

# Kekaha Landfill Cell 3 Vertical Expansion Project

Environmental Impact Statement Preparation Notice (EISPN) Scoping Meeting

County of Kauaʻi

Department of Public Works, Solid Waste Division

June 24, 2026



# Welcome and Introductions

- County of Kauaʻi Solid Waste Division
- Project consultants
- Purpose of today's meeting
- Overview of comment opportunities



# Meeting Purpose

- Describe the project
- Explain the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process
- Document written and oral comments on the proposed Project



# Why Is Additional Landfill Capacity Needed?

- Kekaha Landfill is the County's only landfill
- The landfill will be full by 2030
- More space is needed to continue providing waste disposal services until a new landfill is permitted
- New landfill challenges



# 250 TONS OF TRASH PER DAY – WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?

Depending on compaction, 250 tons of municipal solid waste takes up about 500 to 1,000 cubic yards of space every day.



## RANGE IN VOLUME

### LOOSE (LESS COMPACTED)

≈ 1,000 cubic yards/day



≈ 100 standard  
10-cubic-yard dump trucks

### COMPACTED IN LANDFILL

≈ 500 cubic yards/day



≈ 50 standard  
10-cubic-yard dump trucks



250 tons per day = about 50 to 100 truckloads  
of waste every single day.

## WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE ON THE GROUND



Figures are approximate. 1 ton = 2,000 pounds. 1 cubic yard = 27 cubic feet.



# What Happens if Cell 3 is Not Developed

- Trash service would be disrupted
- Costs would rise
- Illegal dumping would increase
- Could cause health crisis



# Long-Term Waste Planning

- Waste diversion programs
- Alternative waste management technologies (e.g., waste to energy)
- New landfill at Ma'alo (near Lihu'e)
- Cell 3 is essential and an interim solution

