BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

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In the Matter of the Application of)

HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC.)

For Approval of Rate Increases and) Revised Rate Schedules, and to Enter into Financing Arrangements.

DOCKET NO. 03-0275

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<u>ORDER NO. 21529</u>

Filed Jan. 6, 2005 At 3:15 o'clock P .M.

Youn Higner. Chief Clerk of the Commission

ATTEST: A True Copy KAREN HIGASHI Chief Clerk, Public Utilities Commission State of Hawaii. Ί.

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In the Matter of the Application of) HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC.) For Approval of Rate Increases and) Revised Rate Schedules, and to) Enter into Financing Arrangements.)

Docket No. 03-0275 Order No. **21529**

<u>ORDER</u>

The deadline for HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC. ("HWSCI") and the Division of Consumer Advocacy ("Consumer Advocate") (collectively, the "Parties") to file their settlement agreement with the commission was January 4, 2005.¹ The corresponding nine (9)-month deadline governing commission action on HWSCI's request for a general rate increase, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") § 269-16(d), is February 23, 2005.²

The Parties, through HWSCI, requests: (1) a three (3)-day extension of time, from January 4, 2005 to January 7, 2005, to file their settlement agreement; and (2) a corresponding three (3)-day extension of time, from February 23, 2005 to February 26, 2005, for the commission to comply with the

 $^{1}\underline{See}$ Order No. 21521, filed on December 29, 2004. $^{2}\underline{Id}$.

nine (9)-month deadline governing commission action, pursuant to HRS § 269-16(d).³

In seeking the additional time to finalize and memorialize the settlement agreement, HWSCI represents:

The Parties believe that this change in the schedule will effectively promote the efficient and cost-effective allocation of the costeffective [P]arties' respective resources, and can expedite the Commission's review of the subject docket if a final settlement can be reached without having to complete the remaining steps in the regulatory schedule.⁴

The commission finds good cause to approve the Parties' requests for: (1) a three (3)-day extension of time, until January 7, 2005, for the Parties to file their settlement agreement; and (2) a corresponding three (3)-day extension of time, until February 26, 2005, for the commission to comply with the nine (9)-month deadline governing commission action, pursuant to HRS § 269-16(d).⁵

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:

1. The Parties' request to extend the deadline date, from January 4, 2005 to January 7, 2005, to file their settlement agreement, if any, is approved.

2. The Parties' corresponding request to extend the deadline date, from February 23, 2005 to February 26, 2005, to

4<u>Id</u>.

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³HWSCI's letter, dated January 4, 2005. HWSCI represents that the Consumer Advocate concurs with the extension requests. <u>Id</u>.

⁵<u>See</u> Hawaii Administrative Rules § 6-61-23(a) and Sections II and X of Stipulated Prehearing Order No. 21072, filed on June 23, 2004, as amended.

comply with the nine (9)-month deadline governing commission action set forth in HRS § 269-16(d), is approved.

3. Stipulated Prehearing Order No. 21072, filed on June 23, 2004, as amended, is further amended by this Order. In all other respects, Stipulated Prehearing Order No. 21072, as previously amended and amended herein, remains unchanged.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii _____ JAN - 6 2005

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

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Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

(EXCUSED) By___ Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner By Kawelo, Commissioner Jane

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Azama

Commission Counsel

03-0275.eh

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the 21529 foregoing Order No _ 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

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Counsel for HAWAII WATER SERVICE COMPANY, INC.

Karen Higashi

DATED: JAN - 6 2005