

Energy Equity and Justice (Docket No. 2022-0250)

Presentation for the Maui County
Council ESCS Committee

Thursday, June 22, 2023

Pete Polonsky, Utility Analyst

peter.b.polonsky@hawaii.gov

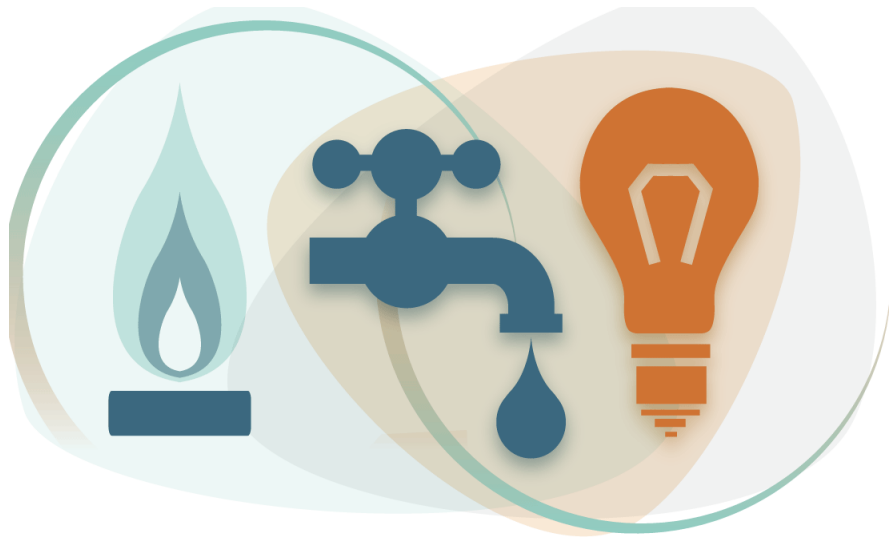
Hawaii Public Utilities Commission



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

<https://puc.hawaii.gov/energy/equity/>

What is the Public Utilities Commission?



We regulate over 1,800 utilities across six industries:

- electricity,
- gas,
- telecom,
- private water & wastewater,
- water carriers, and
- motor carriers.

What is a docket?

Rate Case



Investigations and
Other Applications



Power Purchase
Agreement Application



How can I get involved?



Docket Intervention

Docket Participation

Public Comment

Subscribe for Reports

Resources

- Visit the Commission's website (<https://puc.hawaii.gov/>) for more information about the Commission, including news and recent announcements.
- Visit CDMS eServices (<https://hpuc.my.site.com/cdms/s>) to submit public comments, ask questions, and access docket records.
- The Commission's Equity Docket page (<https://puc.hawaii.gov/energy/equity/>) provides more information regarding the proceeding.



Why did the Commission open the Energy Equity and Justice proceeding?



THE SENATE
THIRTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE, 2022
STATE OF HAWAII

S.C.R. NO. 48
S.D. 1

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION, IN CONSULTATION WITH
THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER ADVOCACY, TO CONSIDER EFFORTS TO
MITIGATE HIGH ENERGY BURDENS FOR LOW- AND MODERATE-INCOME
CUSTOMERS AND INVESTIGATE HOW TO INTEGRATE CONSIDERATIONS
OF ENERGY EQUITY AND JUSTICE ACROSS ITS WORK.

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

OF THE STATE OF HAWAII

----- In the Matter of -----)	
)	
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION)	DOCKET NO. 2022-0250
)	
Instituting a Proceeding)	
To Investigate Equity)	
_____)	

- Key Terminology
- Challenges to Energy Equity in Hawaii
- Consideration of Ongoing Commission Actions to Address Equity
- Proposed Docket Scope

ORDER NO. 38759

INSTITUTING A PROCEEDING TO INVESTIGATE ENERGY EQUITY

Challenges to Energy Equity in Hawaii


1. High Energy Rates
2. High Percentage of LMI Persons
3. High Energy Burden
4. Lack of Universal Access to Renewable Energy Initiatives
5. Need for Utility Payment Assistance
6. Historic Siting of Fossil Fuel Infrastructure
7. Land Constraints
8. Regulatory Process Burdens



