

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. 20379

RECEIVED
2003 AUG 18 P 4: 10
DIV. OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY
DEPT. OF COMMERCE AND
CONSUMER AFFAIRS
STATE OF HAWAII

Filed August 18, 2003
At 2:00 o'clock P .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))	
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.))	Docket No. 03-0124
)	
For Approval to Commit Funds in))	Order No. 20379
Excess of \$500,000 for Item Y00029,))	
Installation of Telecommunications))	
Systems & Network.))	
_____))	

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").¹

Copies of the application were served on 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").² On June 13, 2003, the

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

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 ("Review Period"), the utility will be allowed "to include the project in its rate base without the determination by the [c]ommission required by this rule." On July 11, 2003, HECO filed a letter requesting an extension of the Review Period to August 22, 2003 ("Extension Request").³

By Order No. 20339, filed on July 18, 2003, the commission approved HECO's Extension Request and concurrently required the Consumer Advocate to file its statement of position on the matters of this docket by August 13, 2003. On August 6, 2003, HECO filed responses to additional questions posed by the Consumer Advocate.

By letter dated and filed on August 13, 2003, HECO, on behalf of the Consumer Advocate and itself (collectively, "the Parties"), requests that the Review Period be further extended to August 29, 2003, and that the Consumer Advocate be given until August 20, 2003, to file its statement of position ("Second Extension Request"). The Second Extension Request is

consideration. On June 24, 2003, the commission issued Protective Order No. 20253.

³The initial Review Period for the commission to act on HECO's application in this docket expired on August 6, 2003.

made to provide HECO with more time to submit its responses to the additional IRs posed by Consumer Advocate on August 8, 2003.

II.

Upon review, we find good cause to approve the Second Extension Request. It appears that the Parties require more time to develop the record for this matter, and the Parties' request for additional time, under the circumstances, is reasonable since, among other things, the commission will need the additional time to review the record and render its decision.

Accordingly, we conclude that the Second Extension Request, filed on August 13, 2003, should be approved.

III.

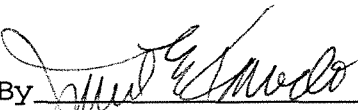
THE COMMISSION ORDERS that the Second Extension Request, filed on August 13, 2003, is approved. Accordingly, the Consumer Advocate shall file its statement of position on the matters of this docket by August 20, 2003, and the Review Period for HECO's application in this docket is extended to August 29, 2003.

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

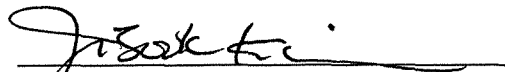
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By 
Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

By _____ (EXCUSED)
Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

By 
Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


Ji Sook Kim
Commission Counsel

03-0124.sl

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20379 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
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Karen Higashi

DATED: August 18, 2003