

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

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IN RE:  HOMELAND ENERGY SOLUTIONS LLC	DOCKET NO. P-879
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**ORDER ASSIGNING DOCKET TO PRESIDING OFFICER**

(Issued November 3, 2008)

On August 27, 2008, Homeland Energy Solutions LLC (Homeland) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a pipeline permit to allow Homeland to construct, maintain, and operate a natural gas pipeline in Chickasaw County, Iowa. The proposed pipeline consists of approximately 8 miles of 6 and 5/8-inch diameter steel pipe with a maximum allowable pressure of 800 psig (pounds per square inch gauge). The proposed pipeline is designed to transport natural gas from a connection with a Northern Natural Gas Company pipeline west of New Hampton, Iowa, to a proposed Homeland ethanol plant east of New Hampton.

On October 15, 2008, Board staff conducted an inspection of the proposed route of the pipeline. On October 24, 2008, Homeland filed revisions to its petition. On October 28, 2008, Board staff filed a report concerning the route inspection and petition. In the report, Board staff requests that Homeland respond to certain questions or provide additional information in prefiled testimony regarding Exhibits C and D to the petition, proximity of the pipeline to electric transmission towers,

operation of the pipeline, and compliance with U.S. Department of Transportation Pipeline Safety Regulations at 49 CFR 192.476.

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-879 to a presiding officer to establish a procedural schedule and conduct a hearing that addresses the issues raised in Board staff's October 28, 2008, report, as well as other statutory and factual issues.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

Docket No. P-879 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 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2008.