

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. P-46
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**ORDER CONSOLIDATING PETITIONS AND
ASSIGNING DOCKET TO PRESIDING OFFICER**

(Issued February 22, 2008)

On September 20, 2007, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for amendment of Pipeline Permit No. R966, identified as Docket No. P-46, for its Red Oak-Shenandoah Lateral in Montgomery and Page counties, Iowa. MidAmerican requested an increase in the maximum operating pressure for the steel portion of the pipeline from 350 psig to 450 psig. On December 13, 2007, MidAmerican filed a petition for renewal of Pipeline Permit No. R966, also identified as Docket No. P-46. The renewal is required pursuant to Iowa Code § 479.19 every 25 years and the requirements for an extension are prescribed in Iowa Code § 479.23.

The Red Oak-Shenandoah Lateral transports natural gas from a connection with a Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America pipeline to regulator stations that feed distribution systems in the towns of Red Oak, Coburg, Essex, and Shenandoah, Iowa. The Lateral currently consists of 14.7 miles of 8-inch diameter steel pipeline, 10 miles of 6-inch diameter steel pipeline, 0.58 miles of 4-inch diameter steel pipeline, and 5.27 miles of 4-inch diameter plastic pipeline.

By letters dated September 27, 2007, October 30, 2007, and November 15, 2007, Board staff notified MidAmerican concerning deficiencies in the petition to amend Permit No. R966 and requested additional information on certain items in the petition. On October 8, 2007, November 14, 2007, and November 21, 2007, MidAmerican filed revisions to the petition and exhibits and provided additional information.

By letter dated December 20, 2007, Board staff notified MidAmerican concerning deficiencies in the petition for renewal of Permit No. R966. On January 15, 2008, MidAmerican filed revisions to the petition and exhibits.

On October 9 through 11, 2007, Board staff conducted a safety and route inspection of the proposed pipeline with regard to the petition to amend the permit. On December 20, 2007, Board staff filed a report on the petition for amendment which addressed the route inspection and the petition itself. On January 24, 2008, Board staff filed a report on the petition for renewal which addressed the route inspection and the petition for renewal. In both reports, Board staff requests that MidAmerican be required in prefiled testimony or at hearing to respond to questions raised by Board staff about the two petitions and provide certain additional information.

The Board is required pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 479 and Board rules in 199 IAC chapter 10 to schedule a hearing when a petition to amend a pipeline is filed and, in this instance, a hearing for the renewal of the permit, since Permit No. R966 expired on December 20, 2007. The two petitions, as revised, appear to sufficiently

meet the procedural requirements for filing and will be set for hearing. Since a ruling on MidAmerican's petition for amendment cannot be made until the outcome of the petition for renewal is determined, the Board will consolidate the two petitions for hearing and assign them to a Presiding Officer to establish a consolidated procedural schedule including a hearing.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The petition to amend Pipeline Permit No. R966 and the petition for renewal of Pipeline Permit No. R966, both identified as Docket No. P-46, are assigned to Amy Christensen as the presiding officer to establish a consolidated procedural schedule for hearing the two petitions and to exercise the authority provided in 199 IAC 7.3.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/ Sharon Mayer

Executive Secretary, Assistant to

/s/ Darrell Hanson

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 22nd day of February, 2008.