

Hawaii Public Utilities Commission Equity Docket Opening Conference #1

March 1, 2023



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Agenda



Welcome, Overview & Introductions (30 min)



Presentations: PUC 101 and Context for Energy Equity in Hawaii (30 min)



Break (10 min)



Discussion (30 min)



Wrap Up & Next Steps (10 min)



[Optional] Talk Story

Objectives

Introduce

- Introduce the staff of the Commission who will be working on this proceeding

Describe

- Describe the role of the Commission and basics of the regulatory process to foster a shared understanding amongst participants

Solicit

- Solicit community feedback about energy equity considerations for input into Commission work



Meeting Norms

- **Practice equity of time.** If you are speaking a lot, consider asking someone else for their thoughts. If you haven't spoken, try to find a way to contribute.
- **Treat others with respect.** Consider the impacts of your words and actions on others. Examine and critique systems, not people.
- **Accept others' lived experiences.** What someone says they experienced is what they experienced. No singular experience is representative of everyone's experience.
- **Come ready to learn. Question your assumptions.** Make sure you understand others' perspectives so you can contribute to the discussion.
- **Bike rack. Strive to stay on topic.** Staff will record questions and ideas outside the scope of this meeting in the "bike rack" for consideration at a later time.
- **Modified Chatham rules.** Participants can feel free to use the information discussed at the meeting but cannot reveal who made any particular comment.

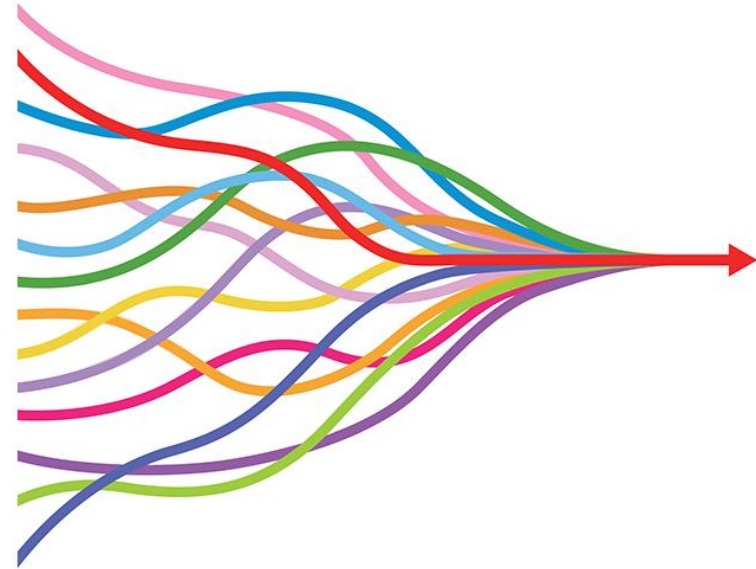
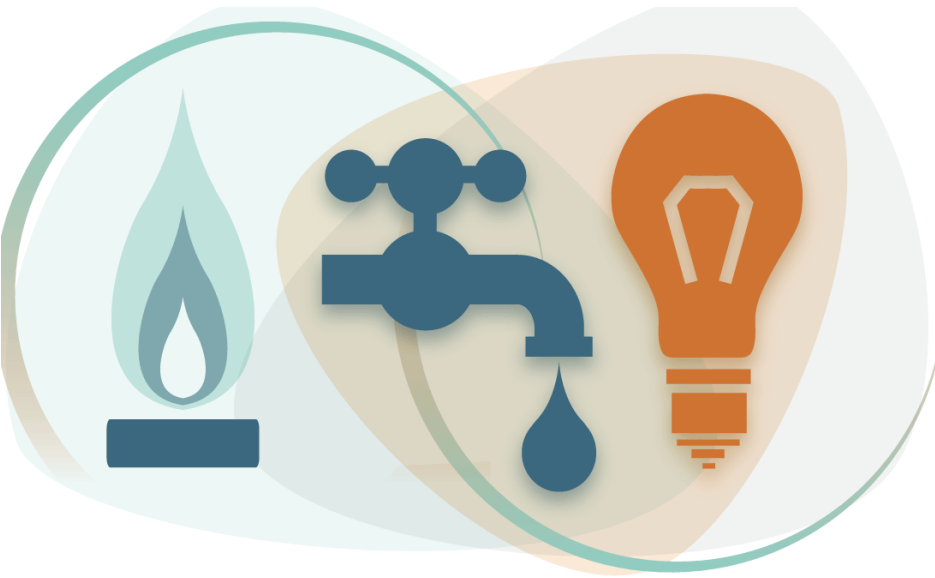
Intro to the Hawaii PUC

Mike Wallerstein, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

We regulate utilities



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101



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| File Date | 12/13/2022 |
| Docket Type Code | PUC-Investigation |
| Status | Open |
| Industry Code | Electric |

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Applicants

| Organization | Name | Title | Firm | Phone |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Public Utilities Commission | Public Utilities Commission | | Public Utilities Commission | |

