

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NOS. RPU-08-4 WRU-08-30-156
--	---------------------------------------

**ORDER DOCKETING CASE, SETTING INTERVENTION
DEADLINE, AND GRANTING WAIVER**

(Issued July 24, 2008)

On July 23, 2008, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) an application for determination of advance ratemaking principles pertaining to a proposed 52.5 MW wind-powered generation project. MidAmerican calls the project the Wind VI Iowa Project and states the project would be placed at its current Walnut, Iowa, wind site. MidAmerican said it needs the new project to be in-service by December 31, 2008, to take advantage of the expiring federal production tax credit and special depreciation provisions of federal law. To meet this deadline, MidAmerican asked that the Board issue a final order no later than September 2, 2008.

As part of its application, MidAmerican filed a stipulation and agreement (Settlement) signed by MidAmerican and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice. The Settlement asks that the Board approve MidAmerican's requested ratemaking principles.

Iowa Code § 476.53 provides that when defined new electric generation is to be constructed by a public utility, the Board shall specify in advance, by order issued

after a contested case proceeding, the ratemaking principles that will apply when the costs are included in electric rates. MidAmerican's expansion falls within the defined class of new electric generation eligible for advance ratemaking principles.

The Board has reviewed the application and will docket it for investigation and set an intervention deadline. As noted earlier, MidAmerican requested that the Board conduct an expedited review of the application. If there are no interventions by the August 4, 2008, intervention deadline set in this order and there are no questions or issues remaining after the Board's review of the advance ratemaking principles application (which included prefiled testimony and exhibits) and Settlement, the Board may rule on MidAmerican's advance ratemaking principles application and Settlement without a hearing or further procedures.

Finally, the Board will grant a waiver of 199 IAC 7.2(11)"a," which provides that a settlement may be filed at any time after a case is docketed. Here, the Settlement was filed as part of the ratemaking principles application. The waiver, which was requested by MidAmerican in its filing, is appropriate because it gives potential intervenors an opportunity to review the Settlement prior to making their decision whether to intervene in the proceeding. The standards for granting a waiver contained in 199 IAC 1.3 are satisfied.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. An investigation is initiated with respect to the application for determination of advance ratemaking principles filed by MidAmerican Energy Company on July 23, 2008, pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.53. This matter is identified

as Docket No. RPU-08-4, a formal contested case proceeding. The expenses reasonably attributable to this investigation will be assessed to MidAmerican in accordance with Iowa Code § 476.10 (2007).

2. The deadline to file a petition to intervene in this proceeding shall be August 4, 2008. The petition to intervene shall state whether the prospective intervenor supports or opposes the settlement and agreement.

3. The request for waiver of 199 IAC 7.2(11)"a" filed by MidAmerican Energy Company on July 23, 2008, as part of its ratemaking principles application, is granted.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ John R. Norris

/s/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/ Margaret Munson
Executive Secretary, Deputy

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 24th day of July, 2008.