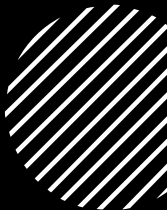

**STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**REPORT TO THE 2023 LEGISLATURE
PURSUANT TO SENATE RESOLUTION 33,
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 48 /
SENATE RESOLUTION 43 / HOUSE RESOLUTION 43,
SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 242 /
SENATE RESOLUTION 133/ HOUSE RESOLUTION 44
(2022)**

DECEMBER 2022



What is different about this proceeding?



Intent to limit or remove barriers to participation



Focus on stakeholder engagement, including meeting communities where they are



“Listen-first” approach to understand communities’ perspectives on energy equity and justice



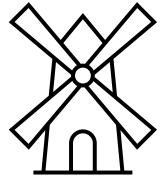
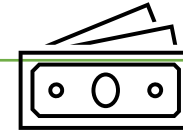
The core of the Commission’s initiative to “broadly incorporate equity and access into all of its work”

Overview of Five Docket Workstreams



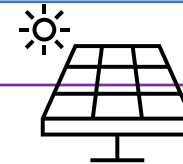
Procedural Equity

Affordability & Direct Payment Assistance



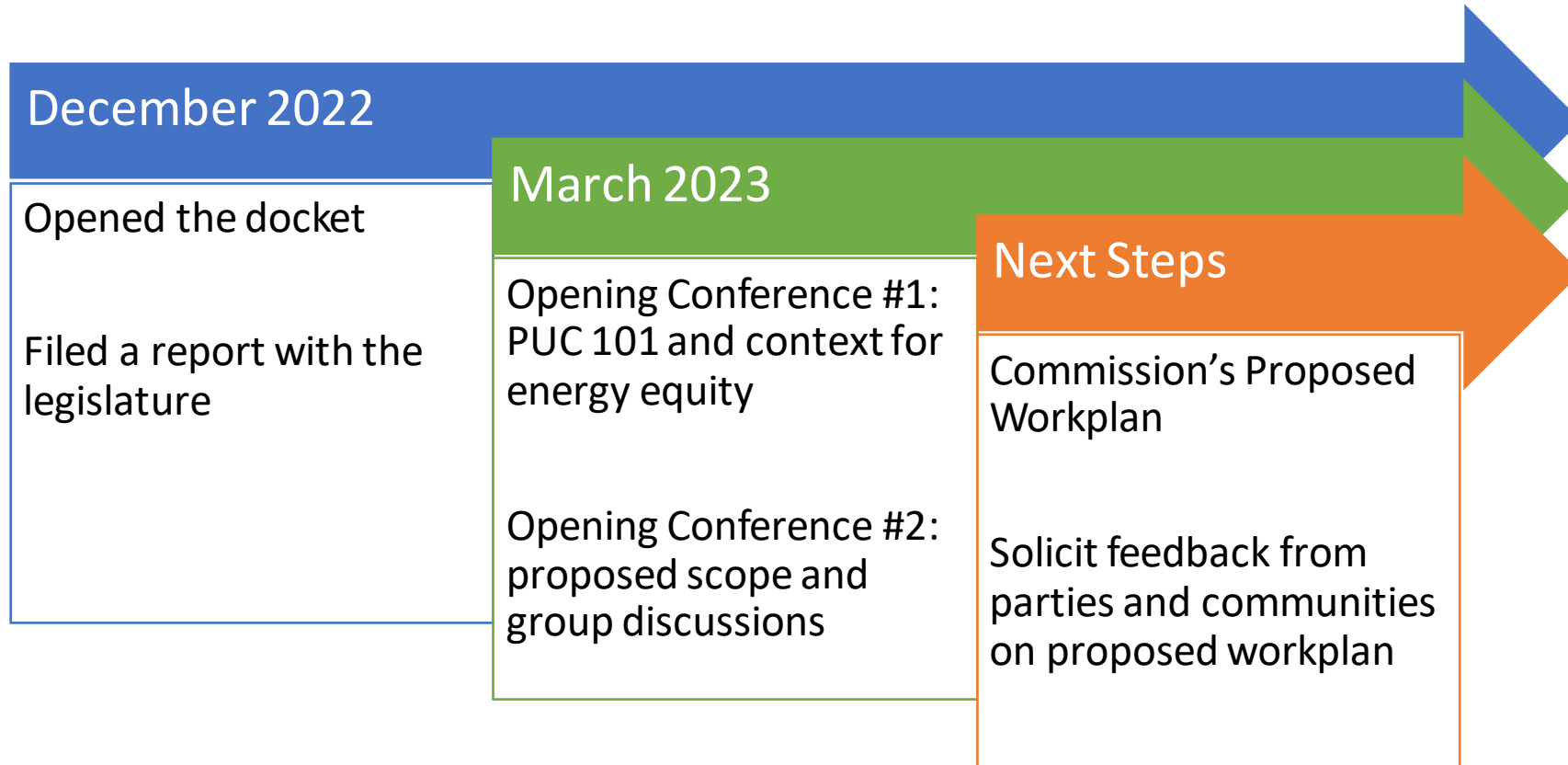
Equitable Siting & Hosting of Energy Infrastructure

