Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

Factors Affecting Hawaii Electricity Rates &

Historical Trends and Future Perspectives

Informational Briefing: Senate Committees on

Commerce & Consumer Protection and Energy & Environment

January 29, 2013

Why Are Electric Utilities Regulated?

The Regulatory Compact

The regulated company is protected from competition within a designated service territory, and in return, the regulated company is required to provide service to all who need it within reason. The services provided by the regulated company are to be of good quality, safe, and reasonably priced, and in return, the regulated company is allowed the opportunity (not a guarantee) to earn a "fair" rate of return for its investors.

Why Are Electricity Rates Going Up?



The Evolution of Hawaii's Energy Policy and Energy Resource Mix

Energy Efficiency Portfolio

DSM-3%	Chapter 1	Hawaii Energy- 10%	Chapter 2	Standard-30%
Renewables-5%	Key Policy Drivers : RPS, PBF, NEM	Renewables-11%	Additional Policy Drivers: EEPS, EPA and GHG rules	Renewables Existing & New Projects 40%
	Key Lessons:		Key Goals:	
Oil-80%	 Early adoption of technology 	Oil-76%	 Reduce/stabilize cost of electricity 	
	 Grow RE and EE sectors 		•Diversify fossil fuel mix to meet emissions rules	
	 RE integration is possible 		•Continue RE and EE growth	Fossil Fuels 60%
			•Expand tools to	
Coal-15%		Coal-13%	integrate RE & increase EE	
2002		2011	-	2030 4

Driving & Implementing Energy Policy



Hawaii's Electricity Rates

Historical Trends and Future Perspectives

- Historical Electric Rate Trends
- Key Reasons for Recent Electric Rate Increases
- Customer Impacts
- Utility Financial Impacts
- Factors Affecting Future Electric Rate Levels

Average Electric Rate Level by County: 2011







Average Power Supply Costs: HECO Companies vs Independent Power Producers (Cents/kWh)

Power Supply Provider	HECO	MECO	HELCO
Utility Generation ⁽¹⁾	24.8	28.1	32.1
IPP Generation ⁽²⁾	18.0	17.1	23.9

Cost estimate based upon actual 2011 fuel cost, generation operation and maintenance expense, generation-related annual depreciation expense, proration of utility net operating income related to generation net plant investment and fuel inventory plus applicable income and revenue taxes divided by total utility generation output. Excludes any allocation of utility A&G expenses such as power plant employee pension and benefits or property insurance expenses, etc.

²⁾ Cost estimate based upon 2011 actual purchased power capacity and energy expense plus revenue taxes divided by total electricity sold to utility.



¹⁾ Additional amounts of O&M expenses were capitalized, rather than expensed, in 2011 and 2012 due to accounting changes. Otherwise, O&M expense levels would have been higher in those two years.

Electric Utility Rate Cases and Awards: 2005 – 2012

	HECO	MECO	HELCO	Total	KIUC
Number of Rate Cases	4	3	2	9	1
Cumulative Rate Increases Requested (\$ millions)	409	75	71	554	13
Cumulative Rate Increases Granted (\$ millions)	247	31	29	307	3
Increases Granted As Percent of Request ⁽¹⁾	60%	41%	41%	55%	24%
Avg. Rate Case Duration ⁽²⁾ (Months)	38	39	43	39	15

1) HECO Companies reached stipulated settlement with the Consumer Advocate in all cases, and, in the case of HECO (Oahu), the Department of Defense. Settlements were approved by Public Utilities Commission as stipulated with minor adjustments on occasion.

2) Indicates the duration between filing date and date of final Commission order. Interim orders were issued the within statutory time requirement.

Impact of Rate Increases on Average HECO (Oahu) Residential Customer: 2002 – September 2012

Average Monthly Bill vs Average Monthly Usage



Average Monthly Residential Energy Use By County: 2002 – 2012



Authorized vs Actual Rate of Return on Common Equity for HECO (Oahu): 2002 – September 2012





Potential Drivers of Future Rate Changes

- Annual decoupling and RAM rate adjustments; 3-year rate case cycle for HECO Companies (Base Rates):
 - Will HECO Companies implement their 5-year capital expenditure forecast of \$2.6 3.0 billion which represents a "7-9% rate base growth" per year?
 - Will substantial increase in utility operation and maintenance expense during past decade continue?
 - Will electrical sales reductions due to energy efficiency, conservation, solar hot water and PV continue?
 - Will HECO Companies restructure utility operations and implement significant cost improvements?

