

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. P-750
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**ORDER ASSIGNING TO PRESIDING OFFICER**

(Issued February 23, 2004)

On September 11, 2003, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a renewal of a pipeline permit. MidAmerican is requesting renewal of Permit No. 887 issued on October 17, 1978, for the Blue Grass #2 Lateral. The pipeline enables MidAmerican to maintain adequate gas service to the City of Blue Grass and surrounding areas. The 3.83 miles of existing 4-inch diameter steel pipeline has a maximum operating pressure of 425 pounds per square inch.

Board staff reviewed the petition and inspected the pipeline for compliance with safety standards. Board staff notified MidAmerican on October 6, 2003, of the results of the inspection and deficiencies in the petition. On October 27, 2003, MidAmerican filed a response addressing safety violations noted in the inspection. Board staff filed a report on the pipeline petition and route inspection on February 13, 2004. The report indicates that MidAmerican has not made the code reference correction to Exhibit C to the petition as identified in the safety inspection.

Iowa Code § 479.7 (2003) requires the Board to set a hearing in a pipeline proceeding upon the filing of a petition. The Board finds that the petition substantially complies with the Board's filing requirements and the Board will assign Docket No. P-750 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing. MidAmerican should make the code reference correction to Exhibit C to the petition, as indicated in Board staff report filed February 13, 2004, prior to any hearing in this matter.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Docket No. P-750 is assigned to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and exercise the authority provided in 199 IAC 7.1(4).

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ Diane Munns

/s/ Mark O. Lambert

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of February, 2004.