Equitable Access to Clean Energy



Utility Performance Tracking

What has the Commission done so far in this proceeding?



Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

- A federal program that provides heating and/or cooling assistance to families in need via one-time payments towards electric or gas bills
- DHS administers Hawaii's LIHEAP with the assistance of Community Action Agencies, using funds the federal government distributes to each state
- Two types of assistance
 - Energy Credit: assistance with bill payments
 - Energy Crisis Intervention: assistance to households whose electric or gas service has been or will be disconnected (open year-round)
- Application period for Energy Credit is only open June 1-30
 - <https://humanservices.hawaii.gov/bessd/liheap/>

LIHEAP Working Group

- State legislature requested the PUC convene a working group to create a state LIHEAP program due to the high need and relatively low funding, which is decreasing as COVID funds end
- Working Group members: PUC, DCCA, DHS, HSEO, Hawaiian Electric, KIUC, C&C Honolulu, Chairpersons of House EEP Committee and Senate EET Committee, & Hawaii Energy
- Monthly meetings from September to December 2022 to develop findings and recommendations regarding a state program
- Working group resumed meeting in March 2023 to develop updated recommendations and/or propose legislation



STATE OF HAWAII
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Mahalo!

Commission website:

<https://puc.hawaii.gov/energy/equity/>

My email: peter.b.polonsky@hawaii.gov

ESCS Committee

From: Polonsky, Peter B <peter.b.polonsky@hawaii.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 3:08 PM
To: ESCS Committee
Cc: Ellen B. McKinley
Subject: RE: Hawaii PUC Presentation to ESCS Committee 6/22/23
Attachments: Hawaii PUC Presentation to Maui County Council ESCS Cmte 6.22.23.pdf

Aloha, apologies for the confusion, but attached is an updated presentation with my contact information and a few other slight adjustments.

Best,
Pete

From: Polonsky, Peter B
Sent: Wednesday, June 21, 2023 10:40 AM
To: ESCS.Committee@mauicounty.us
Cc: Ellen.Mckinley@mauicounty.us
Subject: Hawaii PUC Presentation to ESCS Committee 6/22/23

Aloha, attached are the slides the Hawaii PUC plans to present to the Maui County Council's ESCS Committee during the June 22nd meeting. Thanks, and please let us know if there are any issues with downloading or viewing the attached slides.

I'll plan to join the meeting before the 9am start time to make sure everything is working. Thanks!

Best,
Pete Polonsky (he/him)
Utility Analyst
Hawaii Public Utilities Commission

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