

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  SOUTHWEST IOWA RENEWABLE ENERGY, LLC	DOCKET NO. P-880
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**ORDER ASSIGNING DOCKET TO PRESIDING OFFICER**

(Issued August 12, 2008)

On June 16, 2008, Southwest Iowa Renewable Energy, LLC (SIRE), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a pipeline permit to allow SIRE to construct, maintain, and operate a natural gas pipeline in Pottawattamie County, Iowa. The proposed pipeline consists of approximately 0.65 miles of 4½ -inch diameter steel pipe and is designed to transport natural gas from the connection with a Northern Natural Gas Company pipeline southeast of Council Bluffs, Iowa, to a proposed SIRE ethanol plant southeast of Council Bluffs.

Board staff reviewed the petition and by letters dated June 19, 2008, and July 11, 2008, notified SIRE of deficiencies in the petition and requested additional information. On July 7 and July 22, 2008, SIRE filed revisions to the petition exhibits and provided additional information. On July 24, 2008, Board staff filed a report concerning the route inspection and petition. In the report, Board staff requests that SIRE respond to certain questions or provide additional information on several issues in prefiled testimony.

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-880 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing that addresses the issues raised in Board staff's July 24, 2008, report, as well as other statutory and factual issues.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Docket No. P-880 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**

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/s/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper  
Executive Secretary

/s/ Darrell Hanson

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 12<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2008.