BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)

HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.

For approval to commit funds in Excess of \$500,000 for Item P0000739, the Waiau 5 Generator Stator Rewind Project; and for Waiver of Paragraph 2.3(g)(2) of General Order No. 7.

DOCKET NO. 02-0407

<u>ORDER NO. 20022</u>

Filed Feb. 18, 2003 At 10:30 o'clock A. .M.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

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IV. OF CONSUMER ADVOCAT
BEPT. OF COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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

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Docket No. 02-0407

Order No. 20022

ORDER

I.

On November 21, 2002, HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. (HECO) filed an application for approval to commit \$986,988, an estimated amount, for Item P0000739, the Waiau 5 Generator Stator Rewind project (proposed project). HECO makes its request in accordance with Rule 2.3.g.2 of General Order No. 7, Standards for Electric Utility Service in the State of Hawaii (G.O. No. 7).

Additionally, pursuant to Rule 1.2.b of G.O. No. 7,² HECO seeks a waiver (or temporary exemption) of the Rule 2.3.g.2 requirement that it submit its application for review at least

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

²Rule 1.2.b of G.O. No. 7 states:

If unreasonable hardship to a utility or to a customer results from the application of any rule herein prescribed, application may be made to the Commission for the modification of the rule or for temporary or permanent exemption from its requirement.

60 days before the "commencement of construction or commitment for expenditure, whichever is earlier" (waiver request). It requested that a commission decision on the waiver request be issued by December 2, 2002. By Order No. 19820, filed on November 26, 2002, the commission approved HECO's waiver request.

HECO served the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs (Consumer Advocate) with copies of its application. On January 8, 2003, the Consumer Advocate served HECO with information requests (IRs). HECO filed its responses to the Consumer Advocate's IRs on January 31, 2003.

II.

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 render a decision and order within 90 days of its filing, 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 period for the commission to take action on HECO's application expires on February 19, 2003. However, to date, the Consumer Advocate has not filed its statement of position in this docket. Thus, given that the end of the 90-day period is approaching, we find good cause to suspend the triggering of the 90th day automatic approval provision. suspension of this application will provide The Consumer Advocate with additional time to file its statement of

position and the commission with the necessary time to review of the matters of this instant docket.

III.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS that HECO's application, filed on November 21, 2002, is suspended until further order of the commission.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 18th day of February, 2003.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By Wayne H. Kimura, Chairman

Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

 $G_{i}MC_{i}$

Gregg W. Kirkley, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Ji/Sook Kim

Commission Counsel

02-0407.eh

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20022 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

WILLIAM A. BONNET
VICE PRESIDENT
GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
P. O. Box 2750
Honolulu, HI 96840-0001

LORIE ANN NAGATA
TREASURER
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
P. O. Box 2750
Honolulu, HI 96840-0001

Karen Higashi

DATED: February 18, 2003