

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

----- In the Matter of ----- )  
 )  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION ) DOCKET NO. 2018-0165  
 )  
Instituting a Proceeding )  
To Investigate Integrated )  
Grid Planning. )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

ORDER NO. 38093

ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE  
FOR THE DRAFT GRID NEEDS ASSESSMENT

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ESTABLISHING A PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE  
FOR THE DRAFT GRID NEEDS ASSESSMENT

By this Order, the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") establishes a procedural schedule to review the Grid Needs Assessment and Solution Evaluation Methodology ("Draft Grid Needs Assessment") filed by HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC., HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC., and MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED (collectively "Hawaiian Electric").<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>The Parties to this proceeding are Hawaiian Electric, the DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY ("Consumer Advocate"), an ex officio party, and the Intervenors: (1) LIFE OF THE LAND; (2) ENERGY ISLAND; (3) COUNTY OF HAWAII; (4) HAWAII PV COALITION; (5) HAWAII SOLAR ENERGY ASSOCIATION; (6) PROGRESSION HAWAII OFFSHORE WIND, LLC; (7) ULUPONO INITIATIVE, LLC; and (8) BLUE PLANET FOUNDATION (collectively, "Intervenors").

I.

BACKGROUND

On July 12, 2018, the Commission opened this docket to investigate the integrated grid planning ("IGP") process.<sup>2</sup> On November 5, 2021, Hawaiian Electric filed its Draft Grid Needs Assessment for the Commission's review.<sup>3</sup> Hawaiian Electric describes the Draft Grid Needs Assessment as planning criteria, a suite of modeling tools and a process that it will use to: (1) identify the near-term quantity and timing of grid needs; (2) develop resource plans to solve for near-term needs and long-term objectives; and (3) evaluate proposed solutions as part of a request for proposals to meet the identified grid needs.<sup>4</sup> Hawaiian Electric also included with the Draft Grid Needs Assessment a Renewable Energy Zone Study, Location-Based Distribution Forecasts, and Distribution DER Hosting Capacity Grid Needs.

Hawaiian Electric believes that "there are no fatal flaws in the present inputs, assumptions, modeling process, and planning criteria put forward by the Companies, and if approved

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<sup>2</sup>See Order No. 35569, "Instituting a Proceeding to Investigate Integrated Grid Planning," filed on July 12, 2018.

<sup>3</sup>See "The Hawaiian Electric Companies' Grid Needs Assessment Methodology Review Point," filed on November 5, 2021.

<sup>4</sup>See Draft Grid Needs Assessment at 2.

by the Commission, will yield the information needed to make least-regrets investment and solution sourcing decisions.”<sup>5</sup> Hawaiian Electric further states that it is “committed to expeditiously advancing the IGP process with the continued support of the Commission and stakeholders[,]” and that “[r]ecent discussions with stakeholders indicate they too are ready to move the IGP process forward, noting that we should ‘not let the perfect get in the way of the good.’”<sup>6</sup>

Based on the Commission’s initial review of the Draft Grid Needs Assessment, the Commission believes that feedback from the Parties will significantly aid the Commission’s review. Therefore, the Commission establishes a procedural schedule that affords the Consumer Advocate and the Intervenors an opportunity to comment on the Grid Needs Assessment, and for Hawaiian Electric to reply, as follows.

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<sup>5</sup>Draft Grid Needs Assessment at 2.

<sup>6</sup>Draft Grid Needs Assessment at 2.

II.

PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE

<b>Procedural Step</b>	<b>Deadline Date</b>
Consumer Advocate's and Intervenors' Comments on the Draft Grid Needs Assessment	December 20, 2021
Hawaiian Electric's Reply Comments	January 3, 2022

The Commission asks the Consumer Advocate and Intervenors to answer the following questions as a part of their comments, as they explain whether the Draft Grid Needs Assessment provides a reasonable basis to: (1) identify the near-term quantity and timing of Grid Needs; (2) develop resource plans to solve for near-term needs and long-term objectives; and (3) evaluate proposed solutions as part of a request for proposals to meet the identified grid needs.

(1) Do you believe any areas of concern or pending issues with the Grid Needs Assessment should be resolved before Hawaiian Electric proceeds with this IGP cycle? If so, please explain why, and what modifications you believe are necessary.

(2) Do you have any areas of concern or pending issues with the Solution Evaluation Methodology that should be resolved before Hawaiian Electric proceeds with this IGP cycle? If so,

please explain why, and what modifications you believe are necessary.

(3) Is there any outstanding stakeholder feedback and/or feedback from the Technical Advisory Panel that has not been reasonably considered or addressed in the Draft Grid Needs Assessment and Solution Evaluation Methodology that should be resolved before Hawaiian Electric proceeds with this IGP cycle?

(4) Do you have any areas of concern or pending issues with the Renewable Energy Zone Study, the Location-Based Distribution Forecasts, and/or the Distribution DER Hosting Capacity Grid Needs that Hawaiian Electric filed with its Draft Grid Needs Assessment that should be resolved before Hawaiian Electric proceeds with this IGP cycle? If so, please explain your concerns and what modifications you believe are necessary.

These questions are not exclusive, and the Commission encourages the Parties to be more expansive in their comments, and address any aspect of the Grid Needs Assessment. The Consumer Advocate and Intervenors may file comments on the Draft Grid Needs Assessment by December 20, 2021. Hawaiian Electric may file reply comments by January 3, 2022. In its reply comments, Hawaiian Electric may address these questions and any element of the Consumer Advocate's or Intervenors' comments.

III.

ORDERS

THE COMMISSION ORDERS:


1. The foregoing procedural schedule shall govern the Commission's review of the Grid Needs Assessment.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii NOVEMBER 30, 2021.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By   
James P. Griffin, Chair

By   
Jennifer M. Potter, Commissioner

By   
Leodoloff R. Asuncion, Jr., Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

  
Mike S. Wallerstein  
Commission Counsel

2018-0165.ljk

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

Pursuant to Order No. 37043, the foregoing Order was served on the date it was uploaded to the Public Utilities Commission's Document Management System and served through the Document Management System's electronic Distribution List.



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PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

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