**Kauai Conversation: February 10, 2014**

**Introductions**

Paul Koberstein (Cascade Times OR), James Trimarco (Yes!), Dan Hyman (PNS), Ikaika Hussey (Hawaii Independent), Laura and Julie (Care2), Joel Bleistein (In These Times), Maureen Nandini Mitra (EIJ), Lark Corbeil (PNS), Rebekah Wilce (CMD), Madeleine Ostrander (independent/The Nation), Mike Ludwig (Truthout)

* James has gone to Hawaii and filed a long story for Yes, and could jump back in, has much more to write about based on his articles.
* Maureen has gone to Hawaii and filed 5 reports plus a longer story, and has more to add.
* Ikaika has been covering the GMO for 5 years, with 2 writers who cover it regularly and a look at how the Kauai and state government have been fighting; also some investigative work into the companies.
* Joel has not yet done reporting, but we have a reporter who has been working with native people’s issues with mining
* Lark and Dan are with PNS; they have not yet been able to report on Hawaii; they have been covering GMOs in the states, especially ag states. Dan covers West Virginia and Arkansas; covers a lot of water quality angles.
* Laura and Julie are with Care2. Freelance bloggers have done some pieces. Would like to crosspromote content from other sites and would like to do petitions.
* Paul has covered issues in Hawaii for 10 years; especially interested in how pesticides impact rare species
* Rebekah has worked on the GMO labeling battle, and they are really interested in digging into the politics around GMO labeling.
* Madeleine is interested in doing a piece for the Nation
* Mike has gone to Hawaii a couple of times, and did an in-depth look at the politics around the bill, especially the money/politics nexus, and how state legislators may be pre-empting local laws.

**Funding**

Jo Ellen is out of funding; Craig is trying to get more; right now we don’t have funding to disburse. The consensus was that TMC should not do a crowdfunding campaign, but should continue to look for $$ from individual donors.

**Pool Reporting**

Opportunities to report on Labor

Employment agencies; workers from Thailand; people in Kauai need the work and are employed by these companies.

Clearing House for Information?

Can we share documents? Centralize information? Source watch does that. There are some outside groups that use source watch for that—a portal or hub; or folks could set up a wiki or base camp hub

Fund Joint Investigator for One Month

Project needs someone to focus on this for a month or so, and go through the hospital records or track down the science on water samples, or how much $$ the seed companies put into campaigns, something like that. A month of effort could find a smoking gun. Ikaika says he thinks he could do it.

Database Project by HI

HI is trying to corral $$ in politics in one database.

**What can Jo Ellen do?**

Data hub

Website to cross-promote material

Google news group-send email to group

Periodic check-in good if there is a reason to talk; as needed basis