BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of)
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. ) DOCKET NO. 02-0391
)
For Approval of Changes in its )
Depreciation Rates and Approval of )
Vintage Amortization Accounting. )

ORDER NO. 20778

Filed Jan. 27, 2004
At 11:00 o'clock A.M.

Karen Higashi
Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy
KAREN HIGASHI
In the Matter of the Application of)
)
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. ) Docket No. 02-0391 )
For Approval of Changes in its ) Order No. 20778 )
Depreciation Rates and Approval of ) )
Vintage Amortization Accounting.
)

ORDER

I.

Introduction

Pursuant to Order No. 20745, filed on January 8, 2004, the parties to this docket, HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC. ("HECO") and the Division of Consumer Advocacy, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Consumer Advocate") (collectively, the "Parties"), were to notify the commission on January 16, 2004 either that a settlement agreement has been reached or that a settlement agreement could not be reached and that an evidentiary hearing is requested.¹ On January 16, 2004, the Parties wrote to the commission jointly requesting an extension of time until February 4, 2004, to advise the commission of the outcome of their settlement discussions. The Parties also requested that the commission cancel the evidentiary hearing scheduled to begin on

¹The commission approved Stipulated Prehearing Order No. 20162 on April 29, 2003, which established, among other things, the schedule of proceedings for this docket. The commission subsequently amended the schedule of proceedings by Order No. 20638, filed on November 14, 2003 and Order No. 20745, filed on January 8, 2004.
February 4, 2004, and advised that they will request a new hearing date on February 4, 2004, if a hearing is necessary.

Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") § 6-61-23(a)(1) provides the commission with the discretion, for good cause shown, to enlarge a period by which a required act must be completed, if a written request is made before the expiration of the period originally prescribed. The commission finds good cause in this instance to enlarge the deadline by which the Parties must advise the commission of their settlement discussions.

II.

Orders

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

1. The Parties’ joint request for an extension of time until February 4, 2004 to notify the commission either that a settlement agreement has been reached or that a settlement agreement could not be reached and that the Parties request an evidentiary hearing is granted, pursuant to HAR § 6-61-23(a)(1).

2. The evidentiary hearing scheduled to begin on February 4, 2004 is cancelled and will be rescheduled, upon request by the Parties.
DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii this 27th day of January, 2004.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

By Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

By Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Catherine P. Awakuni
Commission Counsel
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Order No. 20778 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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WILLIAM A. BONNET
VICE PRESIDENT, GOVERNMENT AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS
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ERNEST T. SHIRAKI
CONTROLLER
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P. O. Box 2750
Honolulu, HI 96840-0001

DATED: January 27, 2004

Karen Higashi