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

In the Matter of the Application	)	DOCKET NO. 05-0329
of	)	
WAIKOLOA SANITARY SEWER COMPANY, INC., d/b/a WEST HAWAII SEWER COMPANY,	) ) ) )	
For Expedited Review and Approval to Increase Rates.	) ) )	

### STIPULATED PROCEDURAL ORDER NO. 22370

Filed April 4, 2006

At 2 o'clock P.m.

Thur Higher.

Chief Clerk of the Commission

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In the Matter of the Application of	)
WAIKOLOA SANITARY SEWER COMPANY, INC., d/b/a WEST HAWAII SEWER COMPANY,	) DOCKET NO. 05-0329 )
For Expedited Review and Approval to Increase Rates.	) ) )
	)

#### STIPULATED PROCEDURAL ORDER

Applicant Waikoloa Sanitary Sewer Company, Inc., d/b/a West Hawaii Sewer Company ("WHSC") and the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Consumer Advocate") hereby stipulate that the attached Stipulated Procedural Order is mutually acceptable to each respective party.

DATED: Honolulu, Hawai'i, March \_\_\_\_\_\_,

BRUCE D. VOSS AMY M. VOSS

JOSHUA E. TREYVE

Attorneys for Applicant

Waikoloa Sanitary Sewer Company, Inc., d/b/a West

Hawaii Sewer Company

JON'S. ITOMURA

Attorney for the

Division of Consumer Advocacy

Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs

### DEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

In the Matter of the Application of	) ) ) DOCKET NO. 05-0329
WAIKOLOA SANITARY SEWER	) DOCKET NO. 03-0329
COMPANY, INC., d/b/a WEST HAWAII	)
SEWER COMPANY,	)
	)
For Expedited Review and Approval to Increase	)
Rates	)
	)
	)

#### STIPULATED PROCEDURAL ORDER

On December 29, 2005, Waikoloa Sanitary Sewer Company, Inc., d/b/a West Hawaii Sewer Company ("WHSC") filed an application for expedited review and approval to increase its rates and revise its rate schedules ("Application") pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes ("HRS") § 269-16 (Supp. 2004). WHSC served copies of its Application on the Division of Consumer Advocacy of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Consumer Advocate" or "CA").

WHSC and the Consumer Advocate have reached an agreement on procedural matters related to WHSC's Application and submit this Stipulated Procedural Order to the Commission, which is acceptable to the parties.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED that the following Schedule of Proceedings and procedures shall be utilized in this docket.

#### **ISSUES**

The underlying issue in this case is whether WHSC's proposed change in rates is reasonable. This will necessarily involve, in turn, a review of sub-issues including but not limited to the following:

- A. Are the proposed tariff, rates, and charges just and reasonable?
- B. Are the revenue forecasts for the 2006 test year at present rates and proposed rates reasonable?
- C. Are the projected operating expenses for the 2006 test year reasonable?

II.

#### SCHEDULE OF PROCEEDINGS

WHSC Application for rate increase approval	December 29, 2005
CA Information Requests ("IRs") to WHSC <sup>1</sup>	Friday, March 10, 2006
WHSC IR Responses to CA	Friday, March 24, 2006
CA Supplemental IRs ("SIRs"), if necessary	Monday, April 10, 2006
WHSC Responses to SIRs	Monday, April 24, 2006
CA Statement of Position ("SOP")	Friday, May 12, 2006
WHSC SOP, if necessary*	Friday, May 26, 2006

<sup>\*</sup> If the CA objects to approval of the Application, or requests that approval be subject to conditions.

If there are substantial disagreements following the filing of the SOPs, and the parties cannot resolve the differences by stipulation and the parties do not waive the right to a

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Whenever possible, parties will provide a copy of documents on diskette upon request.

hearing, the parties shall propose a hearing schedule (including the filing of simultaneous posthearing briefs) for Commission approval.

If WHSC determines that a Reply SOP is unnecessary, WHSC and the Consumer Advocate will notify the Commission that the proceeding is ready for decision making.

III.

### MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS TO FACILITATE AND EXPEDITE THE ORDERLY CONDUCT OF THESE PROCEEDINGS

#### A. Requests for Information

To the extent practical, WHSC and the Consumer Advocate will cooperate (1) by exchanging information requests and responses as they become available, and (2) by resolving questions regarding information requests ("IR") and responses informally to attempt to work out problems with respect to understanding the scope and meaning of information requests, or with respect to the availability of information. If a party is unable to provide the information requested within the prescribed time period, it should so indicate to the inquiring party as soon as possible. The parties shall then endeavor to agree upon a later date for submission of the requested information.

In lieu of responses to information requests that would require the reproduction of voluminous documents or materials (documents consisting of 100 pages or more), the documents or materials may be made available for reasonable inspection and copying at a mutually agreeable designated location and time. In the event such information is available on computer diskette or other readily usable electronic medium, the party responding to the information request may make the diskette or such electronic medium, with all formula and cell references intact, available to the other party and the Commission.

