

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC.)
For Approval to Commit Funds)
in Excess of \$500,000 for)
Item H0001048, Manini'owali)
Subdivision Phase 1, Installation)
of an Underground Distribution)
System.)

DOCKET NO. 04-0060

ORDER NO. 20883

RECEIVED
2004 APR -1 A 8:25
DIV. OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND
INDUSTRY
STATE OF HAWAII

Filed March 31, 2004
At 12:00 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.

HELCO served copies of its application upon the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy ("Consumer Advocate").

II.

Installation of an Underground Distribution System

The Project involves the installation of an underground distribution system to serve the Manini'owali Subdivision Phase 1 (the "Subdivision"), located at Kaupulehu, North Kona, island of Hawaii. The Project will: (1) initially serve approximately thirty-three (33) lots; and (2) ultimately serve a total of approximately one-hundred twenty (120) lots.

The Developer will fund the Project's entire cost through a cash contribution-in-aid-of-construction (aka CIAC) and customer advance. Construction of HELCO's electrical facilities is expected to commence in November 2004, with completion by February 2005.

The commission's approval of HELCO's waiver by April 2, 2004 will allow it to promptly commence with the inspection of the Subdivision's handholes/manholes and ductlines, consistent with the Developer's service deadlines.

III.

Waiver

The Consumer Advocate does not object to the request for waiver, but reserves the right to state its position with respect to the substance of HELCO's application.²

The commission finds good cause to approve HELCO's request for waiver. HELCO, thus, is permitted to commit funds for the Project earlier than sixty (60) days following the filing of its application.

Concomitantly, the commission notes that this order does not constitute a decision on the merits of HELCO's application. HELCO acknowledges that if the commission does not approve the application, "HELCO will have the burden of proof to justify the reasonableness of the capital expenditures in its next rate case."

IV.

Procedural Schedule

The deadline for commission action on the merits of HELCO's application is on or about June 16, 2004, pursuant to Section 2.3.g.2 of G.O. No. 7. Accordingly, the commission will instruct HELCO and the Consumer Advocate (collectively, the "parties") to submit a procedural order for the commission's review and consideration.³

²HELCO's application, at 4.

³In the event intervenor or participant status is later granted to any interested person, the commission will amend the procedural schedule accordingly, if necessary.

V.

Orders

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

1. HELCO's request for a waiver of the Section 2.3.g.2 requirement to file its application at least sixty (60) days prior to the commencement of construction or commitment for expenditure of funds, filed on March 19, 2004, is approved.

2. Within thirty (30) days from the date of this order, the parties shall submit to the commission a stipulated procedural schedule, incorporating their agreed upon schedule with respect to this proceeding. If they are unable to stipulate to such a schedule, each party shall submit a proposed procedural schedule for the commission's consideration by the same date.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 31st day of March, 2004.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By 
Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

By 
Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Michael Azama
Commission Counsel

By 
Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

04-0060.sl

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20883 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

WARREN H. W. LEE
PRESIDENT
HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC.
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Hilo, HI 96721-1027

PATSY H. NANBU
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY AFFAIRS
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
P. O. Box 2750
Honolulu, HI 96840



Karen Higashi

DATED: March 31, 2004