

RATE ADJUSTMENT MECHANISM PROVISION
Maui, Lanai, and Molokai Divisions

Rate Adjustment Mechanism ("RAM") Provision

Purpose

This mechanism is subject to review and continuation, termination or modification in the utility's next base rate case proceeding, upon a showing by the utility and finding by the Commission that continuation or modification is appropriate. As part of its submitted testimony in the base rate case, the Company will include a summary report on the status of certain HCEI initiatives. The RAM mechanism is designed to determine the change in annual utility base revenue levels, recognizing certain estimated changes in the utility's cost to provide service. If, through the application of this mechanism, it is determined that annual utility base revenues should be decreased or increased, then the RAM Revenue Adjustment will be applied within the Revenue Balancing Account Provision. The RAM Revenue Adjustment established for a RAM Period calendar year that is also a rate case test year shall terminate on the effective date of tariff rates that are implemented pursuant to a Commission Decision & Order for that test year.

Definitions

- a) The Annual Evaluation Date shall be the Date the Company will make its annual filing under this mechanism. The Annual Evaluation Date shall be no later than March 31st of each year, commencing March 31, 2012.
- b) The Evaluation Period is defined as the historical twelve month period ending December 31, of each calendar year preceding the Annual Evaluation Date. The Evaluation Period is used solely to determine achieved earnings and any sharing of such earnings above the Authorized Return on Equity.
- c) The RAM Period is defined as the calendar year containing the Annual Evaluation Date.
- d) The Labor Cost Escalation Rate shall be the applicable annual percentage general wage rate increase provided for in currently effective union labor agreements for use in escalating wage and salary Base Expenses for union employees to determine the RAM Revenue Adjustment for each RAM Period. In the event no union labor agreement exists for a RAM Period, the most recently effective annual general percentage increase rate shall apply.

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e) The Non-labor Cost Escalation Rate shall be the consensus estimated annual change in the Gross Domestic Product Price Indicator ("GDPPI") to escalate non-labor Base Expenses to determine the RAM Revenue Adjustment for each RAM Period. The GDPPI escalation rate shall be the consensus projection published by the Blue Chip Economic Indicators (Aspen Publishing) each February for the current RAM Period. In the event that the Blue Chip Economic Indicators forecast of the GDPPI is not available, the Consumer Advocate, Company, and other parties to the most recent rate case, with approval of the Commission, shall jointly select an alternative data source, or national economic index similar to GDPPI, as appropriate.

f) The annual Labor Productivity Offset shall be fixed at 0.76 percent (76/100 of one percent) and will be subtracted from the Labor Cost Escalation Rates applicable to Base Expenses to determine the authorized RAM Revenue Adjustment for each RAM Period.

g) The Base Expenses shall be the labor and non-labor operations and maintenance expense amounts approved by the Commission in the last issued Decision & Order in the Company's most recent test year general rate case. Base Expenses shall not include any fuel, purchased power, IRP/DSM, pension, Other Post-Employment Benefits ("OPEB"), or Clean Energy/Renewable Energy Infrastructure or any costs that are subject to recovery through separate rate tracking mechanisms.

h) The Major Capital Projects shall be those capital investment projects that require an application before and approval by the Commission under the Commission's General Order No. 7, but excluding those projects included in the Clean Energy Infrastructure Surcharge.

i) The Baseline Capital Projects shall be the total amounts of capital investment completed and closed to Plant in Service, excluding amounts related to Major Capital Projects.

j) The Return on Investment shall be the overall weighted percentage rate of return on debt and equity capital approved by the Commission in the last issued Decision & Order in the Company's most recent test year general rate case.

k) The Authorized Return on Equity shall be the percentage rate of return on equity capital approved by the Commission in the last issued Decision & Order in the Company's most recent test year general rate case.

l) The Exogenous Tax Changes shall be the changes in tax laws or regulations that are estimated to impact RBA Target Revenues by five hundred thousand dollars (\$500,000) or more.

