## Communicating with IRP Stakeholders

Rich Maggiani Solari Communication

at all all



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## **Headlines Influence Decisions**

## **The Trail Ahead**

Hawaiian Electric Case Study:
About Hawaiian Electric
Tale of Four Resource Plans
Communicating Your Headline

## First, a rule...

interrupt with comments, questions, perspectives

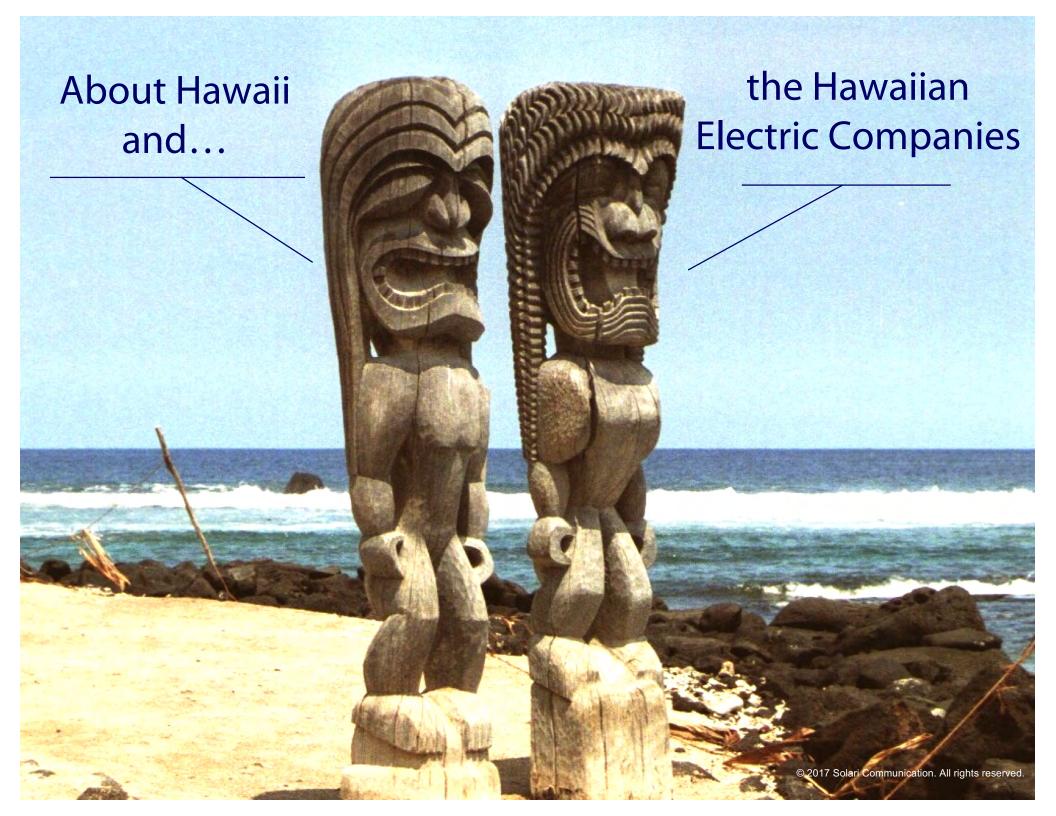
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## **The Trail Ahead**