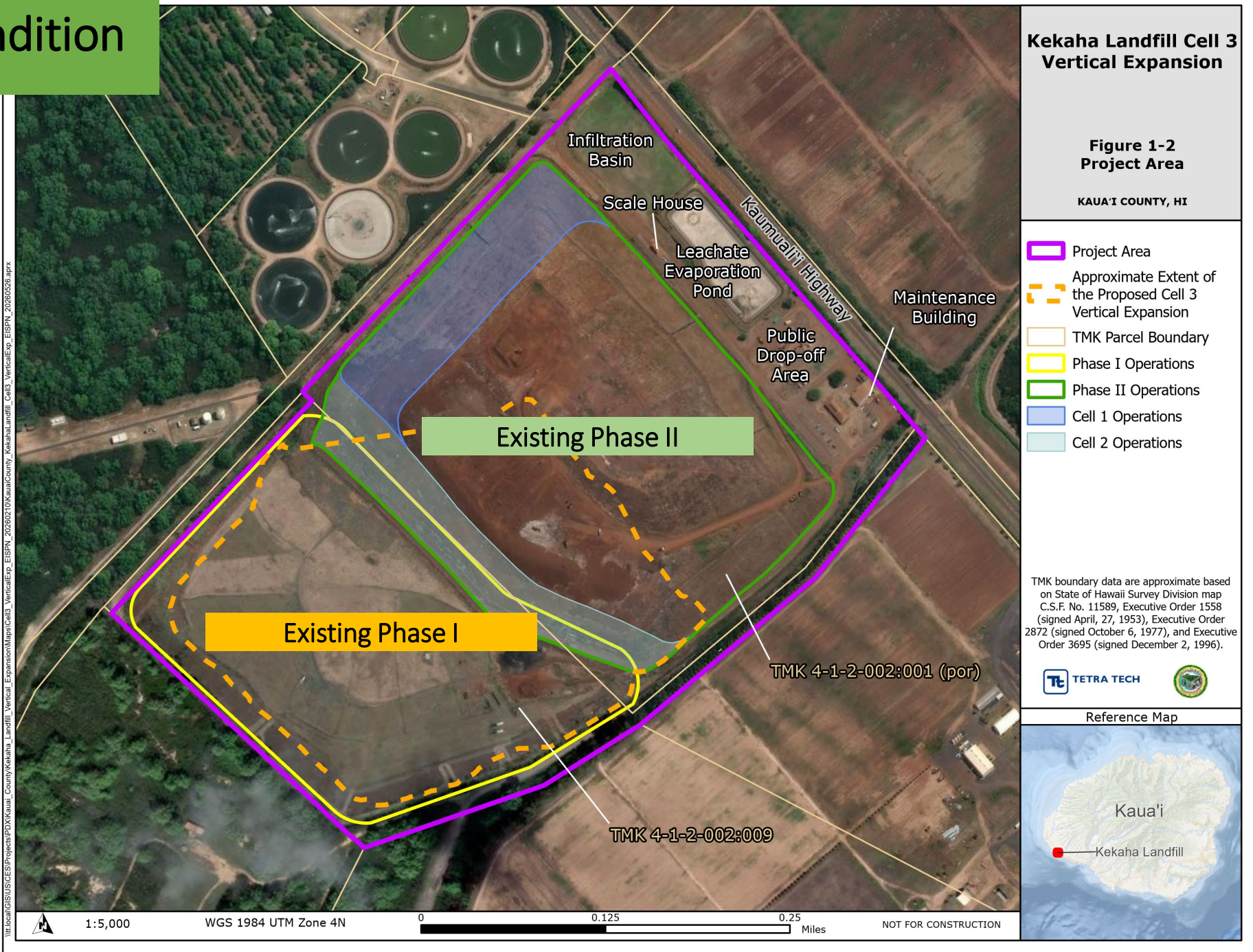


# Alternatives to the Project

- No action alternative
- Alternatives considered in the EISPN but not carried forward
  - Alternative designs
  - Alternative locations
  - Alternative technologies