Oil commodity prices (ECAC)

- Near-term changes in Asian LSFO market; potential restart of Japanese nuclear plants
- Hawaii refinery situation
- Existing curtailment of renewable energy resources on neighbor islands
- Ability to add new, cost competitive renewable energy resources
- Environmental compliance for existing utility fossil generation plants either plant retrofits or fuel switching to Ultra Low Sulfur Diesel (ULSD) would drive rate increases
- Utilization of LNG in remaining 60% of electric generation potential opportunity for meaningful fuel and environmental compliance cost reductions



- Represents ≈ 75 80% of HECO Companies' total cost of service
- HECO Companies' generation investment ≈ 30% of its total rate base investment; hence only ≈ 30% of HECO Companies' profits tied to generation
- Existing IPP generation is less expensive than HECO Companies' full generation costs
- Retirements of utility generation to accommodate lower cost renewable energy and fossil resources
- Represents ≈ 20 25% of HECO Companies' total cost of service
- HECO Companies' T&D investment ≈ 70% of its total rate base investment and hence ≈ 70% of HECO Companies' profits
- Function where many technological advances are occurring – smart meters, smart grid, storage, DC cables, etc.
- Modernization of grid infrastructure is critical to Hawaii's ability to integrate greater amounts of renewable energy



NEIL ABERCROMBIE GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

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TO THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION AND ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

THE TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE REGULAR SESSION OF 2013

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2013 8:30 A.M.

TESTIMONY OF JEFFREY T. ONO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS, TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER AND THE HONORABLE MIKE GABBARD, CHAIRS, AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

INFORMATIONAL BRIEFING

My name is Jeffrey T. Ono. I am the Executive Director for the Division of Consumer Advocacy ("Consumer Advocate") from the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs. The following is my testimony for this informational briefing.

Hawaii consumers pay some of the highest electricity prices in the nation. The State's policymakers search for solutions, which are difficult to find, because so much of the cost of electricity is driven by Hawaii's dependence on imported foreign oil as the primary source of electricity generation. The Consumer Advocate is committed to renewable energy generation and energy efficiency as the principal means to move our State toward a clean, sustainable energy future that isn't reliant on foreign oil. In 2012, when oil prices were once again on the rise with no end in sight, the argument for the

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adoption of more and more renewable energy was not difficult. Today with stable oil prices, the Consumer Advocate is concerned that the state will lose its momentum and its commitment to all forms of renewable energy.

In the last quarter of 2012, Hawaii saw electricity rates decrease for all islands. In January, 2013, rates on Oahu and Hawaii Island rose by approximately one cent per kwh, but fell on Maui and Kaua'i. This overall slight decline in rates over the last four months is due to the drop in oil prices.

In an interview with a Honolulu Star-Advertiser reporter, energy consultant Professor Fereidun Fesharaki stated that his long-term price forecast for oil is \$30 per barrel less than it is today. He indicated that oil prices will start to decline by around 2015, going down to \$80 per barrel, then staying at that level for a number of years. He went so far as to say that oil prices may go even lower than that. Professor Fesharaki offered similar opinions in his report on liquefied natural gas ("LNG") that was commissioned by Hawaii Natural Energy Institute ("HNEI").

If oil prices decline as Dr. Fesharaki predicts, will State policymakers lose the momentum toward renewable energy resources that may be priced higher than the cost of generating electricity using oil? Will our concern for current electricity prices delay or kill the adoption of renewable energy projects? Do we wait out the next five years and stay the course using oil to generate electricity in the hope that oil prices will decline as Dr. Fesharaki predicts?

We need to keep in mind that not every oil price forecaster is thinking that oil prices will be declining. The Department of Energy in its Annual Energy Outlook ("AEO") predicts a steady rise in oil prices over the next 30 years. We cannot risk our future by staying on what has been rising and volatile oil prices. We need to push toward the state's Renewable Portfolio Standards ("RPS") and Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standards ("EEPS") goals.

The Consumer Advocate is not oblivious to the current economic hardships Hawaii's citizens are facing with the high cost of electricity. So what is the Consumer Advocate doing to keep electricity prices down?

First, in every electric utility rate case, the Consumer Advocate scrutinizes every expense item, every new employee, every pay raise. We retain one of the most well respected consultants in the country – Utilitech, Inc.. We scrutinize each of the electric utilities investments to determine if the utilities have sustained their burden of proving that there is a net benefit to ratepayers in making the investment.

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Second, we will continue our fight to drive Power Purchase Agreement ("PPA") prices down. It has been a mystery as to why wind and solar PPA prices have not dropped significantly as they have on the mainland. Why are Hawaii's wind and solar PPAs consistently priced at 20 cents per kwh when on the mainland we see prices that are below 10 cents per kwh?

