Environmental Projects – Interstate Route H-3 & Storm Water Management Program (SWMP)

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Location: Holmes Hall 244 Time: March 6, 2009 Friday 2:00 – 3:00 pm

About the speaker:  Mr. Dahilig is a Senior Project Manager with PB Americas in Honolulu. Presently, Mr. Dahilig is the PB Program Manager for HDOT's Storm Water Management Program. Previously, Mr. Dahilig worked as the PB Honolulu Office Manager. Mr. Dahilig is specialized in civil/highway engineering and also has had numerous experiences in environmental engineering projects. His past major projects include: Keehi Interchange, Interstate Route H-3 Design Management, and Nimitz Highway Viaduct EIS (Environmental Impact Statement).

ABSTRACT: (1) H-3’s past was controversial, as we all recall. The project won numerous design awards at its completion, but its complex designs may have been the easy part. As the first Hawaii project required to do an EIS, it came very close many times to being stopped by legal challenges and environmental issues. The intrigue and drama in getting through the environmental planning stage and the political chess matches that took place will be described. (2) Hawaii DOT's current SWMP is the result of a Consent Decree imposed by the U.S. Department of Justice in 2005. US EPA and Hawaii Department of Health found several violations by HDOT of the Clean Water Act. This resulted in one of the nation's largest storm water court settlements of $52 million. A brief overview of the state of the SWMP in 2009 will be presented.