A party shall not be required, in response to an information request, to provide data that are already on file with the Commission or otherwise part of the public record, or that may be stipulated to pursuant to Part B, *infra*. The responding party shall, in lieu of production of a document in the public record, include in its response to the information request an identification of the document with reasonable specificity sufficient to enable the requesting party to locate and copy the document. In addition, a party shall not be required, in a response to an information request, to make computations, compute ratios, reclassify, trend, calculate, or otherwise rework data contained in its files or records.

A party may object to responding to an information request that it deems to be irrelevant, immaterial, unduly burdensome, onerous or repetitious, or where the response contains information claimed to be privileged or subject to protection (confidential information). If a party claims that information requested is confidential, and withholds production of all or a portion of such confidential information, the party shall: (1) provide information reasonably sufficient to identify the confidential information withheld from the response, without disclosing privileged or protected information; (2) state the basis for withholding the confidential information (including, but not limited to, the specific privilege applicable or protection claimed for the confidential information and the specific harm that would befall the party if the information were disclosed); and (3) state whether the party is willing to provide the confidential information pursuant to a protective order governing this docket.

A party seeking production of documents notwithstanding a party's claim of confidentiality, may file a motion to compel production with the Commission.

#### B. Matters of Public Record

In order to provide a means to reduce unnecessary reproduction of documents and to facilitate these proceedings, identified matters of public record, such as reports that WHSC has filed with the Commission, published decisions of this or other Commissions, published scientific or economic statistical data, material and textbooks, technical or industry journals relating to water utility matters, and specified parts of the record in previous Commission dockets shall be admissible in this proceeding without the necessity of reproducing each document; provided that the document to be admitted is clearly identified by reference to the place of publication, file or docket number, and the identified document is available for inspection by the Commission and the parties; and further provided that any party has the right to explain, qualify or conduct examination with respect to the identified document. The Commission can rule on whether the identified document can be admitted into evidence when a party proffers such document for admission in this case.

From time to time, the parties may enter into stipulations that such documents, or any portion of such documents, may be introduced into evidence in this case.

#### C. Copies of Filings and Information Requests

#### 1. <u>Filings</u>:

Commission Original + 8 copies

WHSC 2 copies Consumer Advocate 3 copies

#### 2. <u>Information Requests and Responses</u>:

Commission Original + 8 copies

WHSC 2 copies Consumer Advocate 3 copies

- 3. All pleadings, and other documents required to be filed with the Commission shall be filed within the time limits prescribed pursuant to Chapter 61, subchapter 2, section 6-61-15 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure.
- 4. Copies of all filings, information requests and information request responses should be sent to the other parties by hand delivery or via facsimile. In addition, if available, all parties shall provide copies of their filings, information requests and information request responses to the other parties via diskette or e-mail in a standard electronic format that is readily available by the parties. The parties agree to use Word 97, Word 2000, or Word 2003 as the standard programming format for filings in this case. However, if work papers, documentation, or exhibits attached to any filing are not readily available in an electronic format, a party shall not be required to convert such work papers, documentation, or exhibits into an electronic format. Also, existing documents produced in response to requests need not be converted to Word 97/Word 2000/Word 2003 as long as the applicable format is identified. In the event a copy of a filing, information request or information request response is delivered to a party via diskette or e-mail, unless otherwise agreed to by such party, the same number of copies of such filing, information request or information request response must still be delivered to such party by hand delivery or via facsimile as provided in Parts II.C.1 and II.C.2 above.

#### D. <u>Communications</u>

Chapter 61, subchapter 3, section 6-61-29 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure concerning *ex parte* communications is applicable to any communications between a party and the Commission. However, the parties may communicate with Commission counsel on matters of practice and procedure through their own counsel or designated official.

Communications between the parties should either be through counsel or through designated representatives. All pleadings, papers, and other documents filed in this proceeding shall be served on the opposing party. All motions, supporting memoranda, and the like shall also be served on opposing counsel.

#### E. General

These procedures are consistent with the orderly conduct of this docket. Pursuant to Chapter 61, subchapter 3, section 6-61-37 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, this Stipulated Procedural Order shall control the subsequent courses of the proceedings, unless modified at or prior to the hearings to prevent manifest injustice.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawai'i, this \_\_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_, 2006.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAI'I

By Carlito P. Caliboso, Chairman

By \_\_\_\_\_\_ Wayne H. Kimura, Commissioner

Janet E. Kawelo, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Nichole K. Shimamoto Commission Counsel

#### **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I have this date served a copy of the foregoing Stipulated Procedural Order No. 22370 upon the following parties, by causing a copy hereof to be mailed, and properly addressed to each such party.

JON S. ITOMURA, ESQ. State of Hawai'i Division of Consumer Advocacy 335 Merchant Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

BRUCE D. VOSS, ESQ.

AMY M. VOSS, ESQ.

JOSHUA E. TREYVE, ESQ.

Bays Deaver Lung Rose & Baba
1099 Alakea Street, Suite 1600

Honolulu, Hawai'i 96813

Attorneys for

WAIKOLOA SANITARY SEWER COMPANY, INC.,
d/b/a WEST HAWAII SEWER COMPANY

Furen Higashi Gral.
KAREN HIGASHI

DATED:

APR - 4 2006