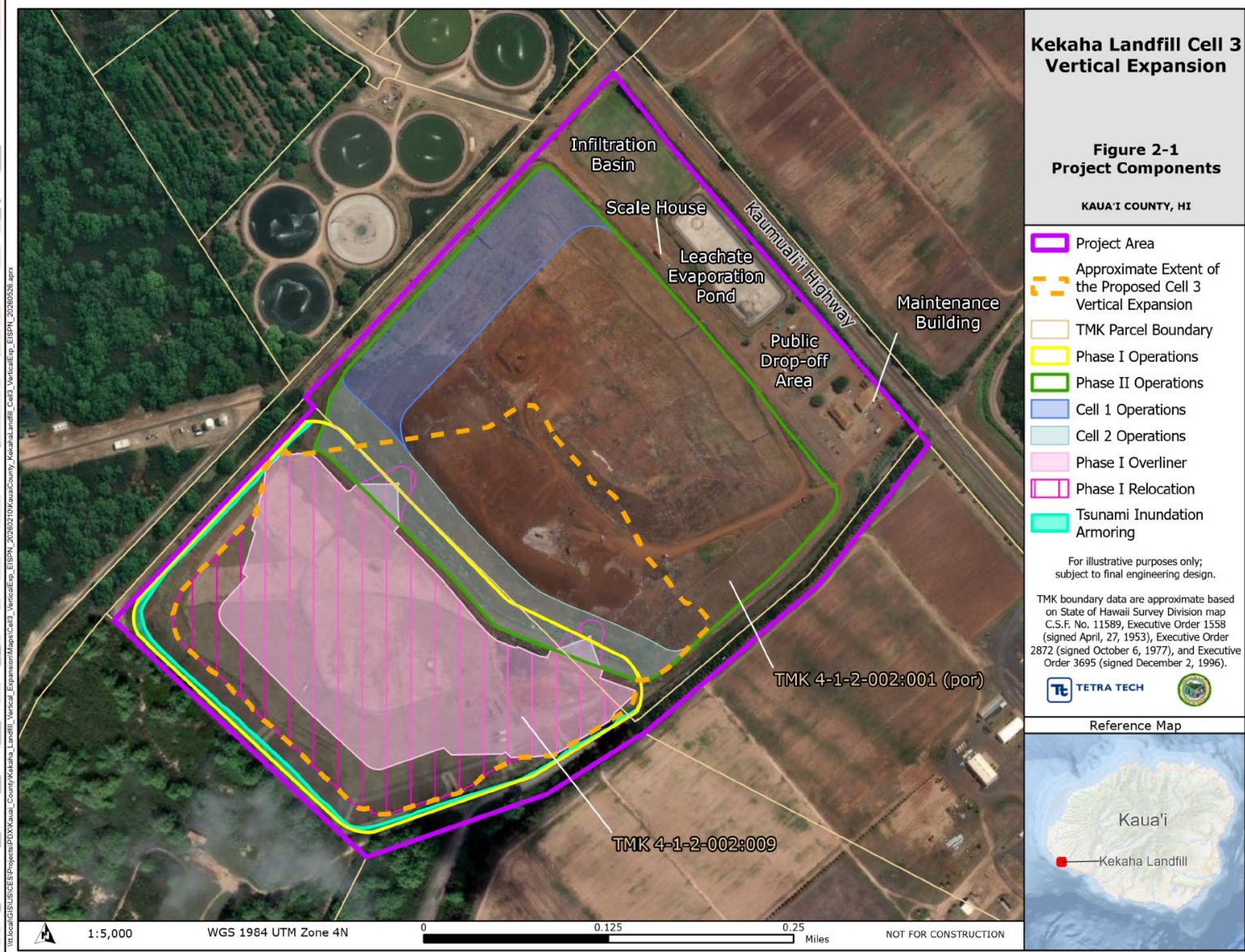
# Existing Condition



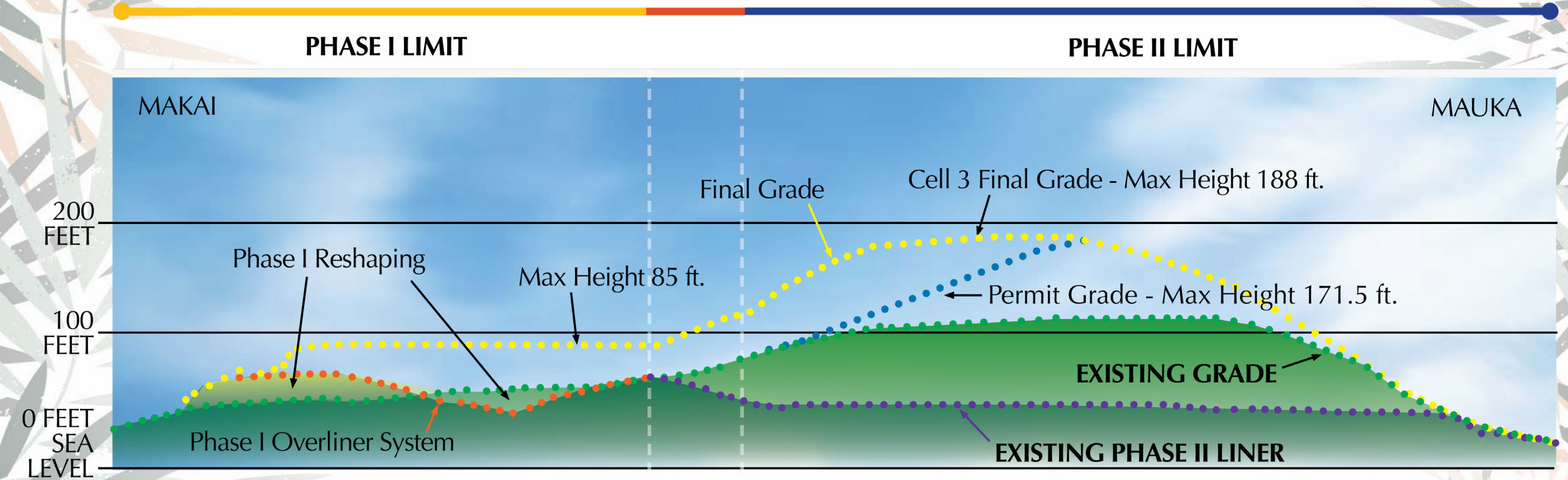
# Overview of Cell 3 Expansion

- Adds height without expanding the existing landfill footprint
- Reshapes waste within the Phase I landfill area
- Construction of a new overliner and leachate collection system in Phase I
- Expands environmental protection measures
- Adds tsunami protection





