



**VOLCANO  
ART CENTER**  
ART • MAN • EARTH

August 9, 2010

Regional Director Pacific West Region  
National Park Service  
111 Jackson Street Suite 700  
Oakland, California 94607  
Attention: Concession Program Manager

Dear Concession Program Manager:

It is with great enthusiasm that we support The Volcano Project (TVP) for the Volcano House concession contract.

Volcano Art Center operates the gallery next to the HVNP Visitor's Center and an arts education facility in Volcano Village, Hawai'i. As neighbors and fellow community members, we share an interest in the successful operation of the Volcano House. We feel that TVP is committed not only to the mission of Hawai'i Volcanoes National Park, but is also dedicated to meeting the growing needs of the community, and strong leadership opportunities through education, training and collaboration.

While all concession operators will be creating jobs, we feel that TVP has an innovative approach to creating and generating much needed business and with time, improve the socio-economic circumstances that affect our youth and families in Hawai'i today. TVP is not simply creating jobs in a hospitality business – their proposal offers our community an opportunity to re-engage our youth in the business of working together to meet multiple community and Park service needs.

Providing our young with valuable work and service experience in their own community sets a foundation for opportunity in Volcano that currently does not exist for our at-risk youth.

By choosing the innovative, community-centered proposal submitted by The Volcano Project, the Aloha spirit can be shared with local residents and visitors alike, and continue to strengthen our network of community leaders, hospitality workforce, entrepreneurs and small business owners.

Sincerely,

Tanya Aynessazian  
CEO, Volcano Art Center

cc: File