

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

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DIV. OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS

In the Matter of the Application of)
MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED)
For Approval to Commit Funds in)
Excess of \$500,000 for Project)
M0000241, Mobile 12.5 MVA)
Substation.)
_____)

DOCKET NO. 03-0102

ORDER NO. 20333

Filed July 16, 2003
At 2:30 o'clock P.M.

Karen Higashi
Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy
KAREN HIGASHI
Chief Clerk, Public Utilities
Commission, State of Hawaii.

K. Higashi

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of))	
MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED)	Docket No. 03-0102
)	
For Approval to Commit Funds in)	Order No. 20333
Excess of \$500,000 for Project)	
M0000241, Mobile 12.5 MVA)	
Substation.)	
<hr/>		

ORDER

I.

On April 23, 2003, MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED ("MECO") filed an application for commission approval to commit an estimated \$922,000 for Project M0000241, a mobile 12.5 MVA substation. MECO makes its request under Rule 2.3.g.2 of General Order No. 7, *Standards for Electric Utility Service in the State of Hawaii* ("G.O. No. 7").¹

Copies of the application were served on the DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY ("Consumer Advocate"). On May 15, 2003, the Consumer Advocate filed its preliminary statement of position indicating its participation in this docket and its intention to serve MECO with information requests ("IRs"). On June 12, 2003, the Consumer Advocate served MECO with IRs.

Rule 2.3.g.2 of G.O. No. 7 provides that if the commission does not act on an electric utility's application and

¹For the purposes of this order, "Rule" and "Paragraph" are synonymous.

render a decision and order within 90 days of its filing ("90-day Review Period"), the utility will be allowed "to include the project in its rate base without the determination by the [c]ommission required by this rule." The 90-day Review Period for the commission to act on MECO's application in this docket expires on July 22, 2003.

On July 11, 2003, MECO filed a letter requesting an extension of the 90-day Review Period to August 29, 2003 ("Extension Request"). MECO makes its Extension Request to provide additional time for: (1) it to file the responses to the Consumer Advocate's IRs; (2) the Consumer Advocate to file its statement of position; and (3) the commission to render its decision. MECO anticipates filing its responses to the Consumer Advocate's IRs issued on June 12, 2003, by July 18, 2003.

II.

Upon review, we find good cause to approve MECO's Extension Request. The expiration date of the current 90-day Review Period is looming, and additional time for the parties to develop the record and for the commission to review and render its decision is reasonable at this time. In an effort to facilitate the smooth disposition of the application in this docket, the commission also finds it reasonable to require MECO to file its IR responses by July 18, 2003, and the Consumer Advocate to file its statement of position on the matters of this docket by August 18, 2003.

Accordingly, we conclude that: (1) MECO's Extension Request, filed on July 11, 2003, should be approved; (2) MECO should file its responses to the IRs by July 18, 2003; and (3) the Consumer Advocate should file its statement of position in this docket by August 18, 2003.

III.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:


1. MECO's Extension Request, filed on July 11, 2003, requesting the extension of the 90-day Review Period for the application in this docket until August 29, 2003, is approved.

2. MECO shall file its responses to the Consumer Advocate's IRs by July 18, 2003.

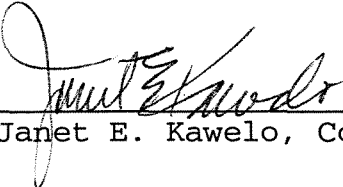
3. The Consumer Advocate shall file its statement of position on the matters of this docket by August 18, 2003, unless otherwise ordered by the commission.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 16th day of July,
2003.


PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By 
Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

By (EXCUSED)
Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

By 
Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Ji Sook Kim
Commission Counsel

03-0102.eh

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20333 upon the following parties, by causing a copy hereof to be mailed, postage prepaid, and properly addressed to each such party.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
P. O. Box 541
Honolulu, HI 96809

EDWARD REINHARDT
PRESIDENT
MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED
P. O. Box 398
Kahului, Hawaii 96733-6898

WILLIAM A. BONNET
VICE PRESIDENT
MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED
P. O. Box 2750
Honolulu, HI 96840-0001



Karen Higashi

DATED: July 16, 2003