# Cell 3 Expansion Cross Section



# Existing Condition



 Simulated: Current Permitted Height - 171.5 feet



# Simulated: Cell 3 Expansion - 188 feet





 Simulated: Current Permitted Height - 171.5 feet



 Simulated: Cell 3 Expansion - 188 feet

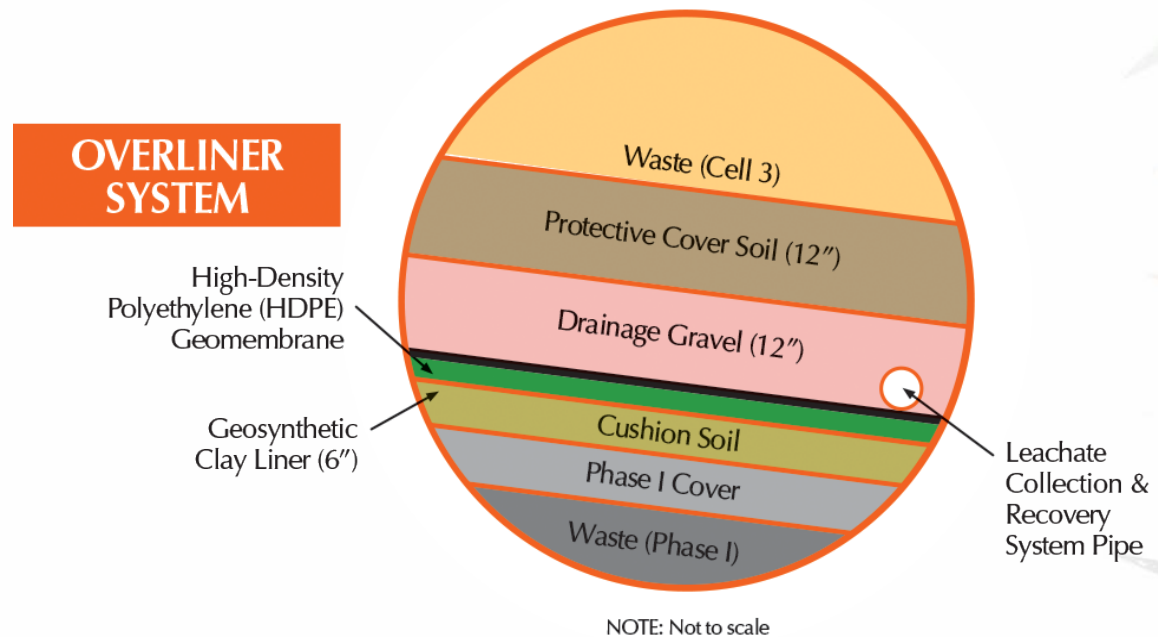


# Environmental Protection Measures



# Landfill Overliner

- To be installed under Cell 3 in Phase I areas that do not currently have a liner
- Allows collection of leachate and prevents rainwater from entering into Phase I
- Similar to and tied into existing Phase II liner system



# Leachate Collection Systems

- Collects leachate to keep it from accumulating within the landfill
- Part of the overliner design
- Connects to the existing leachate management system
- Supports long-term environmental protection and regulatory compliance during landfill operation and following closure