## Hawaiian Electric Case Study:

About Hawaiian Electric

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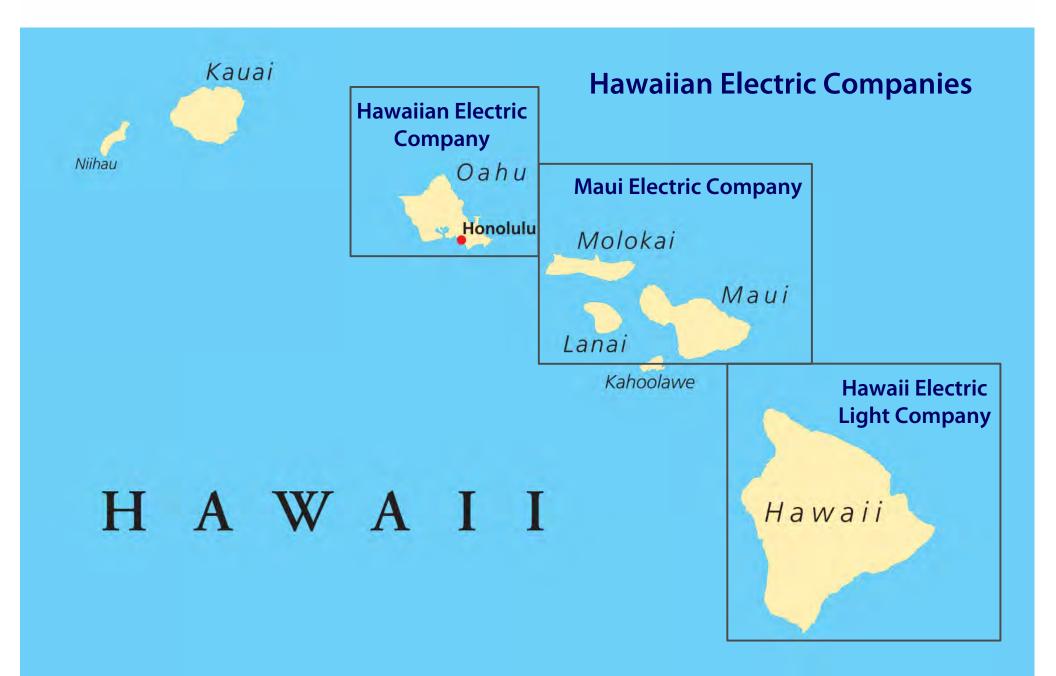
## Let's get started on that trail...

## Hawaiian Electric Maui Electric Hawai'i Electric Light









## **Five Independent Island Grids**

	Firm MV	V + RE MW	Firm RE MW	DG-PV
Hawaiian Electric				
<b>* * *</b>	1,700	230	181	8.2%
	50	28 + 8	8	(2017)
Hawaiʻi Electric Light	242	165	38	10.8%
Maui Electric	278	116	0	10.7%
	Lanai = 11 MW		Molokai = 15 MW	

## **Renewable Portfolio Standard**

Milestone $200\%$ RPS $2015$ RPS $29b95$ $15 \frac{10}{5}\%$ $15\%$ $ 29b50$ $-15\%$ $30\%$ $15\%$ $29295$ $25\%$ $30\%$ $30\%$			
29050 _15% 30% 15%	Mileztone	260% RPS	_ 2015 RPS
2020	29695	15 %%	15% —
2020 ⊾ 25 ∞ 30%	29650	_15%	30% (15%)
2023 23 %	292925	25 %	_ 30%
<sup>2</sup> 9750 40 <sup>2</sup> 5 <sup>%</sup> 40% -	29250	4025%	40% -
<u> </u>	29390	_40%	70% 40%
<u> </u>	29495		100% 70%
2045 – 100%	2045	_	100%

Year End	Attained RPS
2010	9.5%
2011	12.0%
2012	13.9%
2013	18.2%
2014	21.3%
2015	23.2%
2016	25.8%

"Hawaii is the Silicon Valley of clean energy. Hawaiian Electric has played a key role in building this reputation and encouraging innovation."

Brian Ryan, Vector Limited New Zealand Energy Excelerator Global Partner



## **The Trail Ahead**

Hawaiian Electric Case Study:

About Hawaiian Electric

• Tale of Four Resource Plans

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## Continuing down the trail to examine events

Different, but illuminating; transitioning headlines

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# • Entire PUC changed

- New Governor (2014) loudly opposes "merger" and LNG
- New PUC tries to control IRP content and results



2011 Order announcing IRP 2013; with an updated IRP Framework Mar 2012 Mar Order starting IRP 2013 IRP based on scenario planning; deadline = 365 days: Independent Entity & 68-person Advisory Board • 17 Principal Issues Jun • Statute: 25% RPS by 2020; 40% RPS by 2030 to... Twelve monthly AG meetings Seven additional unplanned technical sessions 2013 IRP 2013 filed: exceeds RPS, modernizes the grid, adds LNG Jun IE "cannot certify" IRP 2013 Jul 2014 IRP 2013 rejected (four months late); writes "Inclinations" Apr

#### IRP: 2013

Comprehensive 42-page Executive Summary that followed past formats and outline IRP casts a wide net: 752-page report (2,212 total) Detailed every modeled resource plan (about 250) Comprehensive discussion of results Separate action plan for each utility