Third, we argue against indexed pricing for fuel supply contracts. For example, in a recently approved biodiesel supply contract we expressed our concern over the pricing term of the contract that was indexed to mainland biodiesel prices, because mainland biodiesel prices tend to follow petroleum prices. Ultimately, for that particular contract, we did not object to the pricing terms, because the term of the contract was for a relatively short three years. We will continue our commitment to see PPA pricing at fixed prices.

Fourth, we push for on-bill financing as a means of providing moderate to low income households and renters access to the benefits of solar photovoltaic ("PV") systems that would lower monthly electricity bills and save on the amount of electricity that has to be generated by the utility using oil. Energy efficiency should not be for the wealthy only. There are too many homeowners in Hawaii who do not have the necessary up front cash to pay for a PV system. A well-designed on-bill financing program that allows consumers to pay for the installation of a solar pv system through the electricity cost savings achieved by such a system is key to moving the state toward greater distributed renewable energy generation by allowing greater public participation.

Fifth, although the Consumer Advocate understands the importance of renewable energy projects, the Consumer Advocate will not ignore the potential cost savings that might be achieved if the state moves toward LNG as a fuel source for electricity generation. Thus far, the studies done by HNEI, HECO, and Hawaii Gas indicate that LNG offers Hawaii consumers a very real opportunity to see lower electricity rates. The technical, regulatory, and infrastructure challenges of LNG importation to Hawaii are extremely difficult to assess. The Consumer Advocate will take an active role in the regulatory assessment of LNG.

As a final point on the high cost of electricity in Hawaii, we cannot lose sight of what the future holds for Hawaii's consumers. We have to consider the long-term effects of what we do and which projects are approved. We cannot reject renewable energy projects simply because they cause an increase electricity bills today, if those projects will result in stable prices that are lower than the Department of Energy's forecasted price of oil in the future. Furthermore, costs need to be balanced against the

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State's goal of energy sustainability and independence; the electric utilities need to provide reliable and safe service; the State's need to create jobs and stimulate the economy; the desire to have community acceptance over all projects; and the need to maintain a clean and healthy environment.

Thank you for this opportunity to testify.







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Tuesday January 29, 2013



Oahu electric bill (as of 1/2013)

WHAT DOES YOUR MONEY PAY FOR?	HOW MUCH DO WE MAKE ON IT?
POWER FROM INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS 22 %	0 %
fuel oil 40 %	0 %
OPERATIONS, CUSTOMER SERVICE, DEPRECIATION, ADMINISTRATIVE, INTEREST AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM COSTS 26 %	0 %
taxes 10 % net inco	0 %



Hawaii Island electric bill (as of 1/2013)

	WHAT DOES YOUR MONEY PAY FOR?	HOW MUCH DO WE MAKE ON IT?		
	POWER FROM INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS 30 %	0 %		
	FUEL OIL 28 %	0 %		
	OPERATIONS, CUSTOMER SERVICE, DEPRECIATION, ADMINISTRATIVE, INTEREST AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM COSTS 28 %	0 %		
	тахеs 11 %	0 %		
<	NET INCOME 3 %			



Maui electric bill (as of 1/2013)

	WHAT DOES YOUR MONEY PAY FOR?	HOW MUCH DO WE MAKE ON IT?	
	POWER FROM INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS 12 %	0 %	
	fuel oil 50 %	0 %	
	OPERATIONS, CUSTOMER SERVICE, DEPRECIATION, ADMINISTRATIVE, INTEREST AND ENERGY EFFICIENCY PROGRAM COSTS 25 %	0 %	
	taxes 9 %	0 %	
<	NET INCOME 4 %		







Historical Fuel Prices Low Sulfur Fuel Oil vs. Crude Oil December 2010 to December 2012



Hawaii oil prices based on Hawaiian Electric low sulfur fuel oil inventory prices



Customers are paying more, due to increases in oil prices

2009 vs. 2011 ¢/kwh



2011 Consolidated Taxes to State and County



Ratemaking Formula

RR = O + T + D + r (RB)

Where:

- RR = Revenue Requirements
- O = Operations & Maintenance Expense
- T = Tax Expense
- D = Depreciation Expense
- r = Rate of Return on Rate Base
- RB = Rate Base



Lowering customer bills

(2008 Clean Energy Agreement)

	Short Term	Long Term
ALL CUSTOMERS	Feed-inTariff to replace net metering Avoided cost contract renegotiation	Renewable Energy esp. larger scale projects esp. wind Inter-island cable Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard
SELF-SELECTING CUSTOMERS	Energy Efficiency Demand Response/Load Management Solar Water Heating PV/NEM Time-of-use Rates Lifeline Rates Electric Vehicle (EV) Tariff	EVs on a large scale
Lowering customer bills

