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**PRESS RELEASE**  
***FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE***

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## **Hawaii Governor and Transportation Director Tour Big Island Biodiesel; Commemorates National Biodiesel Day with Proclamation and Commitment to Use B20**

Hawaii Governor David Ige and Lt. Governor Shan Tsutsui proclaimed March 18, 2015 as Pacific Biodiesel Day to perpetuate and honor the legacy of the inventor of the diesel engine, Rudolph Diesel, as well as the contributions of a local company, Pacific Biodiesel. Recognizing the significance of the occasion, the Governor and State Transportation Director Ford Fuchigami visited the biodiesel refinery on Hawaii Island on March 17.

The crew of Big Island Biodiesel celebrated with the dignitaries, including Wes Yonamine of the Airports Division, who expressed support for the community-based model of parent company Pacific Biodiesel Technologies. It was a first visit to such a facility for Governor Ige and Director Fuchigami, underscoring the Governor's Energy Plan and commitment to renewable energy for transportation in Hawaii.

During Governor Ige's site visit to the newest and most advanced Pacific Biodiesel refinery in Kea'au, Hawaii, he emphasized the state's serious commitment to food security and energy sustainability. The Governor commended Pacific Biodiesel for being a global pioneer in the field of biofuels and for the company president Robert King's vision to position Hawaii to become an energy independent and self-sustainable state. Governor Ige issued a proclamation declaring March 18, 2015 as Pacific Biodiesel Day in Hawaii.

Biodiesel is a cleaner-burning, renewable alternative fuel produced in Hawaii from recycled waste vegetable oil. Biodiesel is safe for all diesel engines and has been registered with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as a fuel and a fuel additive. It can be used pure or blended at any percentage with petroleum diesel. Even in a 20% blend, as used by the City & County of Honolulu for well over a decade, there are significant benefits. The National Biodiesel Board states that the 20% blend, or B20, provides superior lubrication, equal performance and is biodegradable at twice the rate of #2 petroleum diesel, making it an all around better fuel that can even extend the life of diesel engines.

According to Hawaii State Department of Transportation Director Ford Fuchigami, "We are committed to convert all of our diesel fuel equipment and vehicles to B20. This fuel is a blend of 20% biodiesel and 80% petroleum diesel. We support initiatives to buy local and promote the use of clean energy fuels."

National Biodiesel Day commemorates the birthday of Rudolf Diesel who invented the diesel engine in 1898, intending it to be fueled with peanut oil. Because the diesel engines of today are refined and improved versions of Rudolf Diesel's original concept, they require a more refined fuel and biodiesel is the compatible replacement for raw vegetable oils as well as fossil fuels.

Since opening and operating the very first retail biodiesel pump in America, Pacific Biodiesel has built a solid reputation as a leading pioneer in the rapidly expanding biodiesel industry. Founded in 1995, the Company has grown to over 70 employees statewide and has won state, national and international awards for innovations in the industry. With experience in all aspects of the biodiesel business, including oil/grease trap pumping, biodiesel production, marketing and distribution, process technology design and engineering, quality management services, and feedstock R&D, PBT has industry-leading accomplishments no other U.S. company can claim. Pacific Biodiesel's vision has remained constant: to create truly sustainable, community-based biodiesel production facilities in order to maximize the economic and environmental benefits and minimize energy consumption.

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Photos attached; corresponding captions below:

**PBT-6835** Pacific Biodiesel's Director of Operations Jenna Long and Agricultural Program Manager James Twigg-Smith explain to Governor Ige how the crushing mill, located on the lot adjacent to the refinery, fits into the Company's sustainability model.

**PBT-6882** Governor David Ige presents Pacific Biodiesel President Robert King and Director of Operations Jenna Long with the proclamation naming March 18, 2015 Pacific Biodiesel Day.

**PBT-6899** Members of the crew and staff of Big Island Biodiesel and Pacific Biodiesel were thrilled to host Governor David Ige and State Director of Transportation Ford Fuchigami just prior to National Biodiesel Day. With all its operations in Hawaii, Pacific Biodiesel employs over 70 people.