Parties

| Organization | Name | Title | Firm | Phone |
|--|------------------|---|----------------------------------|--------------|
| Division of Consumer Advocacy | | | | 808-586-2800 |
| Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc., Hawaii Electric Light Company, Inc., and Maui Electric Company, Limited | Kevin M. Katsura | Director, Regulatory Non-Rate Proceedings | Hawaiian Electric Company, Inc. | |
| Kauai Island Utility Cooperative | David Bissell | President and CEO | Kauai Island Utility Cooperative | |

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| File Date | 12/13/2022 |
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| Status | Open |
| Industry Code | Electric |

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Docket Documents

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Number of Documents: 22

| Date | Document Title | Document Type | No of Pages |
|------------|---|-----------------------|-------------|
| 12/13/2022 | ORDER NO. 38759 INSTITUTING A PROCEEDING TO INVESTIGATE ENERGY EQUITY; Public Utilities Commission; Docket No. 2022-0250 | NEW DOCKET | 29 pgs |
| 12/16/2022 | Life of the Land's Motion to Intervene; Verification; Docket No. 2022-0250 | MOTION | 11 pgs |
| 12/21/2022 | Public Comment; Docket No. 2022-0250 | PUBLIC COMMENT | 2 pgs |
| 12/22/2022 | Letter From: M. Townsend To: Commission Re: Docket No. 2022-0250 Instituting a Proceeding to Investigate Energy Equity | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 12/22/2022 | Jeffrey T. Ono's Motion to Intervene; Docket No. 2022-0250 | MOTION | 10 pgs |
| 12/22/2022 | ORDER NO. 38788 ENLARGING TIME TO FILE MOTIONS TO INTERVENE OR PARTICIPATE; Public Utilities Commission; Docket No. 2022-0250 | DECISION AND ORDER | 6 pgs |
| 12/23/2022 | Division of Consumer Advocacy's Response to Life of the Land's Motion to Intervene; Docket No. 2022-0250 | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 12/27/2022 | Motion by Ikehu Utility Solutions to be Granted Participant Status in Docket 2022-0250 Pursuant to Order 38759 | MOTION | 4 pgs |
| 12/30/2022 | Division of Consumer Advocacy's Response to Jeffery Ono's Motion to Intervene; Docket No. 2022-0250 | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 12/30/2022 | Motion to Participate of Sally Kaye, On Behalf of Friends of Lana'i; Docket No. 2022-0250 | MOTION | 10 pgs |
| 01/03/2023 | Division of Consumer Advocacy's Preliminary Statement of Position; Docket No. 2022-0250 | STATEMENT OF POSITION | 4 pgs |
| 01/04/2023 | Division of Consumer Advocacy's Response to Ikehu Utility Solutions' Motion to be Granted Participant Status; Docket No. 2022-0250 | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 01/09/2023 | Division of Consumer Advocacy's Response to Sally K. Kaye, on Behalf of Friends of Lana'i's Motion to Participate; Docket No. 2022-0250 | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 01/13/2023 | The Gas Company, LLC, dba Hawaii Gas' Motion to Intervene; Docket No. 2022-0250 | MOTION | 15 pgs |
| 01/23/2023 | Division of Consumer Advocacy's Response to The Gas Company, LLC dba Hawaii Gas' Motion to Intervene; Docket No. 2022-0250 | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 01/23/2023 | Letter From: E. Kunisaki To: Commission Re: Docket No. 2022-0250 - Instituting a Proceeding to Investigate Equity; Companies' Opposition to Hawaii Gas' Motion to Intervene | OTHER | 3 pgs |
| 02/02/2023 | Blue Planet Foundation's and Sierra Club's Motion to Intervene; Memorandum in Support; Docket No. 2022-0250 | MOTION | 16 pgs |

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Intervene

Participate



puc.comments@hawaii.gov

File any time

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STATE OF HAWAII



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

TITLE 16

CHAPTER 601

RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Intervention Guidelines

How are your rights at stake?

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HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

TITLE 16

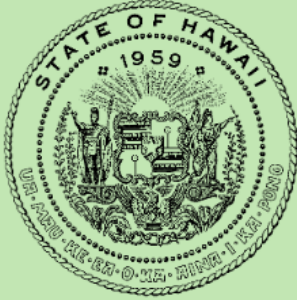
CHAPTER 601

**RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
BEFORE THE
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

Participation Guidelines

How can you help the Commission?

STATE OF HAWAII



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HAWAII ADMINISTRATIVE RULES

TITLE 16

CHAPTER 601

RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
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Time to File



Rate Cases: 20 days after the last public hearing

Investigations and other applications:
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Equity Docket is a special case!



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The image shows the front facade of the Territorial Office Building. The building is a multi-story structure with a light-colored, textured exterior. The central entrance is framed by a large, ornate archway. Above the archway, the words "TERRITORIAL OFFICE BUILDING" are inscribed in a dark, serif font. Below the archway, the name "KEKUANA'OA" is inscribed above the entrance doors. The address number "465" is visible above the doors. The building features several windows with dark frames and decorative elements. A large tree trunk is visible on the left side of the frame. In the foreground, there are yellow bollards and a dark semi-transparent text box.

TERRITORIAL OFFICE BUILDING

KEKUANA'OA

465

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465 S. King Street Suite #103, Honolulu, HI, 96813



What questions we can and can't answer.