(New Day Plan)

	Short Term	Long Term	
ALL CUSTOMERS	Avoided cost contract renegotiation	Renewable Energy esp. larger scale projects esp. wind, geothermal, biofuels, biomass, and OTEC Inter-island cable Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard Statewide Rates (for Neighbor Islands)	
SELF-SELECTING CUSTOMERS	Energy Efficiency Demand Response/Load Management On-Bill financing of solar water heating PV/NEM Time-of-use Rates Lifeline Rates Electric Vehicle (EV) Tariff	EVs on a large scale	

Lowering customer bills

(2012 and onwards)

	Short Term	Long Term	
ALL CUSTOMERS	Rethink bidding processWaivers from bidding by priceDirect investment on renewablesDirect investment on renewablesBlack pelletsLNG to selected units in ISO containersConsolidation of companiesOke to capitalOperational efficiencies	Renewable Energy esp. larger scale projects esp. wind, geothermal, biofuels, biomass, and OTEC LNG Inter-island cable Energy Efficiency Portfolio Standard Statewide Rates (for Neighbor Islands)	
SELF-SELECTING CUSTOMERS	Energy Efficiency Demand Response/Load Management On-Bill financing of solar water heating PV/NEM Time-of-use Rates Lifeline Rates Electric Vehicle (EV) Tariff Bill payment options Pre-paid meters	EVs on a large scale	



Hawaii's Renewable Energy Story

Chapter	Hawaii Electric Light	Maui Electric	Hawaiian Electric					
The Plantation Chapter	[HCPC]	[HC&S]						
The PURPA Chapter (Avoided Cost Contracts)	Wailuku River Hydro PGV Tawhiri HRD	HC&S Makila Hydro KWP I	H-Power					
	"Grandfathered Projects" 		CIP CT1 Honua Kahuku Wind (OTEC International)					
The Competitive Bidding	<i>"Exempt/Waivered"</i> PGV+8 (Hu Honua)	La Ola	H-Power + 27					
Chapter	"2008 Oahu Bid"		Sunpower Kawailoa (Lanai)					
	"2010 Biofuels Bid" (AKP)		(HBE)					
	 ◄ 50MW Geothermal Bid 	30MW Firm Bid	200MW Oahu 200MW Firm Bid					
Hawaijan Electric Company								



Cost of Generation - Oahu



Haw Haw

Hawaiian Electric Company Maui Electric Company Hawaii Electric Light Company

Cost of Generation – Hawaii Island





Hawaiian Electric Company Maui Electric Company Hawaii Electric Light Company

Cost of Generation - Maui





Hawaiian Electric Company Maui Electric Company Hawaii Electric Light Company

Monthly Savings with Wind - Maui Residential





Hawaiian Electric Consolidated Cumulative PV Capacity Addition



Impact of Solar on Grid Load Hawaii Electric Light Load Curve





HELCO's "Loading Order" - Day

Megawatts Power

Conservation / Energy Efficiency

Solar PV (NEM, T 1/2 FIT, SIA) – 24 MW

Waiau & Puueo Hydro - 4.1MW

Tawhiri Wind – 7 MW

Wailuku River Hydro – 12.1 MW

PGV Geothermal – 22 MW

HRD Wind – 10.5 MW

Tawhiri Wind – 13.5 MW

Keahole Solar CSP – 1 MW

PGV Geothermal – 16MW

Hu Honua Biomass – 25 MW

Keahole – 58 MW

Keahole AKOOM Miesel

Diesels – ~56 MW

Customer Load

HELCO's "Loading Order" - Night

Megawatts Power

Conservation / Energy Efficiency

Waiau & Puueo Hydro - 4.1MW

Tawhiri Wind – 7 MW

Wailuku River Hydro – 12.1 MW

PGV Geothermal – 22 MW

HRD Wind – 10.5 MW

Tawhiri Wind – 13.5 MW

PGV Geothermal – 16MW

Hu Honua Biomass – 25 MW

Keahole – 58 MW

Keaholie AKO bloke i esel

Diesels – ~56 MW

Customer Load

How does the Loading Order work as customer load decreases?

