



Hawaiian Electric
Maui Electric
Hawai'i Electric Light

NEWS RELEASE

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Two Hawaiian Electric Companies managers nationally recognized as innovators

Utility magazine notes work by team overseeing rooftop solar programs

HONOLULU, Nov. 17, 2017 – The Hawaiian Electric Companies' Earlynne Maile and Kaiulani "Lani" Shinsato were among the Top Forty Innovators recognized by Public Utilities Fortnightly, a national magazine that has covered the utility industry for more than 85 years.

Maile, an engineer, is manager of Distributed Energy Resources (DER) Operations and Shinsato, an attorney, is manager of DER Strategy and Policy. Public Utilities Fortnightly recognized the duo's work in influencing policy and implementing innovative programs under a newly reorganized department that runs operations and strategy in parallel for Hawaiian Electric, Maui Electric and Hawaii Electric Light.

Here's an excerpt from the article: "...It was impossible to separate the innovation and achievements of Earlynne, manager of distributed energy resources operations on the islands, and Lani in her department ...

"Let's start with the challenge. Thirty percent of single-family homes (in Hawaii) have private rooftop solar. Thirty percent! To address this unique situation, Earlynne and Lani ... launched this fall an online and first-of-its-kind Customer Interconnection Tool. Next up for this dynamic duo, a new Smart Export Program to provide incentives to rooftop solar customers who export energy only during the evening peak and support grid stability."

Maile and Shinsato also are involved in companywide efforts to promote the use of advanced inverter functions that will enable integration of significantly higher amounts of DER on the companies' grids. The reorganization of the Hawaiian Electric Companies' DER department promotes a clear customer-oriented focus. Under the guidance of Maile and Shinsato, the department is able to take a more holistic approach to DER operations and policymaking that benefits all customers, not just those with private rooftop solar.

Here is a link to the full article:

www.fortnightly.com/fortnightly/2017/11/your-2017-fortnightly-top-forty-innovators?authkey=14d768008508bd0a350a62c103beaa93d3919f5fec7b91aaba88ce2670fa47ae

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