Dear Forest City Resident,

The Office of the Secretary of Defense established policy to strive for energy efficiency in Public-Private Venture (PPV) housing, and for PPV residents to be responsible for utility usage. The Department of Navy, in conjunction with its PPV partner, Forest City Residential Management (FCRM) implemented the Resident Energy Conservation Program (RECP) pilot program here in Hawaii on 1 January 2011.

Due to a successful pilot where FCRM residents reduced electricity consumption by about 10 percent, the Department of Navy approved a rollout of RECP to all other Navy PPV projects between Oct 2012 and Oct 2013. The rollout strategy modifies the current buffer around the average usage for like-type homes from 20 percent to 10 percent to achieve more conservation. Hawaii will implement the 10 percent buffer in Oct 2012.

Forest City Residential Management (FCRM) will soon be sending you a letter regarding the buffer change along with a schedule of community meetings planned for June. RECP will continue to focus on electric utility conservation efforts; although families should strive to conserve water and gas utilities as well.

Your monthly bill will continue to show the amount of electricity you are using compared to the monthly average usage for homes of your type and size. Starting with the monthly bill you will receive in July, a note will be included that helps you compare your usage to a 10 percent buffer. From July through September, you should compare your monthly usage against the 10 Percent buffer and adjust your usage habits if you anticipate exceeding the new buffer. Again, the 10 percent buffer will become effective starting on 1 October 2012.

FCRM is available to help you assess your usage and address any questions regarding your home's energy efficiency. Tips and ideas to reduce electricity consumption are available on FCRM's
website: http://www fcnavyhawaii.com/recep/. Individually, these energy saving tips result in small savings but collectively, they can make a big difference in how much electricity you use in a given month.

Conserving our valuable resources through reduced energy consumption contributes to our nation’s security and readiness and enables us to better support Sailors and their families. Further, reducing housing energy costs translates to more money being available for reinvestment back into the PPV community, resulting in home improvements, neighborhood upgrades and more resident programs.

Thank you in advance for your support of this important energy initiative. We expect that lowering the buffer will help increase savings by increasing resident awareness of their utility usage. Additional details on this program will be provided by FCRM. If you have any questions for the Navy, please contact Mr. Darryl Nii, (808) 474-1825, darryl.nii@navy.mil, or visit NAVREGHI’s www.greatlifehawaii.com/RECP website.

Sincerely,

F. E. PONDS
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy
Commander, Navy Region Hawaii