#### IRP: 2013 Assessment

- IE wouldn't certify; AG not fully considered; Framework not diligently followed; most Principal Issues not fully addressed
- Executive Summary too long; no clear headline
- No intermediate summaries
- Extremely technical
- Commission sought something different

[Executives wrote the Executive Summary following previous outlines; I wrote most everything else; more later]



# HELCO PSIP ordered: 24 items in 4 Component Plans HELCO files PSP; never ruled on (both before IRP ruling) HECO & MECO PSIPs ordered (37/7 & 21/4 Component Plans) Hawaiian Electric ordered to file four additional plans

• All plans: 120-day deadline

Three 2014 PSIPs filed; all exceed RPS mandates

- Transition to LNG; modernize the grid
- Reduce customer bills; respond to all Component Plans
- NextEra files "merger" application
- Order issued to address "merger" application
- Over 27,000 pages of IR responses since Order issued
  - 2014 PSIPs mostly rejected; update ordered

#### **PSIPs: 2014**

Brief 9-page Executive Summary with a headline: opening paragraph states the PSIP goal and high-level results PSIPs pared down: 172-page report (412–711 total) Little detail about modeling process Focused discussion on results Separate PSIP for each utility



#### **PSIPs: 2014 Assessment**

- Insufficient analysis—no surprise there
- Process not "transparent"
- Component Plans not fully addressed
- Financials considered deceptive (real dollars)
- Executive Summary on target; main headline clear
- Narrative becoming simpler
- Conclusions & Recommendations to the point

[I wrote the Executive Summary and most everything else that wasn't submitted last minute]

## PSIP: Apr 2016

2015	
Nov 4	<ul> <li>Updated April 2015 PSIPs ordered:</li> <li>Initial Statement of Issues &amp; 8 Observations &amp; Concerns</li> <li>Revision Plan, Interim PSIP, &amp; Updated PSIP</li> <li>22 intervenors rejected; admitted as participant "Parties"</li> </ul>
Nov 25	Revision Plan filed; conference schedule outlined
Dec	"Merger" hearings begin
2016	
Feb	Interim PSIP filed; new modeling of DER, DR, u-s RE unveiled
Mar	"Merger" hearings end; 7,200 transcript pages
Apr 1	<ul> <li>Updated PSIP filed, work still to be done:</li> <li>Exceeds RPS mandates; addresses 7 of 8 O&amp;Cs</li> <li>LNG as a transition fuel; 383 MW 3x1 CC</li> <li>Comprehensive grid transformation</li> <li>Oahu-based utility-scale wind and solar potential</li> <li>Results based on "merger" approval</li> </ul>



#### PSIP: April 2016

Executive Summary (18 pages) focuses on the inclusive nature of attaining 100% renewable generation within 30 years in support of pending "merger" PSIPs expanded: 284-page report (1,218 total) Detail discussion about new modeling process Comprehensive action plans for each utility It's a plan; subject to change as circumstances and assumptions change



#### **PSIP: April 2016 Assessment**

- Never ruled on because PSIP was incomplete, still...
- Too depended on "merger" approval
- LNG as transitional fuel a political issue
- 383 MW 3x1 CC a questionable direction
- Executive Summary a narrative supporting "merger"
- Main headline is clear, although soft
- Overall narrative simpler

[Executive & myself co-wrote the Executive Summary; again, I wrote most everything else that wasn't submitted last minute]

## **PSIP: Dec 2016**

HNEI: Alt Ownership for Electric Utility on Oahu & Hawaii Island Several Party conferences & meetings held "Merger" dismissed without prejudice Order clarifies Updated PSIP; adds Work Plan & Dec 1 deadline Six additional issues; Party IRs; Party & HECO SOPs Hawaiian Electric Motion for Clarification: never ruled on Work Plan filed; updates assumptions and modeling process Order: new deadline Dec 23, no utility SOP required **Updated Dec PSIP filed:** 52% RPS by 2022; Molokai 100% RE by 2020 No LNG; maximizes DER; modernized the grid Party and HECO SOPs filed. And the waiting begins...



