

VIA E-FILING

June 3, 2020

The Honorable Chair and Members  
of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission  
Kekuanao'a Building, First Floor  
465 South King Street  
Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813  
Attention: Caroline Ishida, Esq.

**Re: Transmittal No. 20-0003, Young Brothers, LLC, for Approval of Emergency Changes to its Sailing Schedule – Modification to Adjusted Sailing Schedule**

Dear Commissioners and Commission Staff:

As part of its continuing efforts to address customer concerns, Young Brothers, LLC ("Young Brothers" or "YB") hereby requests to supplement its May 28, 2020 request to extend the adjusted sailing schedule proposed and reflected in Tariff Transmittal No. 20-0003, filed on April 24, 2020, and currently approved by Order No. 37128, filed on May 4, 2020 ("Order No. 37128").<sup>1</sup> Specifically, by this letter, Young Brothers requests to change the current Hilo sailing from Thursday (departs Honolulu on Tuesday) to Monday (departs Honolulu on Saturday). As a result of the proposed change to the Hilo sailing schedule from a Thursday Hilo arrival to a Monday Hilo arrival, Young Brothers also proposes to add a sailing that would arrive at Kaunakakai, Molokai on Wednesday afternoon before returning to Honolulu. The sailing arriving on Sunday afternoon would remain, leaving Molokai with two sailings. Furthermore, Young Brothers would also change the sailing to Kaunakakai, Lanai to arrive on Wednesday morning before continuing on to Molokai that afternoon. Young Brothers requests these adjusted sailing schedules to become effective on June 12, 2020 to allow Young Brothers to provide customers with notice of these changes and to make any necessary preparations for the same.

As the Commission may recall, Tariff Transmittal No. 20-0003 sought, among other things, to reduce the Hilo sailings from two sailings (Mondays and Thursdays) to one sailing (Thursdays) to cut operating expenses. As indicated by that certain letter dated May 3, 2020 from Senator Lorraine R. Inouye, several businesses and farmers in and around Hilo, Keaau, and Puna have

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<sup>1</sup> In its May 28, 2020 request, YB requested to extend the 30-day period (i.e., ending on June 3, 2020) for an additional 90-day period. The instant supplemental request to adjust the sailing schedules for Hilo, Kaunakakai and Kaunakakai to be effective on June 12, 2020 is submitted with the understanding that the 30-day period will be extended beyond June 3, 2020.

expressed the following concern regarding the proposal to adjust the weekly sailings from two to one:

The Monday shipment usually contains perishables items (i.e., vegetables, papayas and tropical fruits) that go to Oahu grocery stores and farmer's markets. If Monday's schedule is changed as proposed in the revision, small businesses and farmers will have to consider transporting their goods to Kawaihae Harbor, almost 90 minutes away, which will undoubtedly cause prices to rise. If the perishables are unable to be transported, we could see less produce from East Hawaii making it to market on neighbor islands meaning more produce having to be brought in from the mainland.

If the amended sailing schedule is indeed necessary, I request that Young Brothers maintain the Monday arrival and cancel the Thursday schedule on a temporary basis.<sup>2</sup>

As noted in its letter dated May 22, 2020 to the Commission, Young Brothers understood these concerns as well as concerns raised by other neighbor island customers; and, in response, Young Brothers diligently explored options that would both address these concerns while balancing the needs of the other neighbor islands that would be affected as well as the public policy concerns for efficiency, economy, and cost-containment. After careful consideration, Young Brothers is now seeking to modify the current adjusted sailing schedule as follows with an effective date of June 12, 2020:<sup>3</sup>

**Hilo, Hawaii** – Under the current adjusted sailing schedule approved by Order No. 37128, Young Brothers' sailing departs from Honolulu Tuesday afternoon and arrives in Hilo Thursday morning. This letter proposes to discontinue the Thursday sailing and reinstate the sailing that departs from Honolulu on Saturday and arrives in Hilo on Monday, as requested by Senator Inouye.

**Kaunakakai, Molokai** – Under the current adjusted sailing schedule approved by Order No. 37128, Young Brothers' sailing departs from Honolulu on Saturday and arrives on Molokai on Sunday afternoon after stopping at Lanai in the morning. As a result of the change to the Hilo sailing schedule from a Thursday Hilo arrival to a Monday Hilo arrival, Young Brothers would *add* a sailing that would arrive at Kaunakakai on Wednesday afternoon before returning to Honolulu. The sailing arriving on Sunday afternoon would remain, leaving Molokai with two sailings.

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<sup>2</sup> See Letter dated May 3, 2020 from Senator Lorraine R. Inouye to Hawaii Public Utilities Commission.

<sup>3</sup> If approved, Young Brothers is seeking an effective date of June 12, 2020 to allow it communicate such adjusting sailing schedule changes prior to such effective date.

**Kaumalapau, Lanai** – Under the current adjusted sailing schedule approved by Order No. 37128, Young Brothers' sailing departs from Honolulu on Saturday and arrives on Lanai on Sunday morning. As a result of the change to the Hilo sailing schedule from a Thursday Hilo arrival to a Monday Hilo arrival, Young Brothers would change the sailing to Kaumalapau to arrive on Wednesday morning before continuing on to Molokai.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Jay Ana  
President,  
Young Brothers, LLC

cc: Division of Consumer Advocacy

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COMMISSION

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