

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  CORNING MUNICIPAL UTILITIES	DOCKET NO. P-489
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**ORDER ASSIGNING TO PRESIDING OFFICER**

(Issued March 17, 2006)

On September 15, 2003, Corning Municipal Utilities (Corning) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a pipeline permit to allow Corning to construct, maintain, and operate an existing natural gas pipeline in Adams County, Iowa. The proposed pipeline consists of approximately 3.5 miles of 3-inch diameter steel pipeline that provides natural gas service to Corning, Iowa. The pipeline was constructed in 1979 and operates at 150 psig (pounds per square inch gauge). Corning has filed for a permit for this pipeline as required by 199 IAC 10.16 since it meets the definition of a transmission line pursuant to 49 CFR 192.3.

Board staff reviewed the petition and notified Corning of deficiencies in the petition and requested additional information in letters dated October 6, 2003, and February 8 and September 23, 2005. Corning filed revisions and additional information on April 21, 2004, June 16, 2005, and March 1, 2006. On June 9, 2004, Board staff filed a report addressing the petition and proposed pipeline route. On March 6, 2006, Board staff filed a second report concerning the petition and pipeline.

In the March 6, 2006, report, Board staff requested that Corning be required to address in prefiled testimony whether the Brown Bear manufacturing facility has

enough employees to create a Class 3 location that would require additional safety precautions. Board staff also requested that Corning be required to address whether the pipeline contains any high consequence areas and, if there are, does Corning have an integrity management program covering this pipeline.

Iowa Code § 479.7 (2005) requires the Board to set a hearing in a pipeline proceeding upon the filing of a petition. The Board finds that the petition, as revised, sufficiently meets the Board's filing requirements and the Board will assign Docket No. P-489 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing. Board staff in the March 9, 2006, inspection report recommends that Corning provide additional information as described above in prefiled testimony. The presiding officer should review these recommendations and take the appropriate action.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Docket No. P-489 is assigned to Amy Christensen as the presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and exercise the authority provided in 199 IAC 7.3.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Diane Munns

ATTEST:

/s/ Margaret Munson  
Executive Secretary, Deputy

/s/ Curtis W. Stamp

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2006.