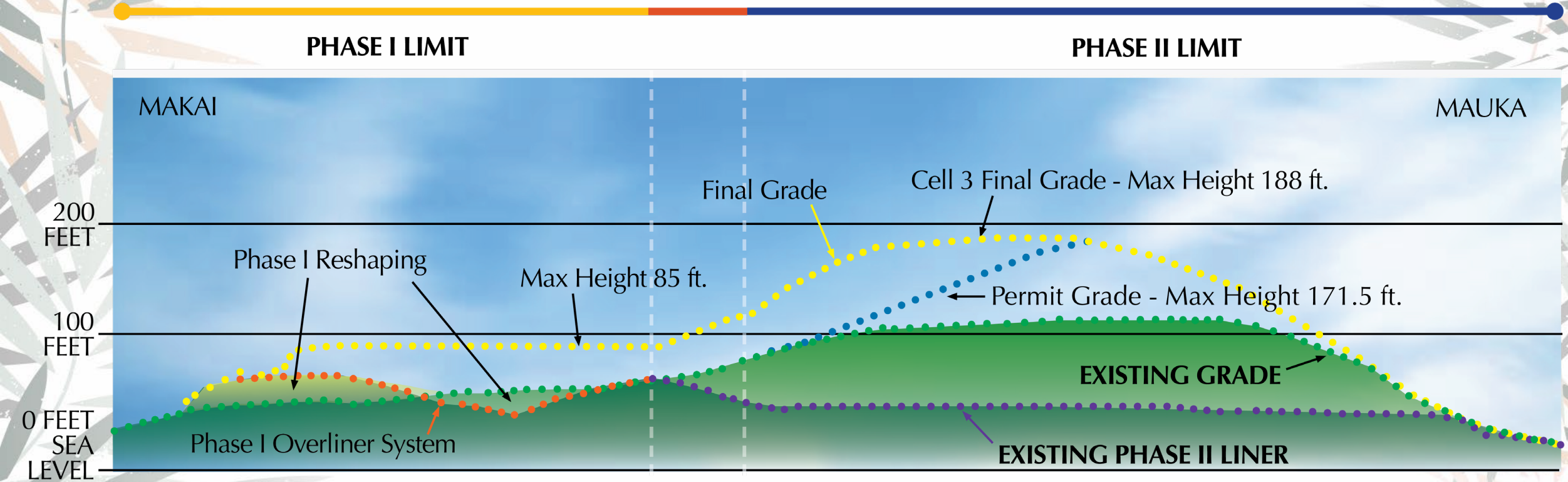


# Phase I Waste Reshaping

- Portions of Phase I waste would be regraded within the existing Phase I footprint to maintain positive drainage
- Reshaping needed to construct the overliner and leachate collection system and improve slope stability
- The project would extend modern environmental controls over the former unlined landfill area, tying into the existing Phase II liner and the final landfill cover