#### **PSIP: December 2016**

Executive Summary follows the pyramid structure PSIP focused: 186-page report (1,962 total) Attains 100% RPS in 2040, 5 years ahead of schedule Detail discussion about a revised modeling process; uses three tools for duplicative analysis; all modeled resource plans detailed

One comprehensive action plan under One Company initiative

#### **PSIP: December 2016 Assessment**

- Executive Summary strongest yet
- Overall narrative much simpler
- Main headlines prominent
- Many chapter and appendix summaries
- Strong plan; realities exposed
- Awaiting decision...

[I wrote the Executive Summary, and most everything else that wasn't submitted last minute; more later] "I don't view the utility as some kind of enemy to be castigated. We are all in one boat in Hawaii. We will sink or swim together. It doesn't help to demonize the utility. Some of our actions seem harsh, but we are following the rules and doing our job."

> Randy Iwase, Chair Hawaii Public Utilities Commission



## **The Trail Ahead**

Hawaiian Electric Case Study:
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Communicating Your Headline

# Headlines and narratives...

# depend on your audience!

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# First: Understand Your Audience

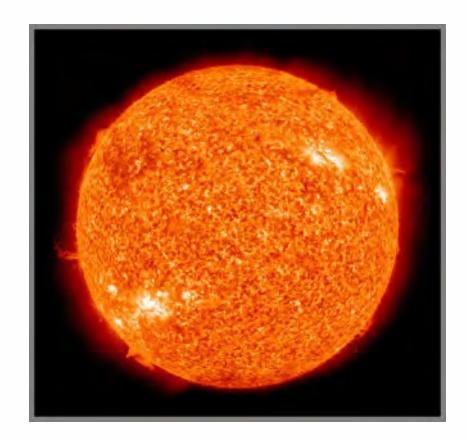
## What is this?



# And this?



# And this?



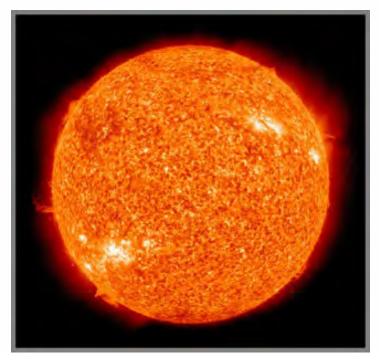
## And this too?



But are they really?

