

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Request of)
)
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.,)
HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC.,)
AND MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED)
)
To Institute a Proceeding Relating)
To a Competitive Bidding Process To)
Acquire Variable Renewable)
Dispatchable Generation Paired With)
Energy Storage for the Islands of)
Molokai and Lanai.)
_____)

DOCKET NO. 2019-0178

ORDER NO. 37063

EXTENDING, ON ITS OWN MOTION, RELEVANT DEADLINES
FOR THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANIES'
DRAFT REVISED LANAI REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

In the Matter of the Request of)
)
HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANY, INC.,) Docket No. 2019-0178
HAWAII ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY, INC.,)
AND MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LIMITED) Order No. **37063**
)
To Institute a Proceeding Relating)
To a Competitive Bidding Process To)
Acquire Variable Renewable)
Dispatchable Generation Paired With)
Energy Storage for the Islands of)
Molokai and Lanai.)
_____)

EXTENDING, ON ITS OWN MOTION, RELEVANT DEADLINES
FOR THE HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANIES'
DRAFT REVISED LANAI REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

By this Order, the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission"), on its own motion, extends relevant deadlines for the HAWAIIAN ELECTRIC COMPANIES'¹ March 10, 2020 Request for Proposals for renewable dispatchable generation paired with energy storage ("Draft Revised Lanai RFP") for the island of Lanai. Specifically, the Commission extends the period for Commission review of the Draft Revised Lanai RFP by sixty (60) days, from April 9, 2020, to June 8, 2020. As such, the deadline for the

¹The Hawaiian Electric Companies ("HECO Companies" or "the Companies") refers to Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. ("HECO"), Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc. ("HELCO"), and Maui Electric Company, Limited ("MECO").

Companies to file their final, revised Lanai Request for Proposals consistent with any feedback from the Commission, is June 16, 2020.

I.

BACKGROUND

On February 27, 2019, by Order No. 36187 in Docket No. 2017-0352, the Commission requested that the Companies' plans for competitive procurements for Molokai and Lanai be filed in Docket No. 2017-0352 "in the near-term."²

On August 6, 2019, the Companies filed their Molokai and Lanai Draft RFPs in Docket No. 2017-0352.³

On August 29, 2019, in the interest of clarity and administrative efficiency regarding the competitive procurements for Molokai and Lanai, the Commission transferred the Molokai and Lanai Draft RFPs from Docket No. 2017-0352 into the instant docket, Docket No. 2019-0178.⁴

²See Docket No. 2017-0352, Order No. 36187, "Providing Guidance in Advance of the Hawaiian Electric Companies' Phase 2 Draft Requests for Proposals for Dispatchable and Renewable Generation," filed on February 27, 2019, at 13-14.

³See HECO Companies' "Submission of Proposed Draft Requests for Proposals for Moloka'i and Lana'I" filed on August 6, 2019, in Docket No. 2017-0352 and subsequently transferred into the instant docket.

⁴See Docket No. 2019-0178, Order No. 36493, "Opening the Docket," filed on August 29, 2019.

At a status conference on September 5, 2019, the Companies presented an overview of the Molokai and Lanai Draft RFPs and responded to questions from the Commission, the Consumer Advocate, and stakeholders. The Companies reiterated that unique circumstances on the islands of Molokai and Lanai necessitate a different procurement approach than that which has been used in other procurement processes.

On September 6, 2019, the Commission solicited comments from all Parties⁵ on the Companies' Molokai and Lanai Draft RFPs.⁶

On November 27, 2019, the Companies submitted their Final RFPs for Molokai and Lanai.⁷

On March 10, 2020, the Companies filed their Draft Revised Lanai RFP.⁸

⁵The Parties to this docket are the HECO Companies and the Consumer Advocate, an ex officio party, pursuant to Hawaii Revised Statutes § 269-51 and Hawaii Administrative Rules § 16-601-62(a).

⁶See Docket No. 2019-0178, Order No. 36503, "Soliciting Comments on the Hawaiian Electric Companies' Molokai and Lanai Draft RFPs," filed on September 6, 2019.

⁷See "Hawaiian Electric Companies' Final Requests for Proposals for Moloka'i and Lana'i," filed on November 27, 2019, in Docket No. 2019-0178.

⁸See "Maui Electric Company, Limited's Draft Revised Requests for Proposals for Lanai," filed on March 10, 2020, in Docket No. 2019-0178.

On March 11, 2020, Pulama Lanai filed a letter⁹ in the instant docket that it had also sent to the Companies, requesting an extension of relevant deadlines for the Draft Revised Lanai RFP. Pulama Lanai specifically requests an extension of sixty (60) days while it “further develop[s] and refine[s]” its path forward regarding its discussions with Hawaiian Electric on potential ownership of the electric system and grid on Lanai.

II.

DISCUSSION

In light of the circumstances, specifically the ongoing discussions between Pulama Lanai and the Companies that may affect the scope and requirements of the Lanai Request for Proposals, the Commission finds good cause to provide for additional time for Pulama Lanai and the Companies to continue their ongoing “exploratory talks” related to the “potential benefits of [Pulama Lanai] owning the grid”¹⁰

The Commission, thus, on its own motion, extends the applicable deadlines related to the Draft Revised Lanai RFP by sixty (60) days. Specifically, the Commission extends the period

⁹See “Copy Letter From: K. Matsumoto To: D. Matsushima,” filed on March 11, 2020, in Docket No. 2019-0178 (“Pulama Lanai Letter”).

¹⁰Pulama Lanai Letter at 1.

for Commission review by sixty (60) days, from April 9, 2020, to June 8, 2020. As such, the deadline to refile the final, revised Lanai RFP consistent with any feedback from the Commission, is June 16, 2020.

III.

ORDERS

THE COMMISSION ORDERS that the period for Commission review of the Draft Revised Lanai RFP is extended by sixty (60) days, from April 9, 2020, to June 8, 2020. The deadline for the Companies to refile the final, revised Lanai RFP consistent with any feedback from the Commission, is June 16, 2020.

DONE at Honolulu, Hawaii APRIL 6, 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

By James P. Griffin
James P. Griffin, Chair

By Jennifer M. Potter
Jennifer M. Potter, Commissioner

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Caroline C. Ishida
Caroline C. Ishida
Commission Counsel

By Leodoloff R. Asuncion, Jr.
Leodoloff R. Asuncion, Jr., Commissioner

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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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