# Cell 3 Expansion Cross Section

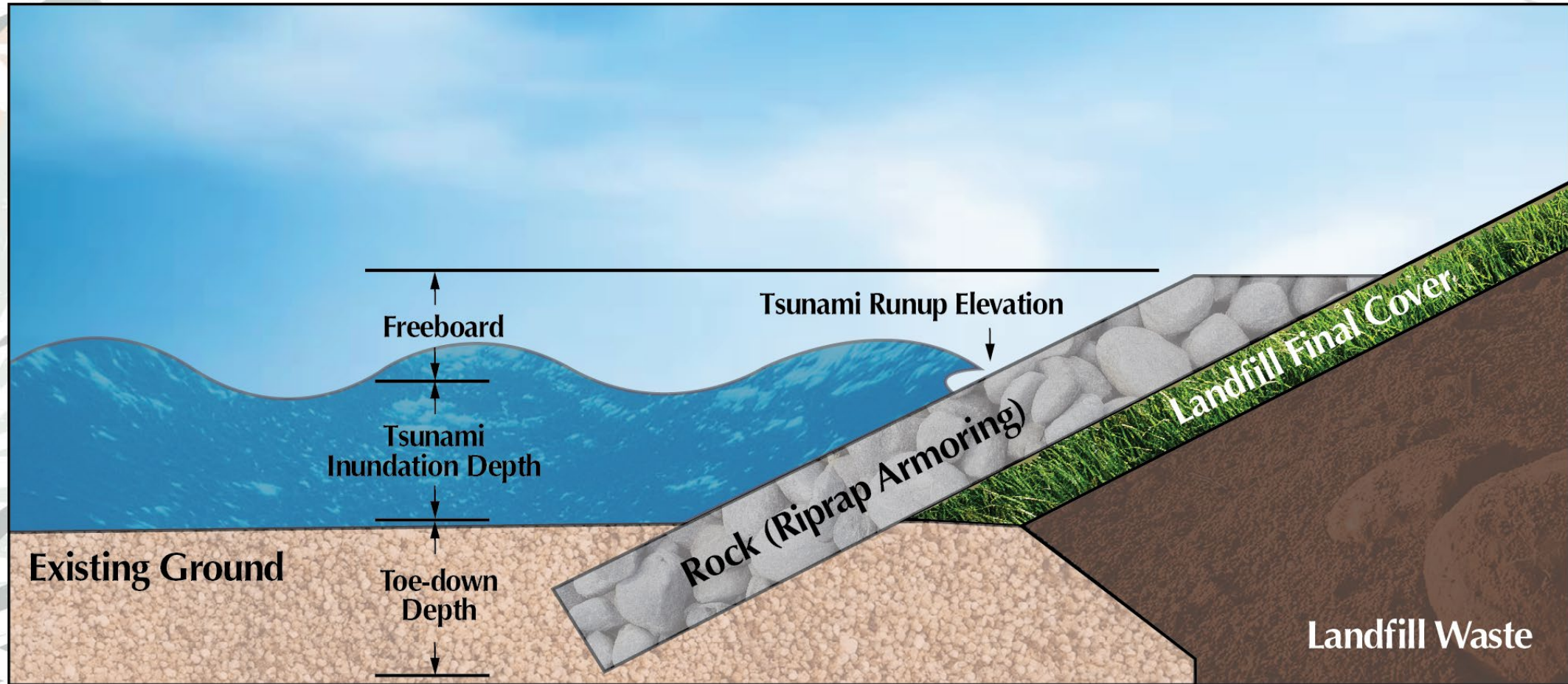


# Tsunami Mitigation Measures

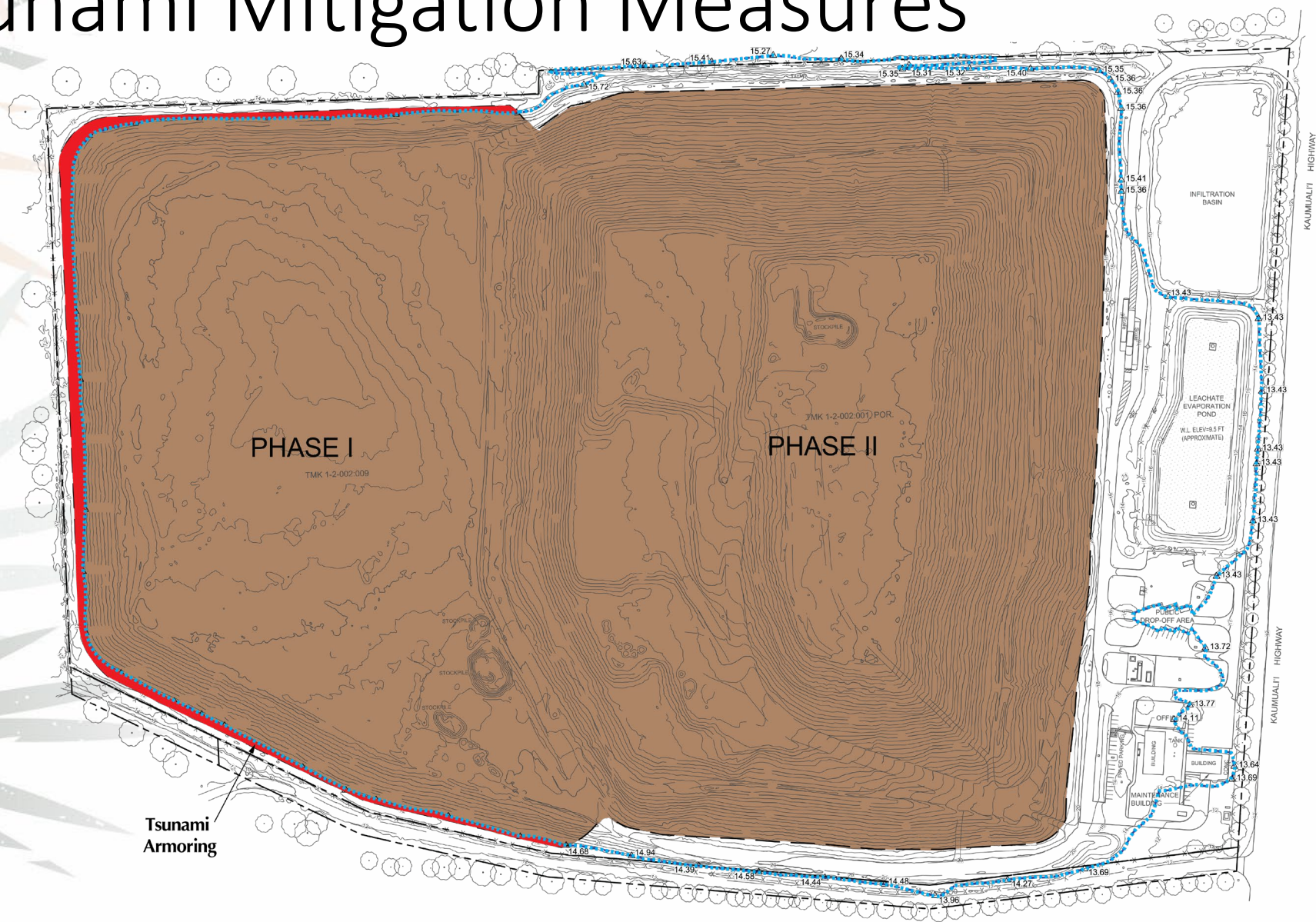
- Most of the landfill site is outside (above) of potential tsunami impact
- Protective armoring to be placed along portions of the landfill perimeter that are below the potential tsunami impact elevation.
- Armoring designed to resist erosion and waste displacement during tsunami inundation
- Supports long-term environmental protection and operational resilience



