

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

----In the Matter of----)
)
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)
)
Instituting a Proceeding to)
Investigate the Proposed Tariffs)
Filed by Hawaiian Electric)
Company, Inc., Hawaii Electric)
Light Company, Inc., and Maui)
Electric Company, Limited,)
Governing Distributed Generation)
and Other Related Matters.)
_____)

DOCKET NO. 2006-0497

ORDER APPROVING REVISED
INTERCONNECTION TARIFF AND CLOSING THE DOCKET

PUBLIC UTILITIES
COMMISSION

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ORDER APPROVING REVISED
INTERCONNECTION TARIFF AND CLOSING THE DOCKET

By this Order, the commission approves the revised Rule 14H interconnection tariff filed by the HECO Companies on November 3, 2008, and closes this docket.¹

¹The Parties in this proceeding are HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. ("HECO"), HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC. ("HELCO"), and MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED ("MECO") (collectively, the "HECO Companies"); HAWAII RENEWABLE ENERGY ALLIANCE ("HREA"); CHAPEAU, INC., dba BLUEPOINT ENERGY ("BluePoint Energy"), STARWOOD HOTELS AND RESORTS WORLDWIDE, INC., and the HAWAII HEALTH SYSTEMS CORPORATION (collectively, the "BluePoint Energy Intervenors"); JW MARRIOTT IHILANI RESORT & SPA, WAIKOLOA MARRIOTT BEACH RESORT & SPA, MAUI OCEAN CLUB, and WAILEA MARRIOTT (collectively, the "Marriott Intervenors"); KAHALA SENIOR LIVING COMMUNITY, INC. ("Kahala SLC"); the UNITED STATES COMBINED HEAT AND POWER ASSOCIATION ("USCHPA"); and the DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY, an ex officio party to this proceeding, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes § 269-51 and Hawaii Administrative Rules § 6-61-62(a).

I.

Background

A.

Revised Interconnection Tariff

By Decision and Order No. 24159, filed on April 18, 2008, the commission approved the interconnection tariff proposed by the HECO Companies and other parties (except HREA), as modified by the HECO Companies in response to the commission's information requests, to govern the interconnection of distributed generation facilities operating in parallel with the electric utility's system. The commission, in approving the HECO Companies' Rule 14H interconnection tariff, noted:

Viewed as a whole, the commission approves as reasonable the Proposed Interconnection Tariff. HECO, HELCO, and MECO shall file their revised tariff sheets for Rule 14H, with the appropriate revisions. The revised tariff sheets shall reconcile the apparent inconsistencies in the Proposed Interconnection Tariff, with respect to the references to IEEE 929-2000 or its latest version, and the proposed deletions of the references to IEEE 929-2000 or its latest version.

Decision and Order No. 24159, at 51 (footnote and citations therein omitted). The HECO Companies' interconnection tariff, known as Rule 14H, took effect on April 18, 2008.²

By letter dated September 30, 2008, the HECO Companies were instructed to advise the commission on the status of their efforts in reconciling the apparent inconsistencies in their Rule 14H interconnection tariff, "with respect to the references

²In accordance with Decision and Order No. 24159, the HECO Companies subsequently filed their Rule 14H tariff sheets on May 8, 2008, with the effective date of April 18, 2008.

to IEEE 929-2000 or its latest version, and the . . . deletions of the references to IEEE 929-2000 or its latest version."³ In response thereto, the HECO Companies, by letter dated November 3, 2008, filed their revised Rule 14H interconnection tariff for the commission's review and approval.⁴

B.

Rider M, Rider T, and Rule 4D

By Decision and Order No. 24229, filed on May 15, 2008, the commission approved the Parties' stipulation on the standby service issue, including: (1) the standby service tariff agreed-upon by the Parties; (2) the Parties' agreement for HELCO to withdraw its Rule 4D tariff, Form Contract for Customer Retention, within thirty days; and (3) the Parties' agreement for the HECO Companies to file certain revisions to their optional rider tariffs (Riders M and T), within thirty days.⁵ The HECO Companies' standby service tariff, known as Schedule SS, took effect on May 15, 2008.⁶ In accordance with Decision and Order No. 24229: (1) on June 6, 2008, HELCO withdrew its

³Commission's letter, dated September 30, 2008, at 2-3.