Conservation / Energy Efficiency

Solar PV (NEM, T 1/2 FIT, SIA) – 24 MW

Waiau & Puueo Hydro - 4.1MW

Tawhiri Wind – 7 MW

Wailuku River Hydro – 12.1 MW

PGV Geothermal – 22 MW

HRD Wind – 10.5 MW

Tawhiri Wind – 13.5 MW

Keahole Solar CSP – 1 MW

PGV Geothermal – 16MW

Hu Honua Biomass – 25 MW

Hill & Puna Steam – 34 MW

Keahole – 58 MW

HEP - 60 MW

Diesels – ~56 MW

Customer Load

Megawatts Power

HELCO's "Cost Order" (Jan 2013)

Cost of Each Resource (highest to lowest cost) Conservation / Energy Efficiency

PGV Geothermal – 8 MW

Hu Honua Biomass – 25 MW

Hill & Puna Steam – 34 MW

Keahole – 58 MW

Solar PV (T 1/2 FIT) – 1 MW

Tawhiri Wind – 7 MW

Tawhiri Wind – 13.5 MW

HRD Wind – 10.5 MW

Waiau & Puueo Hydro - 4.1MW

Wailuku River Hydro – 12.1 MW

PGV Geothermal – 30 MW

HEP - 60 MW

Diesels – ~56 MW

Keahole Solar CSP – 1 MW

Solar PV (NEM) - 20 MW

Avoided Cost Rates

Traditional Utility Model

- (Still in place in many jurisdictions)
- Utility makes money by increasing electricity sales
- Discourages promotion of energy conservation and energy efficiency initiatives
- Discourages customer self-generation, such as NEM PV



Vision for Hawaii's Energy Future

- Increase energy efficiency for homes and businesses
- Promote energy conservation to the fullest
- Support for cost-effective renewables: geothermal, hydro, PV, wind, ocean thermal, wave energy, concentrated solar, waste-to-energy, biomass
- LNG replaces oil



Challenges of Old Utility Model vs Hawaii's Energy Future

- Vision of Hawaii's energy future does not reduce the utility's workload. If anything, it increases it.
 - Two-way power will require new sophisticated systems as well as upgrades to the existing system
 - Operational issues become much more complex and increase costs
 - Demand for a smarter grid
 - Legacy assets must be maintained or modified for new use
 - Increased customer demand for information and services



Decoupling

- Decoupling bridges the gap between the old utility model with the new Hawaii model
- Overall system costs should decline
 - Use less oil and substitute it with cheaper renewable energy and LNG, and reduce company generation (60% of customer bills is fuel and purchased power related)
- In the short term
 - Hawaiian Electric's operating costs will increase as we transition to this new operating environment
 - Decoupling assists in bridging declining sales and operating costs
 - Overall decoupling should reduce customer bills



Maui Electric costs have increased while sales base has fallen to 2002 levels







Residential customers' average monthly consumption of electricity





Mahalo



Progress on renewables

Over the next three years, nearly 37 megawatts of power generated by renewable resources will come on line on Kaua'i. That's in addition to 14 megawatts already in production from hydroelectric generation and customers' photovoltaic systems.

By 2015, half of Kaua'i's daytime energy needs will be met by solar PV, the highest percentage of solar PV on an electrical grid of any utility in the U.S.

Details of projects in 2013:

At Anahola, KIUC, in partnership with the Department of Hawai'ian Home Lands and the Homestead Community Development Corp., is building a 12-megawatt, \$50 million solar energy park. This project will also include a service center and baseyard. *150 construction jobs*

KIUC will build a 12-megawatt solar project near the old Koloa Mill on land leased from Grove Farm. This \$40 million project will produce nearly 6 percent of Kaua'i's energy needs. *125 construction jobs*

Green Energy Team of Kaua'i is building a \$90-million power plant that will burn woodchips from locally grown trees. The plant will replace nearly 3.7 million gallons of oil now imported by KIUC. **200** *construction jobs, 39 permanent jobs*

About hydro:

We're talking to residents, water-users and state agencies on a variety of projects. Even if only half of our proposed sites are built, they represent another 15 megawatts of firm, clean power.

Kaua'i renewables scorecard

Existing resources		MW	2012 sales%
KIUC Waiahi Hydro		1.3	1.8
McBryde, Wainiha & Kalaheo Hydro		4.8	5.0
Gay & Robinson Olokele Hydro	1.0	1.2	
ADC/KAA Waimea, Kekaha Hydro		1.5	1.3
Kapaa Solar		1.0	0.4
Customer solar		4.0	1.6
Total		13.6	11.3
Under construction/development			
Alexander & Baldwin Solar	6.0	2.7	On line by December 2012
KIUC/Grove Farm, Koloa	12.0	5.0	Set for completion 2014
KIUC/HCDC/DHHL Solar, Anahola	12.0	5.1	Set for completion 2014
Green Energy biomass, Koloa	6.7	11.0	Set for completion 2014
Total by end of 2014	36.7	23.8%	



Member owned. Member operated.