BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

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In the Matter of the Application of)

HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.

For Approval to Commit Funds in Excess of \$500,000 for Item Y00029,) Installation of Telecommunications) Systems & Network.

DOCKET NO. 03-0124

<u>ORDER NO. 20339</u>

Filed July 18, 2003 9:00 o'clock A .m.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATRECT: 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)

HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.

For Approval to Commit Funds in) Excess of \$500,000 for Item Y00029,) Installation of Telecommunications) Systems & Network. Docket No. 03-0124

Order No. 20339

ORDER

I.

On May 8, 2003, HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. ("HECO") filed an application for approval to commit an estimated \$4,522,927 for Item Y00029, the installation of its telecommunications systems and network project. HECO makes its request under Rule 2.3.g.2 of General Order No. 7, Standards for Electric Utility Service in the State of Hawaii ("G.O. No. 7").

Copies of the application were served the DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY ("Consumer Advocate"). On May 29, 2003, the Consumer Advocate filed its preliminary statement of position indicating its participation in this docket and its intention to serve HECO with information requests ("IRs"). On June 13, 2003,

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

²On June 18, 2003, HECO and the Consumer Advocate filed a stipulated protective order to govern the treatment of certain materials filed in this docket for the commission's review and consideration. On June 24, 2003, the commission issued Protective Order No. 20253.

the Consumer Advocate served HECO with IRs. HECO filed responses to the IRs on June 30, July 9 and 11, 2003. On July 3, 2003, the Consumer Advocate served HECO with supplemental IRs ("SIRs"). On July 15, 2003, HECO filed its responses to the SIRs.

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 ("90-day Review Period"), the utility will be allowed "to include the project in its rate base without the determination by the [c]omission required by this rule." The 90-day Review Period for the commission to act on HECO's application in this docket expires on August 6, 2003.

On July 11, 2003, HECO filed a letter requesting an extension of the 90-day Review Period to August 22, 2003 ("Extension Request"). HECO makes its Extension Request to provide additional time for the Consumer Advocate to file its statement of position and for the commission to render its decision.

II.

Upon review, we find good cause to approve HECO's Extension Request. The expiration of the current 90-day Review Period is looming, and additional time for the Consumer Advocate to file its statement of position in this docket and for the commission to review the record and render its decision is reasonable at this time. In an effort to facilitate the smooth disposition of the application in this docket, the commission

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also finds it reasonable to require the Consumer Advocate to file its statement of position on the matters of this docket by August 13, 2003.

Accordingly, we conclude that: (1) HECO's Extension Request, filed on July 11, 2003, should be approved; and (2) the Consumer Advocate should file its statement of position in this docket by August 13, 2003.

III.

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

- 1. HECO's Extension Request, filed on July 11, 2003, requesting the extension of the 90-day Review Period for the application in this docket until August 22, 2003, is approved.
- 2. The Consumer Advocate shall file its statement of position on the matters of this docket by August 13, 2003, unless otherwise ordered by the commission.

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

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By Julio /

Çarlito P. Caliboso, Chair

Mayn The tomus

Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Sook Kim

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. 20339 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: July 18, 2003