## Actually, they are simply symbols









## And so are these



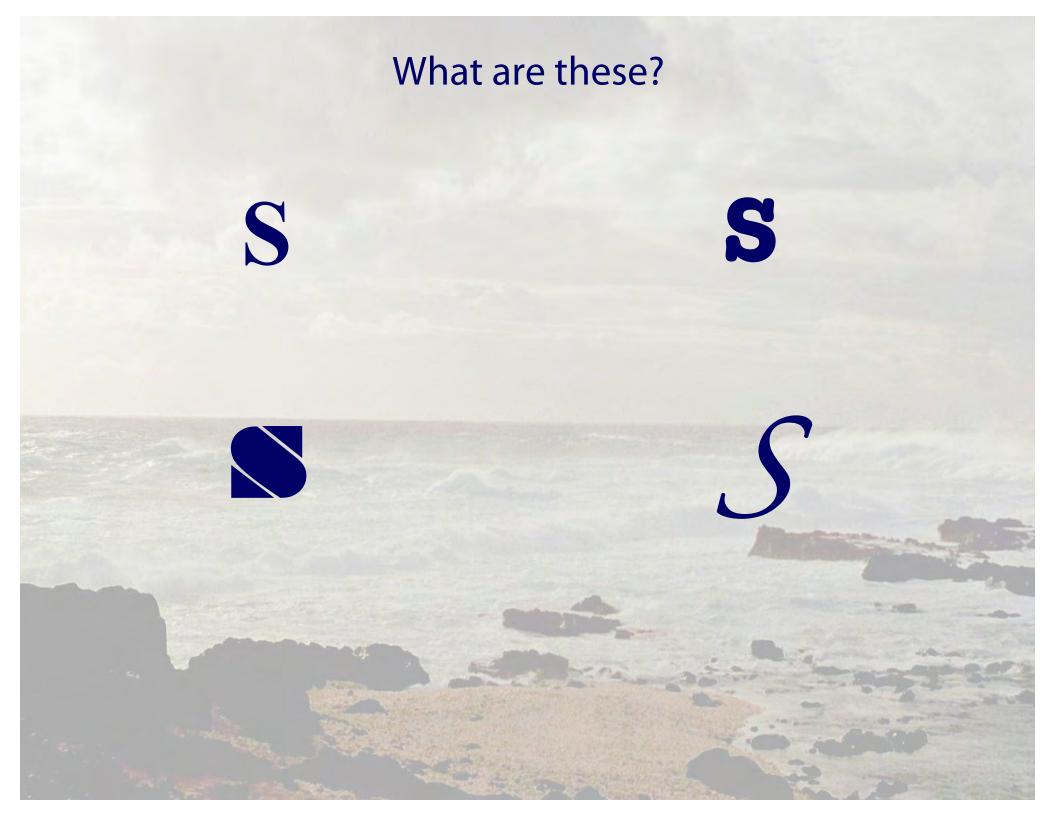




We interpret symbols

as objects

and as concepts



# Actually, they are symbols too

Once more, what are these?





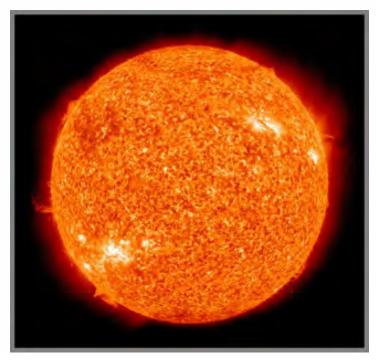


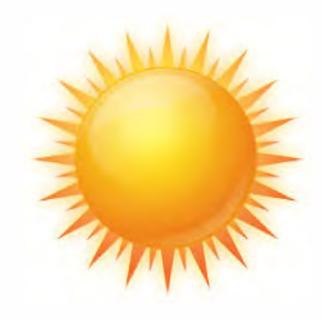


# That's right, they are symbols too

## Just like these









Okay, one last time: what are these?





sol



## So why didn't you know those words until the end?



## Your not understanding those words

## is the same as your audience

## not understanding your words.

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# What is cycling?



# What is peak?



#### How to define these words, and others like them?

There are a number of solutions, each depends on your writing style guide

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### First, don't use different words

# Ramp $\neq$ IncreaseContingency $\neq$ incident

Footnote Glossary Narrative definition Narrative explanation Narrative definition:

Ramp is the rate that a generator increases or decreases its power output, generally specified in MW per minute. Narrative explanation:

The fast-start generator ramped up to its full power output of 60 MW in only 4 minutes, achieving a ramp rate of 15 MW per minute.

"More and more people are paying attention, and they know less and less." Me **IRP Manager** Yeah. I know! (with a heavy sigh)

# Second: Don't Bury Your Headline

### **Typical Information Flow: Burying the Headline**

**Executive Summary:** 

1. Who, what, when, where, why

2. Analysis and other factors

3. Details of the analytical results

4. Perspective

5. Summary of key findings

#### **Example: Burying the Headline**

## IRP 2013 Executive Summary

- Starts with the known and irrelevant
- First headline: page 7; IRP results: page 17
- Reader: "Where's the important information?"
- No overarching statement

[btw, I didn't write this]

#### 1. Who, what, when, where, why

Hawaiian Electric Company, Hawaii Electric Light Company, and Maui Electric Company [collectively referred to as the "Companies"] have developed the 2013 Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) Action Plan and report in cooperation with the Independent Entity (IE) and the Advisory Group (AG) established for this purpose by the Hawaii Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in accordance with the IRP Framework.<sup>1</sup> (page 1)

Problem: Irrelevant; already known

#### 2. Analysis and other factors

The general goal of IRP is to develop an Action Plan that guides how the Companies will meet energy objectives and customer energy needs consistent with State of Hawaii energy policies and goals. The 2013 IRP Objectives were developed with the AG, and are presented below (followed by a bulleted list). (page 1)

Problem: Already known

### 3. Details of the analytical results

Historically, a traditional IRP would assess the new generation resource needs for a nominal 20-year planning period in a fullyregulated market with increasing demand for generation capacity. This is not the case in Hawaii today. Due to high fuel costs, effective energy efficiency programs, customer self-generation of electricity and economic conditions, utility sales and peak loads have declined for several years and are expected to be relatively flat (Stuck in the Middle IRP Scenario) or continue to decline (Blazing a Bold Frontier IRP Scenario) in the future. (page 1)

