

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: PLATINUM ETHANOL, LLC	DOCKET NO. P-873
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ORDER ASSIGNING DOCKET TO PRESIDING OFFICER

(Issued December 24, 2007)

On October 24, 2007, Platinum Ethanol, LLC (Platinum), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a pipeline permit to allow Platinum to construct, maintain, and operate a gas pipeline in Cherokee and Ida counties in Iowa. The proposed natural gas pipeline consists of approximately 22 miles of 8⁵/₈-inch diameter steel pipe and is designed to connect to a proposed MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) pipeline near Galva, Iowa. The MidAmerican pipeline will transport natural gas to the Platinum Ethanol Plant, which is currently under construction near Arthur, Iowa.

Board staff reviewed the petition and by letter dated November 5, 2007, notified Platinum of deficiencies in the petition and requested additional information. On November 28, 2007, Platinum filed revisions to the petition exhibits and provided additional information. On December 12, 2007, Board staff filed a report concerning the route inspection and petition. In the report, Board staff requests that Platinum respond to certain questions or provide additional information on several issues in prefiled testimony or at the hearing.

Iowa Code § 479.7 (2007) 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, substantially meets the filing requirements for the Board to proceed to a hearing of this matter. The Board will assign the petition in Docket No. P-873 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

Docket No. P-873 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/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Darrell Hanson

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 24th day of December, 2007.