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## **Iowa Utilities Board establishes advance sign-up process for public comments at pipeline hearing**

*Those wishing to speak in favor or against the proposed Dakota Access pipeline project should call the Board on Nov. 5 and 6 to sign up*

(Des Moines) – On January 20, 2015, Dakota Access, LLC (Dakota Access), filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a petition for a hazardous liquid pipeline permit, pursuant to Iowa Code 479B. The matter was docketed as HLP-2014-0001. The Board also scheduled hearing dates in this matter from November 12 through December 2, 2015, including a day for public comments on Thursday, November 12 from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The hearing proceedings will be conducted at the Community Building on the Boone County Fairgrounds, 1601 Industrial Park Road, in Boone, Iowa.

Based on the thousands of objections and letters of support received by the Board and other public contacts regarding the public hearing, there is substantial public interest in speaking on November 12, the public comment day at the hearing. The large volume of public interest will require a more organized arrangement to facilitate more efficient presentation. This will allow members of the public to offer their comments and will promote the safety and security of those attending.

In order to promote an orderly and efficient process, the Board is establishing an advance sign-up process for speakers. Those who wish to provide public comments on November 12 may call the Board's general number, 515-725-7300, during normal business hours, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., on Thursday and Friday, November 5 and 6, 2015, to sign up.

Callers will need to state their name, address, and whether they want to speak in favor of or against issuance of the permit. Waiting lists will be assembled as necessary. The completed list will be posted on the Board's Web site, <https://iub.iowa.gov> on Monday, November 9, 2015.

On the public comment day of the hearing, the Board will call speakers to the appropriate microphone in the order in which they signed up, alternating between those opposed and those in favor of issuance of a permit. If each speaker list is completed before the end of the hearing on November 12, including any waiting lists, the Board will hear from unscheduled commenters until 5:00 p.m.

For more information on this process, review the [Board's order](#) regarding the public comment hearing. For general information about the proposed Dakota Access pipeline project, visit the various pipeline information pages on the Board's Web site.

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*The Iowa Utilities Board regulates utilities to ensure that reasonably priced, reliable, environmentally responsible, and safe utility services are available to all Iowans.*

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