For Immediate Release: March 23, 2011

DOH HOLDS COMMUNITY MEETING TO DISCUSS SOIL CONTAMINATION FOUND IN KILAUEA ON KAUAI

HONOLULU – The Hawaii State Department of Health (DOH) invites the public to a community meeting to learn about soil contamination from old pesticide mixing and storage operations affecting two properties on Aalona Place in Kilauea on the island of Kauai. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 30 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Kilauea School Cafeteria, 2440 Kolo Road, Kilauea, Kauai.

Interim Health Director Loretta Fuddy and Deputy Director for Environmental Health Gary Gill will be on hand, along with DOH staff from the Hazard Evaluation and Emergency Response Office to explain what was found; what it means for affected residents, workers, and property owners; and what actions the State plans to take to protect public health and the environment.

The meeting will be conducted in an informal format with knowledgeable staff available at poster stations to provide information on the history of the site, how site discovery activities alerted the DOH to a potential problem, and what measures are being taken to ensure no one is exposed to contaminated soils. A brief presentation will provide an overview of the department’s investigation to date, and a timeline of upcoming activities. Dr. Al Bronstein from the Rocky Mountain Poison Control Center will also be a featured speaker.

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