of business. These companies formed the Kekaha Ag Assoc. to control and maintain the ditch system. But these companies need far less water than the sugar plantations, and much of this diverted water is wasted into the ocean, instead of being put back into the river.

The diversion of water from the Waimea river has resulted in heavy siltation in the lower parts of the river. This has caused areas of the river to be six inches deep, where it used to be 12 ft deep. This represents a very real flood hazard to not only the farmers, but the residents of Waimea as well.

A group of us farmers formed Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) to address these water issues. With the help of Earth Justice, we filed a petition with the Water Commission to return the diverted water to Waimea river. An agreement was reached to restore water to the river. We are currently in the process of being able to verify the amounts of water that should be returned to the river, according to the agreement.

I feel very strongly that the only way, that our children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, will have a viable future, is to only allow businesses that value the health of our people, our land, and our water, to do business here. It is very clear that these experimental GMO companies do not have those values. We need these companies to leave our island, and the state, to ensure a healthy future for the next generation.

I, Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP), declare under penalty of law, that the foregoing facts are true.

DATED 11/21, 2017

Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)