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- m) The Rate Base shall be the average net investment estimated for the RAM Period, including each of the elements of rate base reflected within the most recent rate case Decision & Order issued by the Commission, quantified in the manner prescribed in part (f) of Section 2 of the Rate Adjustment Mechanism.
- n) The RAM Revenue Adjustment to be applied to determine effective Target Revenues will be the lesser of a) the RAM Revenue Adjustment Calculation or b) the RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap.
- o) The RAM Revenue Adjustment Calculation shall be the change in the annual amount of revenue required for the utility to recover the sum of the O&M RAM Adjustment, Depreciation & Amortization RAM Adjustment, and Rate Base RAM - Return on Investment Adjustment, using the ratemaking conventions and calculations reflected within the most recent rate case Decision & Order issued by the Commission, quantified in the manner prescribed herein.
- p) The RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap shall be based on the Target Revenues determined in accordance with the RBA and RAM tariffs as provided below.
- q) The RAM Revenue Adjustment determined by this RAM Provision is to be recovered through the RBA Provision commencing on June 1 and over the subsequent 12 months after June 1.
- r) Earnings Sharing Revenue Credits shall be the amounts to be returned to customers as credits through the Revenue Balancing Account ("RBA") Provision, so as to implement the earnings sharing percentages and procedures described herein, commencing on June 1 of the calendar year containing the Annual Evaluation Date and over the subsequent 12 months after June 1.
- s) Major Capital Projects Credits shall be the amounts to be returned to customers through the Revenue Balancing Account Provision, to reduce a preceding year's RAM Revenue Adjustment (including interest at the rate described in the RBA Provision) for specific major capital projects that were not placed into service within the first nine months of the preceding RAM Period as expected. Because the Commission's review of the Major Capital Projects' actual costs incurred may not occur until the rate case after the RAM Revenue Adjustment for these Major Capital Projects is collected, Major Capital Projects Credits (including interest) will be returned to customers for the amount of Major Capital Projects costs that the Commission disallows for cost recovery. The Major Capital Projects Credits are to be refunded through the

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RBA Provision, commencing on June 1 of the calendar year containing the Annual Evaluation Date and over the subsequent 12 months after June 1.

t) Baseline Capital Projects Credits shall be the amounts to be returned to customers through the RBA Provision, to reduce a preceding year's RAM Revenue Adjustment (including interest at the rate described in the RBA Provision) for specific baseline capital projects that are disallowed by the Commission in a subsequent rate case if the disallowance reduces actual Baseline Capital Projects costs below the Baseline Capital Projects cost estimate derived using the method identified in part (f)ii. of Section 2 of the Rate Adjustment Mechanism below. Because the Commission's review of baseline capital projects may not occur until the rate case after such baseline capital projects are included in one or more RAM Revenue Adjustment filings, Baseline Capital Projects Credits shall be used to refund to customers any prior collections (i.e., Return on Investment on Rate Base and Depreciation, plus interest) relating to the amount of Baseline Capital Projects costs that the Commission subsequently disallows for cost recovery. The Baseline Capital Projects Credits are to be refunded through the RBA Provision, commencing on June 1 of the calendar year containing the Annual Evaluation Date and over the subsequent 12 months after June 1.

Rate Adjustment Mechanism

The Company shall file with the Commission, the Consumer Advocate and each party to the Company's most recent rate case proceeding, the schedules specified below:

Evaluation Period Earnings Sharing:

1. For the twelve month period ending December 31, of each year (the "Evaluation Period"), with the filing to be made no

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later than March 31, of the year following the conclusion of the Evaluation Period. The schedules will include the following:

- a) Company's recorded actual average net plant in service, accumulated deferred income taxes, inventory, working capital, and other rate base components. The schedules shall also show the utility's actual depreciation expense, operating and maintenance expense, income taxes, taxes other than income taxes, and other components of income for return, revenues, and actual capital structure, cost of debt, overall cost of capital, and return on common equity in the format set forth in the final order establishing the Company's latest effective rates.
- b) All applicable accounting and pro forma adjustments historically required in annual reports filed with the Commission.
- c) Pro-forma adjustments to remove from recorded revenues any out-of-period Earnings Sharing Revenue Credits or Major Capital Projects Credits recorded during the Evaluation Period, and
- d) A calculation comparing the achieved return on average common equity to the following earnings sharing grid, and indicating the Earnings Sharing Revenue Credit that should be recorded within the Revenue Balancing Account to effect the prescribed sharing of earnings above authorized levels:

ROE at or below the Authorized ROE	Retained entirely by shareholders - no customer credits
First 100 basis points (one percent) over Authorized ROE	25% share credit to customers
Next 200 basis points (two percent) over Authorized ROE	50% share credit to customers
All ROE exceeding 300 basis points (three percent) over Authorized ROE	90% share credit to customers

RAM Period RAM Revenue Adjustment Calculation:

- 2) The Company shall provide additional schedules indicating the following proposed RAM Revenue Adjustment Calculation applicable for the RAM Period using the methodology set forth below:

