

March 16, 2020

Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Regents
1111 Franklin Street, 12th floor
Oakland, CA 94607

RE: UC Divestment of Thirty Meter Telescope Project, Mauna Kea, Hawai'i

Dear Chief of Staff and UC Board of Regents:

We, the undersigned California organizations, urge the Chief of Staff and Board of Regents of the University of California to immediately divest from the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) Project currently scheduled for construction on the northern plateau of Mauna Kea, Hawai'i.

The University of California is currently invested in the construction of the TMT which is planned to be built on Mauna Kea, a sacred mountain for Native Hawaiians. Thirteen observatories already exist on the summit of Mauna Kea and despite decades of disapproval from Native Hawaiians, the placement of the TMT on Mauna Kea only continues to perpetuate environmental and cultural desecration and racism. Along with the destruction of Native Hawaiian culture, the TMT's construction would cause further harm and disrupt the natural watershed, causing severe and irreversible environmental degradation.

In addition, the University of California is currently in direct violation of Articles 11, 12, 19, 25, 26, 29 and 32 of the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. A letter from the United Nations stating these violations was delivered directly to the UC Board of Regents Meeting on January 21, 2020.

We encourage the Chief of Staff and Board of Regents to uphold its distinctive mission to serve society and invest in the protection and conservation of Mauna Kea for the benefit of all.

In health and environmental justice,

Asians4BlackLives
Hoi-Fei Mok, Member
Bay Area, California

Asian Pacific Islander Equality Northern California

Sammie Ablaza Wills, Director
Bay Area, California

Bayview Hunters Point Community Advocates

Michelle Pierce, Executive Director
Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, California

Bayview Hunters Point Mothers and Fathers Committee

Sabrina Hall, Core Member
Bayview Hunters Point, San Francisco, California

California Environmental Justice Coalition (CEJC)

Tom Helme, Coordinator
California

California Safe Schools

Robina Suwol, Executive Director
Toluca Lake, California

Del Amo Action Committee

Cynthia Babich, Founder and Director
Torrance, California

Food Empowerment Project

Lauren Ornelas, Founder/President
Cotati, California

Gary Hughes

Protector
San Francisco, California

Grayson Neighborhood Council

John Mataka, President
Central Valley, California

Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice

Bradley Angel, Executive Director
Sheridan Noelani Enomoto, Community Organizer
San Francisco, California

Idle No More SF Bay

Isabella Zizi, Core Member
San Francisco/Bay Area, California

Shore up Marin

Terrie Green, Executive Director
Marin City, California

Sunrise Movement Bay Area

Remus Annani, Kobi Naseck, Harrison Ribeiro, Sarah Kuo, Members
Molly Morabito, Karaline Bridgeford, Ethan Galebach, Members
Bay Area, California

Tri-Valley CARES

Marylia Kelley, Executive Director
Livermore, California

West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and Safe Jobs

Janice Schroeder, Core Member
Berkeley, California

West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP)

Ms. Margaret Gordan, Co-Director
West Oakland, California

Youth United for Community Action (YUCA)

Ofelia Bello, Executive Director
East Palo Alto, California