BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Application of

HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC.
MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED
dba HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC

For Approval to Commit Funds in Excess of
$2,500,000 for the Public Electric Vehicle
Charger Expansion Project, to Recover the
Capital and Operations and Maintenance
Expense Costs through the Exceptional
Project Recovery Mechanism, and Related
Requests.

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY'S
RESPONSE TO THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE'S
MOTION TO PARTICIPATE

Pursuant to the Hawaii Administrative Rules ("HAR") § 16-601-41(d), the Division of Consumer Advocacy, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Consumer Advocate"), by and through its attorneys, states that it supports the Hawaii State Energy Office's ("HSEO" or "SEO") Motion To Participate, filed on November 17, 2021 ("Motion").

The HSEO states, as part of its Motion, that:

The SEO possesses unique expertise, past involvement, and standing on matters related to both Hawaii’s energy and decarbonization goals, statewide energy assurance, and economic development, as well as associated State policies on equity, environmental justice, and coordination between the State’s energy and transportation policies . . . .
In its Motion, the SEO states:

The SEO’s chief energy officer (“CEO”) is specifically directed, by statute, to be engaged in discussions such as these at the Public Utilities Commission. Pursuant to HRS section 196-72(d), “[s]ubject to the approval of the governor, the chief energy officer shall: . . . (6) [c]reate and review proposed state actions that may have a significant effect on the State’s energy and decarbonization goals, report to the governor their effect on the energy program, and perform other services as may be required; . . .

In relation to electric charging and associated decarbonization, equity, energy security, coordination, and economic development considerations implicated by the Company’s Application, HRS section 196-72(d) directs the CEO to: ”(3) [p]rovide technical assistance to state and county agencies to assess and implement projects and programs related to energy conservation and efficiency, renewable energy, clean transportation, energy resiliency, and related measures . . .

The SEO has a clear interest in and will provide value to the proceeding as the advocate for the State’s energy and decarbonization goals and statewide energy assurance and therefore seeks to participate in this proceeding pursuant to Hawaii Administrative Rule §16-601-56 . . .

The Consumer Advocate notes that the HSEO’s statutory obligations under HRS § 196-71 include the SEO’s obligation to provide analysis and planning to develop and inform policies to achieve energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy resiliency, and clean transportation goals with the Legislature, Commission, State agencies, and other relevant stakeholders. The Consumer Advocate believes that the HSEO’s participation in the docket will be consistent with its statutory obligation to:

---

1 Motion, at 4-5 (footnote omitted).
2 Motion, at 5-7 (footnotes omitted).
3 HRS § 196-71(b).
...[advocate for the State's energy and decarbonization goals at relevant venues and departments, including[] but not limited[] to the [P]ublic [U]tilities [C]ommission ... and [D]ivision of [C]onsumer [A]dvocacy, to ensure that state energy policies and regulations align with the state strategic goals and are data-driven;]

and further understands that it has no intention of broadening the issues or delaying the proceeding at the present time. As a result, the Consumer Advocate supports the HSEO's Motion in the docket.


Respectfully submitted,

By /s/ Lane H. Tsuchiyama

SCOTT D. BOONE
LANE H. TSUCHIYAMA
EDWARD M. KNOX
JULIA H. VERBRUGGE
Attorneys

DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY

---

4 HRS § 196-72(d)(13).

5 See Motion, at 10 (stating at Point No. 3 that the HSEO does not intend to broaden the issues or delay this proceeding, “since to do so would be against ... [the] interests [of the HSEO] and contrary to its obligations”).
CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY’S RESPONSE TO THE HAWAII STATE ENERGY OFFICE’S MOTION TO PARTICIPATE was duly served upon the following parties electronically to the e-mail addresses below pursuant to HAR § 16-601-21(d), as modified by Order No 37043 Setting Forth Public Utilities Commission Emergency Filing And Service Procedures Related To COVID-19, filed on March 13, 2020.

KEVIN M. KATSURA
DIRECTOR, REGULATORY NON-RATE PROCEEDINGS
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.
P.O. Box 2750
Honolulu, Hawai‘i 96840-0001
Email: kevin.Katsura@hawaiianelectric.com
       regulatory@hawaiianelectric.com

BRYAN C. YEE
GREGG J. KINKLEY
DEPUTY ATTORNEYS GENERAL
DEPARTMENT OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF HAWAII
425 Queen Street
Honolulu, Hawaii 96813
Email: bryan.c.yee@hawaii.gov
       gregg.j.kinkley@hawaii.gov


/s/ T. Enos-Godinez

2021-0173
The foregoing document was electronically filed with the State of Hawaii Public Utilities Commission's Document Management System (DMS).