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- a) The O&M RAM Adjustment shall adjust Base Expenses segregated between labor and non-labor components and treated as follows:
 - i. The labor component shall be quantified for the RAM Period by application of the Labor Cost Escalation Rate, reduced to account for the Productivity Offset to labor expenses, including payroll taxes. The part of Base Expenses that represents labor costs for merit employees shall not be subject to application of the Labor Cost Escalation rate, nor be reduced by the Productivity Offset.
 - ii. The Non-labor components shall be quantified for the RAM Period by application of the Non-labor Escalation Rate to non-labor Base Expenses. Non-labor components shall exclude fuel, purchased power, pension/OPEBs, IRP/DSM or other rate adjustment provisions.
- b) Depreciation and Amortization RAM Adjustment shall be quantified for the RAM Period by application of Commission-approved accrual rates and methods to the actual recorded Plant in Service balances at the end of the Evaluation Period.
- c) The Rate Base RAM - Return on Investment Adjustment shall be determined by multiplying the applicable Pretax Rate of Return times the change in Rate Base. The Pretax Rate of Return shall include related income taxes on the equity components of the Return on Investment rate approved by the Commission in the last issued Decision & Order in the Company's most recent test year general rate case. The quantification of Rate Base is specified in greater detail in part (f) of this Section 2.
- d) The revenue impact of any Exogenous Tax Changes shall be included in the RAM Period calculation of the RAM Revenue Adjustment.
- e) Revenue taxes shall be adjusted to account for the change in parts (a) through (e) of this Section 2.
- f) Rate Base for the RAM Period shall be quantified as follows:

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- i. Plant in Service, Accumulated Depreciation, Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes and Contributions in Aid of Construction ("CIAC") shall be a two-point average of actual recorded balance sheet data at December 31 of the Evaluation Period, plus projected values at December 31 of the RAM Period determined as prescribed in parts (ii) through (v), below.
- ii. Plant in Service shall be quantified by adding to the recorded balances at December 31 of the Evaluation Period, the simple average of Baseline Capital Projects plant additions recorded in the immediately preceding five calendar years, plus the estimated cost of completed Major Capital Projects that are anticipated to be in service by September 30 of the RAM Period. The cost of Major Capital Projects shall be limited to the dollar amounts previously approved by the Commission, and shall be included at the level of recorded costs if recorded costs are lower than the budget amounts approved by the Commission, and the Commission has not yet reviewed the project costs in a rate case.
- iii. Accumulated Depreciation at December 31 of the RAM Period shall be quantified by increasing the recorded balances at December 31 of the Evaluation Period by the amount set forth in Section 2 part (b) above, consistent with rate-making treatment.
- iv. CIAC shall be quantified by adding to the recorded balance at December 31 of the Evaluation Period an estimate of the net change for the RAM Period. The net change shall be based on a simple average of cash and in-kind CIAC for the immediately preceding five calendar years for programs (i.e., numerous low cost capital projects) plus specific engineering estimates of any contributions for the Major Capital Projects anticipated to be in service by September 30 of the RAM Period.
- v. Accumulated Deferred Income Taxes shall be quantified by adding to the recorded balances at December 31 of the Evaluation Period the estimated tax effect of the depreciation timing difference (i.e., difference between book depreciation and tax depreciation) on the Baseline Capital Projects and Major Capital Projects added to rate base during the RAM Period.
- vi. Working Cash and all other elements of rate base not specifically addressed above shall be fixed at the dollar amount approved by the Commission in the last issued Decision & Order in the Company's most recent test year general rate case. These elements of rate base shall be held constant until revised by a future Commission Decision & Order in a general rate case.

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g.) See also Settlement Agreement section below

RAM REVENUE ADJUSTMENT CAP

The RAM Basis for the calculation of the RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap shall be the target revenues determined in accordance with the RBA tariff based on the results of the Company's most recent interim or final rate case decision. The RAM Basis shall be adjusted 1) as described below in the determination of the 2014 Rate Base RAM - Return on Investment Adjustment and the 2014 Depreciation and Amortization RAM Adjustment, and 2) to exclude or otherwise appropriately account for adjustments for the recovery of revenues for previously explicitly stipulated and approved exceptional matters or other matters specifically ordered by the Commission, which shall, in any event, be recovered fully without respect to any limitations resulting from application of the RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap.

The RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap shall be calculated as the RAM Basis, multiplied by the cumulative annually compounded increase(s) in the GDPPI for the years between the rate case calendar test year that established the RAM Basis and the RAM Period, adjusted to include applicable revenue taxes.

The RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap will apply to the entire RAM Revenue Adjustment, which includes the O&M RAM Adjustment, Depreciation and Amortization RAM Adjustment, and Rate Base RAM - Return on Investment Adjustment.

