BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
   WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC. ) DOCKET NO. 02-0361
   )
   To Increase its Rates and Charges )
   on Behalf of Motor Carriers )
   Statewide Participating in WMTB )
   Household Goods Tariff No. 1-B. )
   WMTB Rate Notice No. 4321-1-B. )

ORDER NO. 19691

Filed Oct. 3, 2002
At 8:00 o'clock A.M.

Karen Higashi
Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy
KAREN HIGASHI
Chief Clerk, Public Utilities
Commission, State of Hawaii.
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
) Docket No. 02-0361
) Order No. 19691
WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC. )
To Increase its Rates and Charges on Behalf of Motor Carriers)
Statewide Participating in WMTB)
Household Goods Tariff No. 1-B. )
WMTB Rate Notice No. 4321-1-B. )

ORDER

I.
By Rate Notice No. 4321-1-B, filed on September 20, 2002, as amended on September 30, 2002, WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC. (WMTB) seeks to amend its Statewide Household Goods Tariff No. 1-B to reflect a five per cent across-the-board increase in its rates and charges.\(^1\) WMTB supports its request with a cost study, dated September 20, 2002.

WMTB makes its request: (1) on behalf of all carriers statewide participating in Tariff No. 1-B; and (2) in accordance with Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §§ 271-20 and 271-21. The proposed effective date of WMTB's tariff changes is October 21, 2002.

Copies of the rate notice and cost study were served on the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate).

\(^1\)WMTB's September 30\(^{th}\) filing corrects an inadvertent error by replacing Supplement 10 with Supplement 11.
II.

Upon careful review and consideration, the commission is unable, at this time, to determine, among other things, the justness and reasonableness of the proposed increases in rates and charges. The commission, thus, will: (1) suspend the operation of Rate Notice No. 4321-1-B; (2) investigate the proposed changes pursuant to HRS § 271-20(e); and (3) name the Consumer Advocate as a necessary party to this docket.

III.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

1. The tariff changes proposed by WMTB in Rate Notice No. 4321-1-B are suspended for a period of up to five months from the proposed effective date, up to and including March 21, 2003, and placed under investigation.

2. WMTB shall file the appropriate tariff sheets to reflect the suspension ordered by the commission.

3. The Consumer Advocate shall be a party to this proceeding.

4. A scheduling conference will be held at the commission's office. The parties will be notified of the date and time of the conference.
DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 3rd day of October, 2002.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By
Wayne H. Kimura, Chairman

By
Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

By
Gregg J. Kinkley, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Michael Azama
Commission Counsel

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No.19691 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

WESTERN MOTOR TARIFF BUREAU, INC.
P. O. Box 30268
Honolulu, HI 96820

Dated: October 3, 2002

Catherine Sakato