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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
MOLOKAI PUBLIC UTILITIES, INC.)
For Review and Approval of Rate)
Increases; Revised Rate Schedules.)

DOCKET NO. 02-0371

ORDER NO. 20034

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

RECEIVED

2003 FEB 24 P 4: 18

Filed Feb. 20, 2003
At 10:00 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.

K. Higashi

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
MOLOKAI PUBLIC UTILITIES, INC.) Docket No. 02-0371
For Review and Approval of Rate) Order No. 20034
Increases; Revised Rate Schedules.)

ORDER

I.

On February 7, 2003, MOLOKAI PUBLIC UTILITIES, INC. (MPUI) and the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate) (collectively, parties), submitted their stipulated prehearing order, in response to Order No. 20011, filed on February 7, 2003.¹

Upon review, the commission will approve the parties' stipulation, attached hereto as Exhibit 1, provided that item 17 of Exhibit A, Stipulated Regulatory Schedule, is modified by deleting the reference to August 1, 2003 as the date of the evidentiary hearing. Instead, the commission, at this time, will defer setting a date for the hearing.² Thus, item 17 will now read as follows:

17. To be set by commission - Evidentiary hearing (if no settlement)

¹Order No. 20011 granted the parties an extension of time in which to file their stipulated prehearing order, from February 3, 2003, to February 7, 2003.

²The commission intends to set a date for the evidentiary hearing, to commence on a date certain, no earlier than August 1, 2003.

In addition, the commission notes that the nine-month deadline for the issuance of a final decision is July 11, 2003. Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) § 269-16(d). Thus, the parties' agreement to schedule the hearing for August 1, 2003 effectively waives the requirement that a final decision, if any, be issued within the nine-month period, i.e., by July 11, 2003.³ The commission will approve this waiver.

II.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

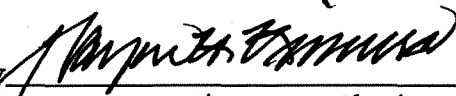
1. The parties' stipulated prehearing order, submitted on February 7, 2003, is approved, subject to the modification to item 17 of the Stipulated Regulatory Schedule.

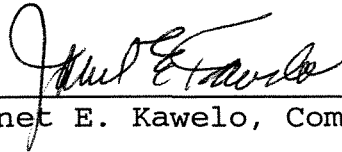
2. The waiver of the nine-month deadline by which to issue the interim decision, if any, is approved.


³Unless ordered otherwise, the ten-month deadline governing the issuance of a timely interim decision, if any, still applies. See HRS § 269-16(d).

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 20th day of February,
2003.


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:


sa Benedyne S. Stone
Commission Counsel

02-0371.sl1

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20034 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

HAROLD EDWARDS
SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT
MOLOKAI PUBLIC UTILITIES, INC.
745 Fort Street Mall, Suite 600
Honolulu, HI 96813

ALAN M. OSHIMA, ESQ.
FRANCIS K. MUKAI, ESQ.
LINNEL T. NISHIOKA, ESQ.
KENT D. MORIHARA, ESQ.
OSHIMA CHUN FONG & CHUNG LLP
Davies Pacific Center
841 Bishop Street, Suite 400
Honolulu, HI 96813

WILLIAM W. MILKS, ESQ.
Pacific Tower, Suite 977
1001 Bishop Street
Honolulu, HI 96813



Karen Higashi

DATED: February 20, 2003