Docket No. 2022-0250: Investigating Equity

Grace Relf, Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

Key Terminology

- Energy Equity:
 - Energy Equity refers to the goal of achieving equity in both the social and economic participation in the energy system, while also remediating social, economic, and health burdens on those historically harmed by the energy system.
- Vulnerable Populations:
 - Vulnerable populations are those who are economically disadvantaged, certain racial and ethnic minorities such as Native Hawaiians, the elderly, rural residents, those with inadequate education, and those with other socioeconomic challenges.
- Energy Burden:
 - Energy burden is the percent of a household's income spent to cover energy cost.
- The Commission is aware of parallel efforts by the Energy Equity Hui to craft Hawaii-specific definitions, and will aim to adopt those once complete.



Equity Tenets

- **Distributive Equity:**
 - Distributive Equity is recognized as sustainability programs and policies resulting in fair distributions of benefits and burdens across all segments of a community, prioritizing those with highest need.
- **Procedural Equity:**
 - Procedural Equity is the inclusive, accessible, authentic engagement and representation in processes to develop or implement sustainability programs and policies.
- **Recognition Justice:**
 - Recognition justice identifies who is being ignored in decision-making, and how that should be remedied so that all individuals are fairly represented and offered equal political rights.
- **Intergenerational Justice:**
 - Intergenerational justice relies on making decisions based on whether a decision would "increase rather than limit the development options of future generations."



Challenges to Energy Equity

- High energy rates
- High percentage of low- and moderate- income persons
- High energy burden
- Lack of universal access to renewable energy initiatives
- Need for utility payment assistance
- Historic siting of fossil fuel infrastructure
- Land constraints
- Regulatory process burdens
- Others!



Pathway 1: Energy affordability measures and direct financial assistance

- Actions and measures may include:
 - Rate discounts
 - Bill credits
 - State and federal utility payment assistance
 - Bill assistance and payment programs
 - Benefits for specific customers such as retired senior citizens, fixed income customers, or customers with infants, etc.



Pathway 2: Equitable Access to Clean Energy

- Actions and measures may include:
 - Improving access to and distribution of benefits from customer programs, such as:
 - Distributed energy resource (DER) programs,
 - Community-based Renewable Energy (CBRE),
 - Demand response,
 - Energy efficiency,
 - Time-varying rates,
 - Electrified transportation
 - Community input into system planning, community benefits agreements, and host community benefits for grid-scale energy infrastructure
 - Expanded and enhanced financing programs



Pathway 3: Utility Business Model Reforms

- Actions and measures may include:
 - Modifications to the performance-based regulation (“PBR”) framework, for example:
 - An equity-focused incentive for utility performance
 - Developing an LMI assistance fund
 - Assessing the equity of the existing revenue and performance PBR mechanisms
 - Improved reporting and transparency on key utility metrics
 - Consideration of disconnection moratoriums or bans
 - Pursuing innovative pilots to support vulnerable customers
 - Modified accounting practices
 - Universal basic kWh programs



Pathway 4: Procedural Equity Improvements

- Actions and measures may include:
 - Streamlining and simplifying procedures for customers to qualify for programs
 - Improved customer outreach and education
 - Streamlined and effective community engagement
 - Making Commission proceedings more accessible
 - Establishing Commission-specific reporting metrics to monitor and assess the efficacy of activities
 - Developing an equity and justice action plan or decision-making framework for the Commission



Additional Notes

- Energy equity is a broad and challenging topic to address
 - Some topics may be resolved more quickly, while others will require more time
- The Commission is aiming to move at a thoughtful, measured pace, noting participants' bandwidth and availability
 - We want to balance taking action and producing results with making informed decisions
- Next meeting will provide an overview of the Commission's proposed approach to this docket
- Feedback is welcome on topics we are missing, the proposed approach, or other aspects of the docket





Questions?

Discussion

What would a more equitable energy system look like to you?

Considering who is most impacted by energy equity issues, whose voice(s) would you add to this proceeding, and how might we get them involved?

Opening Conference #2

- **What:** An opportunity to learn about and provide feedback to the PUC's planned approach to the energy equity proceeding
- **When:** March 8, 2023 at 10 AM HT
- **Where:** Hybrid
 - In-person: PUC Hearing Room (same as Opening Conference #1)
 - Remote: Zoom (link online)

Resources

- [Hawaii PUC Equity Docket Website](#)
 - Webpage outlining context, events, and relevant resources for this proceeding
- [H.R. No. 43](#)
 - State legislation directing the PUC to consider energy equity
- [Hawaii PUC Order No. 38759](#)
 - Equity Docket Opening Order initiating this proceeding
- [Hawaii PUC Legislative Report](#)
 - Report to the Legislature summarizing the PUC's recent activities and future plans around energy equity



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ENERGY EQUITY AND JUSTICE (DOCKET NO. 2022-0250)

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You can respond to the open-ended questions more than once, as needed



You can rewrite your answer by clicking the “undo” icon



The survey will remain open until midnight tonight



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Mahalo!

If you're here in person, feel free to stick around for the Talk Story session