BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

In the Matter of the Application of)
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. )

For Approval to Commit Funds )
in Excess of $500,000 for )
Item P99030000, Puuloa Road )
Widening/Improvements. )

ORDER NO. 20048

Filed Feb. 26, 2003
At 2:30 o'clock P.M.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy
KAREN HIGASHI
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 P99030000, Puuloa Road
Widening/Improvements.

Docket No. 02-0413
Order No. 20048

ORDER

I.

By application filed on December 3, 2002, HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. (HECO) requests commission approval to undertake and complete its scope of work for the State of Hawaii, Department of Transportation's (State DOT), Puuloa Road Widening/Improvements Project (project). Specifically, HECO seeks to: (1) commit an estimated $1,178,425 for the project; and (2) remove and re-install 46 kilovolt (kV) overhead subtransmission lines adjacent to a residential area.

HECO makes its requests in accordance with Section 2.3.g.2 of General Order No. 7, Standards for Electric Utility Service in the State of Hawaii, and Hawaii Revised Statutes (HRS) §§ 269-27.5 and 269-27.6. Copies of the application were served on the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Division of Consumer Advocacy (Consumer Advocate).
Section 2.3.g.2 of General Order 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 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 March 3, 2003. Given this impending date, the commission will suspend the triggering of the 90th day automatic approval provision, in order to allow the Division of Consumer Advocacy and commission additional time to complete its review and investigation of HECO's proposed project.

II.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS that HECO's application, filed on December 3, 2002, is suspended until further order of the commission.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 26th day of February, 2003.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By__________________________________________
Wayne H. Kimura, Chairman

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

By__________________________________________
Michael Azama
Commission Counsel

By__________________________________________
Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

By__________________________________________
Gregg W. Kinkley, Commissioner
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20048 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

DATED: February 26, 2003

Karen Higashi