

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER COMPANY	DOCKET NO. EEP-94-40 (ECR-96-1)
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ORDER EXTENDING FILING DATE

(Issued May 14, 2001)

On June 28, 2000, the Utilities Board (Board) issued a "Final Decision and Order" in this docket in a prudence review to evaluate the reasonableness and prudence of Interstate Power Company's (Interstate) energy efficiency plan implementation. The Board's review was for calendar years 1996, 1997, and 1998. In the order, the Board said it intended to commence another prudence review, for calendar years 1999 and 2000, and directed Interstate to file required information on or before July 1, 2001.

In the Board's final decision, Interstate was also directed to arrange informal quarterly meetings with the Board's staff, the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice, and other interested parties. These meetings have proved useful both to the Board's staff and the other participants because they provide an opportunity for an ongoing dialogue regarding Interstate's energy efficiency efforts.

Pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.6(19), gas and electric rate-regulated utilities are required to file energy efficiency plans with the Board. The statute also requires, among other things, that the utilities assess potential energy and capacity savings and submit the assessment to the Board. In order to fulfill its statutory

responsibilities, the Board intends to require that all rate-regulated utilities develop new energy efficiency plans. As part of this effort, the Board hopes that the utilities will engage in a collaborative effort to obtain the essential assessment data.

Because the Board's staff will likely be engaged in the collaborative discussions, the Board will reschedule Interstate's prudence filing to a date to be set by subsequent order. The Board is concerned that conducting a contested case prudence review could hinder any collaborative process in developing Interstate's new plan. The Board believes the focus at this time should be on developing new energy efficiency plans that best utilize the state's energy resources. There will be sufficient opportunity for prudence review of prior years after any collaborative effort is completed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The filing date to commence the prudence review of calendar years 1999 and 2000 of Interstate Power Company's energy efficiency plan expenditures is continued from July 1, 2001, to a date to be set by subsequent order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Allan T. Thoms

/s/ Susan J. Frye

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Acting Executive Secretary

/s/ Diane Munns

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 14th day of May, 2001.