Problem: While important, it lacks context

#### 4. Perspective

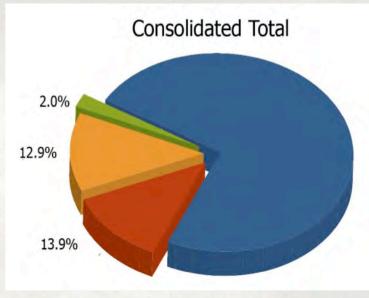
The Companies' goal is to better understand and respond to our customers' preferences and priorities. Our relationship with our customers begins in their homes and their businesses — helping them to conserve energy, to take advantage of energy efficiency and distributed generation options like PV, and to provide them the most information and the greatest control of their electricity use possible through tools such as smart meters and energy education. We also must continue to live up to our responsibility to ensure safe and reliable service for our customers' homes and businesses, in whatever manner and from whatever source our customers choose. (page 2)

Problem: Again, it's important, but not page 2 important.

#### 5. Summary of key findings

The Companies met a record 13.9% of energy needs from renewable generation in 2012—well ahead of the 12% reported for 2011 & on the way to passing the next clean energy goal of 15% in 2015. (page 7)

Problem: 7 pages to get to a headline



- Grid modernization (page 17)
- Costs and bills (page 22)
- Fairness (page 25)
- Scenarios, resource plans, and action plans (page 27)

Problems: Ten more pages before results; is it even obvious?

#### **Addressing Audience Needs: Headline First**

Executive Summary:

1. Summary of key findings

2. Perspective

3. Details of the analytical results

4. Analysis and other factors

5. Who, what, when, where, why

#### **Example: Headline First**

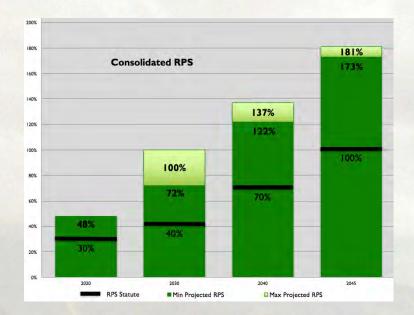
#### **PSIP: December 2016 Executive Summary**

- Hot item first: exceed RPS
- Actions that exceed RPS + summary details
- Reader gets important information in first 3 pages
- Overarching statement: attaining RPS doable
- That's headline first

[btw, I did write this]

#### 1. Summary of key findings

By implementing the proposed action plan, we will exceed the 2020 RPS mandate of 30%, achieving an estimated 48%, and doubling our 2016 RPS. Under multiple longer-term scenarios, our RPS can be at least 72% by 2030 and reach at least 100% by 2040, ahead of the 2045 deadline. (page 1)



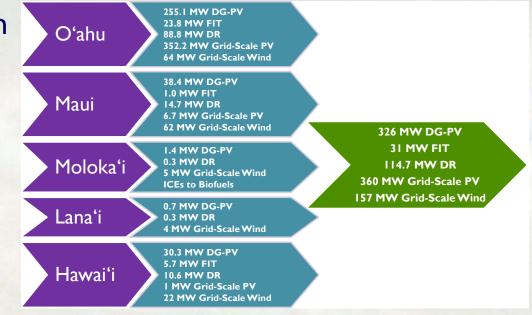
#### 2. Perspective

Our PSIP accelerates the pace on the path to 100% renewable energy. The Action Plans:

- Exceed Hawaii's 2020 Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) and achieve a consolidated RPS of 52% over the next five years.
- Enable Moloka'i to achieve 100% renewable energy by 2020.
- Maximize distributed energy resources—fairly compensated.
- Make high use of demand response programs.
- Aggressively seek grid-scale renewable resources, leveraging federal tax credits.
- Pursue grid modernization to enable continued integration of renewable energy.
- Preserve long-term flexibility to use emerging technologies and accommodate changing circumstances.
- Reduce operations that use fossil fuels and contribute to global warming. (page 2)

#### 3. Details of the analytical results

Here are the renewable generation and customer demand response additions in our proposed nearterm action plans. (page 3)



- Seven renewable energy planning principles (page 4)
- Strong DER growth (page 4)
- Grid modernization; costs (page 5)
- Interisland transmission (page 6)

#### 4. Analysis and other factors

Stakeholder Involvement. We analyzed many scenarios and strategies for attaining our RPS goals. These scenarios included multiple long-term energy scenarios developed by Hawaiian Electric and by PSIP stakeholders. As part of this evaluation, we collaborated with PSIP stakeholders, thoughtfully considering their suggestions and input. Here is a sampling of scenarios from several stakeholders along with our general assessment of those scenarios: (page 7)

[followed by a list of specific input topics]

#### 5. Who, what, when, where, why

#### [omitted]



The technical trail is fundamental to resource plans. The communication trail is also fundamental to resource plans.

