



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** July 6, 2016

Media contact | Don Tormey, 515.725.7347, [don.tormey@iub.iowa.gov](mailto:don.tormey@iub.iowa.gov)

Web site | <https://iub.iowa.gov>

## **Iowa Utilities Board approves customer notice; schedules meetings and new intervention date for Black Hills Energy farm tap gas customers**

(Des Moines) – On July 5, 2016, the Iowa Utilities Board (Board) issued [an order](#) addressing a revised customer notice and the Black Hills Energy (BHE) request, filed with the Board on November 24, 2015, seeking approval of proposed tariffs regarding BHE's natural gas farm tap customers in Docket No. [SPU-2015-0039](#), and [TF-2015-0352](#).

The Board approved the proposed customer notice filed by BHE on June 1, 2016, with modifications to include; a brief description of BHE's proposed plan; an estimate of the potential rate impact on BHE's customers; and information about upcoming customer meetings scheduled by the Board.

The Board has scheduled six customer meetings to allow potentially-affected customers the chance to provide feedback on BHE's proposal. The meeting dates and locations, each will begin at 6:00 p.m. unless otherwise noted, are as follows:

- 1) Wednesday, August 10, 2016, DMACC Newton Campus, 600 N. 2nd Avenue West, Newton, Iowa;
- 2) Tuesday, August 23, 2016, Spencer Area Activity Center, 104 E. 4th Street, Spencer, Iowa;
- 3) Wednesday, August 24, 2016, Council Bluffs Public Library, 400 Willow Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa;
- 4) Monday, August 29, 2016, Boulders Conference Center, 2507 Boulders Drive, Denison, Iowa;
- 5) Wednesday, September 14, 2016, Manchester Fire Department, 400 E. Main Street, Manchester, Iowa, at 6:30 p.m.; and
- 6) Tuesday, September 20, 2016, Webster City Community Theater, 1001 Willson Avenue, Webster City, Iowa.

In addition, the Board ordered BHE to send the amended customer notice to all of its customers since all customers may be impacted depending on the final outcome of the case.

The Board stated that since BHE has previously provided specific notice of its proposal to farm

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tap customers via a brochure mailed on May 15, 2016, BHE's plan to mail this notice to all customers with their monthly bills is satisfactory.

A new intervention date of Monday, September 26, 2016, has also been set by the Board. This new date is after the customer meetings and will give potentially affected customers or any other interested parties the opportunity to decide whether to intervene after having a chance to participate in the customer meetings.

Following the intervention date, the Board will set a procedural schedule for further actions in this docket.

Customers may provide comments by using the following: an electronic comment form that will be available on the Board's Web site at [iub.iowa.gov](http://iub.iowa.gov), by email to [customer@iub.iowa.gov](mailto:customer@iub.iowa.gov), by postal mail to the Iowa Utilities Board, Docket No. SPU-2015-0039, 1375 E. Court Ave., RM 69, Des Moines, Iowa 50319-0069, or by calling the Board's Customer Service staff toll-free at 877-565-4450.

To review the documents in this case, visit the Board's Electronic Filing System (EFS) at: [§<https://efs.iowa.gov/efs/ShowDocketSummary.do?docketNumber=SPU-2015-0039>](https://efs.iowa.gov/efs/ShowDocketSummary.do?docketNumber=SPU-2015-0039) and click the "Documents" tab.

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