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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **STARGAZER INDUSTRIES HAWAII LLC GETS ‘THUMBS UP’ ON HAWAII ISLAND WOOD CHIPPED EUCALYPTUS MULCH BY HAWAII STATE AG INSPECTORS FOR STATEWIDE TRANSPORT**

**Naalehu, Hawaii island | June 16, 2025** – Stargazer Industries Hawaii, LLC of Naalehu, started the process in May of chipping stockpiled Grandis Eucalyptus logs harvested 2-years prior by their chipping partner in Pepekeo on the Hamakua Coast on Hawaii island. After multiple tests were conducted, they were awarded a ‘green tag’ from a Hilo State Agricultural inspector the end of May showing “no pest life” in the wood chipped mulch allowing for Hawaii island and inter-island distribution. Two 20-foot containers of “clean”, Grandis Eucalyptus wood chipped mulch were transported by KonaTrans of Hilo and shipped by Young Bros. Hilo to its final destination on Maui June 3rd. Stargazer Industries Hawaii LLC was recently given an emailed approval from a Maui State Agricultural Inspector that both containers were “clean” and “no pest life” was detected. That wood chipped mulch now resides at the Montage Hotel & Resort, Maui.

Initially, fire ants were detected by a Hilo State Agricultural inspector in the logs to be chipped after an initial fumigation of the logs and chipper machine. The plan for fumigation of the logs was uncharted territory. **The revised plan:** the logs were to be fed into the chipper, blown into two 20-foot containers, one 40-foot container from Big Island Containers of Keaau and then fumigated. With this almost 2-year research and logistical journey to launch this **unprecedented, sustainable industry** and with retail customers for the product hanging in the balance; a defined path developed with Mid-Pacific Pest of Maui, licensed to administer a new, non-residual pesticide, *Profume*, coupled in transparency with the Hawaii State Department of Agriculture in Hilo, on Maui and Oahu, this plan seemed more plausible since this pesticide had already proven successful in killing Fire Ants up to Coconut Rhino Beetles. **As of today, the birth of a new, non-tourism, sustainable industry for a forestry product, grown, harvested, chipped and bagged on Hawaii island has a path blessed by the Hawaii State Agricultural Department to travel throughout the state -- Stargazer Industries Hawaii LLC just needs to “rinse and repeat.”** Currently, ACE Hardware/HouseMart, Hilo Garden Exchange, and SiteOne Landscape Supply are on board as retailers, as others like the Hilo Benioff Medical Center, are lining up. **Stargazer Industries Hawaii LLC is now entering a path with Hawaii USDA and California State & USDA officials to have their bagged products travel to Northern California for a S.F. Bay Area Home & Garden show in October.**

**Grandis Eucalyptus** is three of 800 global species located on Hawaii island. Once harvested at ground surface, thus retaining the root system, trees can grow within 7-years to a height of 150-feet to be harvested again. With less oil than its California cousin used for essential oils, Grandis Eucalyptus has mainly been used for burning towards powering of machinery, paper pulp, fencing, and fence posts. It has no marketplace presence as a landscape product in the U.S. Florida is the only state with Grandis Eucalyptus and it is milled for fencing or flooring. Per a June 2024 report from Market Data Forecast of the Wood Chip market share industry, “the size of the global wood chips market was valued at USD 11.73 billion in 2023. The global market is anticipated to reach USD 23.06 billion by 2032 from USD 12.64 billion in 2024, growing at a CAGR of 7.8% from 2024 to 2032.”