That's the insight we derived over these four resource plans.

#### So remember...

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## **Headlines Influence Decisions**



# It's the End of the Trail!

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## lf you forget everything else,

#### remember this...

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## Understand your audience

# And don't bury the headline!

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Thank you.





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# So... more questions?



#### **Headlines Influence Decisions**

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## Appendix

Hawaiian Electric Resource Plan Timeline

# over the past Four resource five years plans... 2017 Solari Communication. All rights reserved.

# • Entire PUC changed

- New Governor (2014) loudly opposes "merger" and LNG
- New PUC tries to control IRP content and results



#### 2011

Mar

14

2012

Mar

1

Order announcing IRP 2013; with an updated IRP Framework:

- Goal and governing principles
- Commission, utility, government, and public roles
- Independent Entity and 68-person Advisory Group
- Planning process and guidelines

Order starting IRP 2013:

• Deadline: 365 days after Advisory Group formed

#### IE named; Advisory Group formed. Represented are:

- Local businesses and associations
- Legislature
- Environmental groups
- Energy developers
- County officials
- Governmental agencies
- Residents

Jun 29 2012 Jul 19 Aug Dec • • 2013 IRP process: Jan May

More Commission direction:

Principal Issues and questions to address

#### **IRP** process:

- Monthly day-long Advisory Group meetings
- IRP based on scenario planning: two-day interactive session
- 17 Principal Issues to address
- Statute: 25% RPS by 2020; 40% RPS by 2030

- Monthly day-long Advisory Group meetings
- 7 additional technical sessions
- 17 Principal Issues to address
- Statute: 25% RPS by 2020; 40% RPS by 2030

#### 2013

IRP 2013 filed; individual action plans for each utility.

- Exceeds RPS goals
- Lowers customer bills
- Modernizes the grid
- Partially transitions to LNG to lower costs and meet environmental standards
- Addresses rooftop solar expansion

Independent Entity "cannot certify" IRP 2013

15 intervenors admitted

Hawaii Electric Light ordered to file a Power Supply Improvement Plan (PSIP):

- Within 120 days
- Order cites 24 provisions to address in four Component Plans

Jun 28

Jul

29

Sep

9

Dec

20

Apr 21

Apr

28

2014

Hawaii Electric Light files Power Supply Plan (PSP)

• Never ruled on

Four months late, Commission "rejects" IRP 2013 for:

- Not complying with the Framework
- Failing to meaningfully address 13 of 17 Principal Issues

Includes Commission's Inclinations as basis for resource plans; three major sections:

- Creating a 21<sup>st</sup> century generation system
- Creating modern T&D grids
- Reforming policy and regulatory policies to achieve Hawaii's clean energy future

Two additional orders to continue PSIP process



Hawaiian Electric ordered to file five plans:

- Interconnection Requirements Study: 30 days
- Distribution Circuit Monitoring program: 60 days
- Distributed Generation Interconnection Plan: 120 days
- Integrated Interconnection Queue plan: 120 days
- Power Supply Improvement Plan (PSIP): 120 days addressing 37 provisions within 7 Component Plans

Maui Electric ordered to file a Power Supply Improvement Plan: 120 days addressing 21 provisions within 4 Component Plans

**PSIP docket established** 

2014

Apr

28

Apr

28

Aug

7

Aug

26

Hawaiian Electric, Maui Electric, and Hawaii Electric Light all file individual PSIPs containing some overlapping company-wide information...