# Tsunami Mitigation Measures



# Tsunami Mitigation Measures





# Environmental Impact Statement



# What is an EIS?

- An EIS evaluates and discloses possible impacts of the project.
- Develops measures to avoid or minimize impacts.
- Required under Hawai'i state law.
- Includes community input.
- Helps decision-makers understand environmental impacts.



# Environmental Impact Statement Preparation Notice (EISPN)

- The EISPN was published on June 8, 2026.
- The EISPN kicks-off the 30-day public review and comment period (June 8, 2026 to July 8, 2026).



Scan to view the EISPN

# Scope of the EIS

- Purpose and need for the Project.
- Project description.
- Reasonable alternatives to the Project.
- Existing conditions and potential impacts.
- Technical studies including a Cultural Impact Assessment, Ka Paʻakai Analysis, and Archaeological Study.
- Measures to avoid or reduce impacts.



# Resources Studied in the EIS

- Climate and Climate Change
- Air Quality
- Geology, Topography, and Soils
- Water Resources (Surface Water and Groundwater)
- Biological Resources (Flora and Fauna)
- Natural Hazards
- Archeological Resources and Historic Properties
- Cultural Resources
- Visual Resources
- Noise
- Human Health and Safety
- Public Infrastructure and Services
- Transportation and Traffic
- Land Use
- Socioeconomic Characteristics
- Cumulative Impacts



# How Public Input Is Used

- Public comments help identify important issues to be addressed in the EIS.
- Comments must be submitted during 30-day EISPN or 45-day Draft EIS public comment periods to be included in the public record.
- Written comments will be responded to in the EIS.
- A recording of the oral comments will be published with the Draft EIS.



# Ways to Comment

- Complete a written comment form.
- Submit via email or mail.
- Submit via the County website: [www.kauai.gov/Cell-3Expansion](http://www.kauai.gov/Cell-3Expansion)
- Record an oral comment at the recording station today.
- Comments must be sent/postmarked by July 8, 2026 to be included in the Draft EIS.



# Project Schedule

- EISPN Publication: June 8, 2026
- Public Scoping & Comment: June 8 –July 8, 2026
- Draft EIS Preparation: 2026–2027
- Draft EIS Public Review: Late 2026 / Early 2027
- Final EIS Publication: 2027



# Mahalo for Participating

- Review the project displays and learn more about the proposed project.
- Speak with County and Tetra Tech staff.
- Submit a written comment form.
- Provide an oral comment at the recording station.
- Enjoy refreshments and continue the discussion.

***Your input will help inform the preparation  
of the Draft EIS***

