

From: Judith <judith@svcable.net>
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2020 12:36 PM
To: PUC <puc@hawaii.gov>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] YB Tariff Transmittal No. 20-0003

Dear Sirs and Madam, please accept this email from me as a request to say "No" to Young Brothers shipping, in their desire to cut barge delivery to once per month.

Firstly, I believe they are hiding behind the excuse of Covid-19 to make this move. If you go back to January and study the situation you will see that they had warned us on Molokai that they needed a 60% increase in their fees, and if not they would cut back to once per week! This was their plan all along, and once again the people of Molokai, the poorest of all the islands will suffer. Because they have a monopoly apparently they can do as they please!

Secondly, Molokai does not have enough storage facilities to allow the local stores to operate with only once a week delivery. This will have a severe impact on our ability to have fresh vegetables, fruits, dairy etc. Over the Christmas break there was a period of time during which Young Brothers delivered only once per week and it was a shock felt island wide. Both in stores and restaurants we found people saying " Oh you can't have that, no barge arrived we are all out". For example in local restaurants we could not get a salad!! When you consider obesity and kidney problems on Molokai that is totally unacceptable!!!

Please please do not let Young Brothers get away with this. As you know there is very high unemployment here and a stagnant business community. What kind of new business would want to start up in Molokai if it were known that supplies could only be delivered once a week? That would put us on par with a developing country!

Already Molokai suffers with a gasoline monopoly, with only two gas stations that continue over the years to charge \$5.05 per gallon, Year in year out. But now it is down to \$4.83, when the rest of the country pays much much less. Please do not add to the economic hardship that Molokai people already live with, by allowing Young Brothers to cut barge service to one a week. And certainly it is a facade to say "it is only temporary ". We all know temporary will become permanent!!

I thank you in advance for doing the decent thing and protecting the people of Molokai!

Respectfully yours, Judith Cleveland Palmeri, Kaunakakai, Molokai
Sent from my iPhone

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