⁴See Commission's letter, dated September 30, 2008.

⁵Footnote 15 of Decision and Order No. 24229 states that, with respect to the Parties in this proceeding, "[t]he self-described Hawaii Distributed Generation Group consists of the BluePoint Energy Intervenors, Kahala SLC, and USCHPA." The commission, by this Order, clarifies that the Hawaii Distributed Generation Group also includes the Marriott Intervenors.

⁶In accordance with Decision and Order No. 24229, the HECO Companies subsequently filed their Schedule SS tariff sheets on June 6, 2008, with an effective date of May 15, 2008.

Rule 4D tariff;⁷ and (2) the HECO Companies, on June 13, 2008, filed their revised Rider M and Rider T tariff sheets, with an effective date of June 13, 2008. The commission acknowledges its receipt of these filings.

II.

Discussion

A.

Revised Interconnection Tariff

By letter dated November 3, 2008, the HECO Companies explain that their revised Rule 14H proposes the following changes to Rule 14H: (1) changing IEEE 929-2000 to IEEE-1547, since IEEE 9292-2000 has been superseded by IEEE 1547 (effective July 28, 2003); (2) changing the phrase "photovoltaic generating systems" to "inverted-based generating facilities," in response to HREA's comments; and (3) including certain changes agreed-upon by the Parties which were inadvertently omitted from the HECO Companies' previous Rule 14H interconnection tariff filing. The HECO Companies conclude by noting:

⁷With respect to HELCO's Rule 4D, the Parties stipulated to having HELCO withdraw its Rule 4D within fourteen days from Decision and Order No. 24229, filed on May 15, 2008. HELCO, however, withdrew its tariff on June 6, 2008, after the fourteen-day deadline agreed-upon by the Parties. Here, the commission notes that the standby service tariff approved by the commission in this proceeding is intended to supersede HELCO's Rule 4D, with the exception of the two existing HELCO customers that will be grandfathered under Rule 4D "until the end of their respective contract terms, unless otherwise terminated in accordance with the terms and conditions of such contracts." HECO Companies' transmittal letter, dated June 6, 2008, at 1. Under the circumstances, the commission, on its own motion, accepts HELCO's belated withdrawal of Rule 4D.

The parties to this proceeding do not object to the Companies' proposed modifications to the Rule No. 14H, Appendix I, II, and III tariff sheets. After the Commission issues an order approving the modifications to Rule No. 14H, HECO, HELCO and MECO will file their respective revised Rule No. 14H tariff sheets.

HECO Companies' letter, dated November 3, 2008, at 2 (footnote and text therein omitted) (emphasis added).

The HECO Companies' proposed changes to Rule 14H, as agreed-upon by the Parties, update Rule 14H by referencing IEEE 1547 in lieu of IEEE 929-2000, and makes certain other revisions. The updated references to IEEE 1547 throughout Rule 14H sufficiently address the apparent inconsistencies noted by the commission in its Decision and Order No. 24159, at page 51. The commission approves as reasonable the HECO Companies' revised Rule 14H.

B.

Closing of the Docket

The issues in this investigative proceeding have been fully addressed.⁸ The commission, thus, closes this docket.

⁸See, e.g., Decision and Order No. 23562, filed on July 27, 2007 (federal interconnection standards issue); Decision and Order No. 24159 (interconnection tariff issue); and Decision and Order No. 24229 (standby service tariff issue).

III.

Orders

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

1. The HECO Companies' revised Rule 14H interconnection tariff, filed on November 3, 2008, is approved, effective from the date of this Order.

2. HECO, HELCO, and MECO shall promptly file their revised Rule 14H interconnection tariff sheets, with the applicable issued and effective dates.

3. This docket is closed unless ordered otherwise by the commission.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii DEC 16 2008.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By Carlito P. Caliboso
Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

By John E. Cole
John E. Cole, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By Leslie H. Kondo
Leslie H. Kondo, Commissioner

Michael Azama
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Commission Counsel

2006-0497.cp

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The foregoing order was served on the date of filing by mail, postage prepaid, and properly addressed to the following parties:

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