2014	
Aug 26	<ul> <li>All three filed 2014 PSIPs:</li> <li>Exceed RPS mandates</li> <li>Transition to LNG</li> <li>Upgrade the T&amp;D grid</li> <li>Reduce customer bills</li> <li>Respond to all Component Plans</li> </ul>
Sep 12	Public comments invited
2015	
Jan 29	NextEra files "merger" application
Mar 2	Order issued to address "merger" application
Apr – Sep	NextEra and Hawaiian Electric file over 27,000 pages in response to intervenor and Commission IRs

# PSIP: Apr 2016

2015 Nov 4 Nov 25 Dec 2 Dec 11 Dec 17

2014 PSIPs mostly rejected; update ordered:

- Initial Statement of Issues outlined
- 8 Observations & Concerns
- Revision Plan by November 25, 2015
- Interim PSIP Update by February 15, 2016
- Updated PSIP by April 1, 2016
- 22 intervenors rejected, but admitted as participant "Parties"

**Revision Plan filed** 

"Merger" hearings begin

One more Party added

First stakeholder conference

#### First technical conference

Interim PSIP Update filed:

- Decision Framework: DER, DR, utility-scale resources
- Party input
- "Merged" utility commits to speeding up RPS attainment

Second technical conference

"Merger" headings end; 7,200 transcript pages

Updated PSIP filed, work still to be done:

- LNG as a transition fuel
- 383 MW 3x1 CC
- Addresses 7 of 8 Observations & Concerns
- Comprehensive grid transformation
- Exceeds RPS mandates
- Oahu-based utility-scale wind and solar potential

# **PSIP: Dec 2016**

Hawaii Natural Energy Institute publishes "Alternative Ownership for Electric Utility on O'ahu and Hawaii Island"

Second stakeholder conference

Public comments invited

Third stakeholder conference

"Merger" dismissed without prejudice

Order to clarify Revised PSIP content:

- Six additional issues to address
- Two more technical conferences
- Work Plan by September 7
- Revised PSIP by December 1
- Party IRs
- Party and Hawaiian Electric SOPs

Hawaiian Electric Motion for Clarification: never ruled on

Four additional stakeholder meetings

#### **Revised Work Plan filed:**

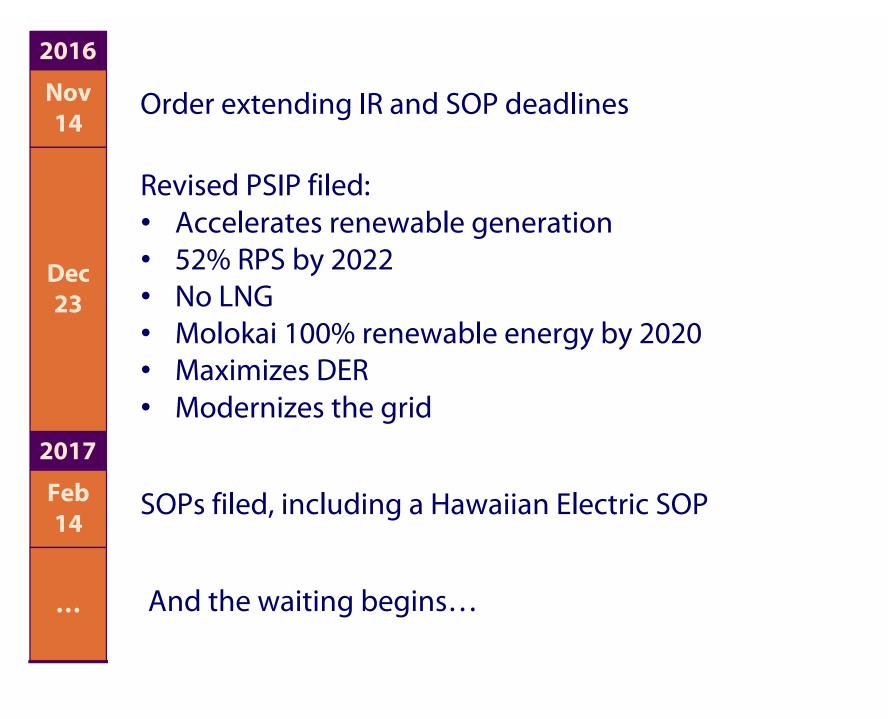
- Updated analysis process using 3 modeling tools
- Updated assumptions
- Updated O'ahu-sited utility scale wind and solar potential

Third technical conference

Fourth technical conference

Order changing PSIP deadline to December 23

- Extends IR and SOP deadlines
- Removes Hawaiian Electric SOP requirement



Thank you.





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