Exception to the calculation of the RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap:

For the calculation of the RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap for the 2015 RAM Revenue Adjustment and for each subsequent year's calculation of RAM Revenue Adjustment until the issuance of a final decision and order in the next rate case, the Target Revenues that will serve as the RAM Basis will be the 2014 annualized target revenues adjusted as described below. The 2014 RAM Revenue Adjustment used to determine the adjusted 2014 target revenues will be adjusted to use recorded 2014 end-of-year actuals for plant in service, accumulated depreciation and amortization, CIAC and accumulated deferred income taxes in the determination of the 2014 Rate Base RAM - Return on Investment Adjustment. For the determination of the 2014 Depreciation and Amortization RAM Adjustment, the Company applies the Commission-approved accrual rates and methods to the 2014 end of year balances calculated above. There is no impact to the O&M RAM Adjustment. The RAM Basis shall be adjusted to exclude or otherwise appropriately account for adjustments for the recovery of revenues for previously explicitly stipulated and approved exceptional matters or other matters specifically order by the Commission, as described above.

The RAM Revenue Adjustment Cap for year 2015 and for each subsequent year until the issuance of a final decision and order in the next rate case shall be calculated as the RAM Basis, multiplied by the cumulative annually compounded increase(s) in the GDPPI for the years between 2014 and the RAM Period, adjusted to include
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applicable revenue taxes.

Evaluation Procedures

Complete, indexed workpapers and electronic files supporting the RAM Adjustment, Earnings Sharing Revenue Credits, and Major and Baseline Capital Projects Credits Schedules shall be provided to the Commission, the Consumer Advocate and all other parties to the Utility's most recent rate case proceeding ("Other Rate Case Parties"), if any, coincident with the Annual Evaluation Date filing. The Company will be prepared to provide information as may be requested to ensure adequate review by the Commission, Consumer Advocate, Other Rate Case Parties, and other interested persons. The Consumer Advocate, Other Rate Case Parties, and other interested persons may propose any adjustments determined to be required to bring the schedules into compliance with the above provisions and will work collaboratively to reach agreement on any proposed adjustments.

The RAM Revenue Adjustment, and any prior year RAM Revenue Adjustments, shall be recalculated for errors in prior calculations and for subsequent Commission orders that change the basis of prior calculations. The effect of such changes to the RAM Revenue Adjustment shall be implemented as described in the Revenue Balancing Account Provision.

As described in Sections 6-61-61 and 6-61-111 of the Hawaii Administrative Rules, Title 6, Chapter 61, based upon the Company's filed schedules and in the absence of any protests submitted by the Consumer Advocate, Other Rate Case Parties, or other interested persons, not later than 15 days before the June 1 effective date of the RBA Rate Adjustment described in the RBA Provision tariff, the RBA Rate Adjustment incorporating the RAM Revenue Adjustment, Earnings Sharing Revenue Credits, and Major and Baseline Capital Projects Credits shall go into effect on the June 1 effective date, and the Commission shall confirm the commencement of the RBA Rate Adjustment in its monthly Tariff Order.

Notice

Notice of the annual Revenue Balancing Account Rate Adjustment filing shall be provided to all affected customers of the Utility in accordance with the provisions of this section by publication in newspapers of general circulation within 14 days and by including notification with its billing statements within 60 days after the Company makes its annual filing pursuant to this tariff. The notice to customers shall include the following information:

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- a) A description of the proposed revision of revenues, Earnings Sharing Credits, and Major or Baseline Capital Projects Credits;
- b) The effect on the rates applicable to each customer class and on the typical bill for residential customers; and
- c) The Company's address, telephone number and website where information concerning the proposed Revenue Balancing Account Rate Adjustment may be obtained.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

The provisions in this section are for the sole and limited purpose of implementing the *Stipulated Settlement Agreement between the Hawaiian Electric Companies and the Division of Consumer Advocacy regarding Certain Regulatory Matters*, filed in Docket No. 2008-0083, which the Commission approved in Order No. 31126, issued on March 19, 2013.

The Company will include in the Rate Base RAM - Return on Investment Adjustment and the Depreciation and Amortization RAM Expense Adjustment, in 2013 and subsequent years, the recoverable costs of the Customer Information System ("CIS") project, net of the Stipulated and Commission approved project cost write-downs and as otherwise provided for in the Stipulated Settlement Agreement. Recovery of the CIS costs through the RAM Revenue Adjustment is for the sole purpose of this settlement agreement and does not constitute a precedent for the recovery of any other software or regulatory asset deferred costs through the RAM Revenue Adjustment.

COMMISSION'S AUTHORITY

The Commission may suspend any or all parts of this Rate Adjustment Mechanism Provision. Such suspension shall remain in place until removed by Commission Order.

MAUI ELECTRIC COMPANY, LTD.

Transmittal Letter Dated June 3, 2015.