

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY	DOCKET NO. P-246
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ORDER ASSIGNING TO PRESIDING OFFICER

(Issued September 5, 2006)

On December 1, 2004, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for renewal of a pipeline permit for a natural gas transmission pipeline in Montgomery and Page Counties, Iowa. The pipeline is constructed of approximately 25.25 miles of 6-inch and 4-inch diameter steel pipeline and is identified as the Clarinda-Villisca Lateral. The Clarinda-Villisca Lateral carries natural gas from a connection with a Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America pipeline to regulator stations in Villisca, Hepburn, and Clarinda, Iowa, where the pressure is reduced for distribution to customers in those towns.

Board staff reviewed the petition and notified IPL of deficiencies in the petition and requested additional information by letters dated May 5, 2005 and May 15, 2006. On June 14 and August 4, 2005, and May 22, 2006, IPL filed revisions to the petition and provided additional information. On February 3, 2006, IPL filed proof of publication showing notice had been published in Montgomery County on January 12 and 19, 2006, and in Page County on December 21 and 28, 2005. An objection was filed to the petition on January 9, 2006.

On January 7, 2005, and May 5, 2006, Board staff conducted route inspections of the pipeline. On July 31, 2006, Board staff filed a route inspection

report and a report concerning the petition. In the report on the petition, Board staff requested that IPL respond to the objection and numerous issues concerning the petition. Board staff also requested that the objector address several issues concerning the objection to the pipeline.

The Board finds that the petition, as revised, substantially satisfies the Board's filing requirements and the Board will assign Docket No. P-246 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing. Pursuant to 199 IAC 10.8, a hearing must be scheduled if an objection to the renewal of the permit is filed within 20 days of the second publication notice. The objection filed January 9, 2006, was timely filed and the petition will be set for hearing. Since the petition is for the renewal of an existing permit, the hearing may be held in the offices of the Board in Des Moines, Iowa, but that is up to the presiding officer to decide.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Docket No. P-246 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

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Curtis W. Stamp

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 5th day of September, 2006.