

Maurice Kaya
Strategic Energy and Management Consultant

Mr. Kaya has over 35 years of experience in energy and environmental engineering in the State of Hawaii in both the public and private sectors.

Building on the knowledge he gained in over two decades of service to the public and private energy sector in Hawaii, Mr. Kaya now consults on clean energy policies, investments, and management strategies to clients in Hawaii and the US mainland.



He was appointed Chief Technology Officer (CTO) for the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism in January 2003. As CTO, Mr. Kaya led efforts to diversify the statewide economy, developing programs to increase investment in strategic technologies through public-private partnerships.

For twenty years he administered statewide energy programs for the State of Hawaii. He was responsible for the planning and execution of energy policy in three major areas: 1) statewide energy emergency preparedness; 2) energy conservation programs; and 3) development of renewable energy projects. Over the years, Mr. Kaya has held a number of engineering management positions where he has specialized in public works administration, potable water development, wastewater treatment and disposal, and hazardous waste handling.

Mr. Kaya recently directed a strategic technology economic development program for the State of Hawaii that focused on Hawaii's outstanding competitive advantages in defense activity, natural resources including renewable energy, biotechnology, and ocean science and technology.

As director of Hawaii's energy program, Mr. Kaya has led efforts to implement renewable energy and energy efficiency programs in the state, including the successful development of a Model Energy Code, performance contracting programs, and widespread adoption of statewide utility demand-side management programs. These efforts have resulted in national recognition for Hawaii's energy code, solar program partnership, Rebuild America program, and numerous other innovations.

His expertise on clean energy technologies and policies has been sought throughout the US and by foreign governments in Asia and Europe, and he has been asked to speak before a wide variety of audiences on the importance of alternate energy pathways for economic security and the particularly important role of states.

Among his scope of responsibilities, Mr. Kaya developed a comprehensive energy policy strategy for the State of Hawaii. The strategy included a major leadership role for Hawaii in the development of a renewable energy to hydrogen economy, taking advantage of the unique combination of energy assets and attributes of the island state: a wealth of renewable energy assets, high energy costs, expertise with research units at the University of Hawaii, state investment in research infrastructure, and broad commitment from both public and private sector leaders. In his capacity as Chief Technology Officer, he

also served as the principal advisor to the Governor on energy matters of critical importance to the State of Hawaii.

Mr. Kaya has served on numerous boards dealing with natural energy, high technology development and energy policy. He served as the past Chairman of the State Energy Advisory Board to the Secretary of Energy, US Department of Energy, a board that provides policy advice on energy efficiency and renewable energy programs for the department and the US Congress. In July 2008, he was appointed by US Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman to the Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Technical Advisory Committee. He is also a former board member of the National Association of State Energy Officials.

He also served on the boards of the Natural Energy Laboratory of Hawaii Authority and the High Technology Development Corporation. Mr. Kaya is the former Chairman of the Emerging Energy Technologies technical committee, Energy Division, American Society of Civil Engineers. He currently serves as the co-chair of the Hawaii EPSCoR Statewide Committee, whose responsibility is to better integrate invention at the state university system with Hawaii's business community in order to accelerate innovation and growth of Hawaii's knowledge-based industries. Key facets of this program are community education and outreach, and attention to workforce development to support the growth of high technology businesses in Hawaii.

Mr. Kaya previously served as the Vice President and Chief Engineer of a major civil engineering firm in Honolulu; as the Deputy Director and Chief Engineer for the City and County of Honolulu; and as the Director of Facilities Planning and Engineering, US Navy Public Works Center, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii.

He has been recognized with numerous awards throughout his career, including being named as the Manager of the Year for the Hawaii Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism on three separate occasions, as an Energy Champion for state programs in USDOE's Rebuild America Program, and as a Distinguished Alumni of the University of Hawaii, Hilo.

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