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Iowa Utilities Board approves Interstate Power and Light Company’s ‘New Wind Project’

(Des Moines) – The Iowa Utilities Board [issued an order](#) today approving a settlement in the electric wind generation project proposed by Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL), a subsidiary of Alliant Energy. The \$1 billion proposed “New Wind Project” allows IPL to expand its wind generation resources in Iowa by up to 500 megawatts.

The Board’s order states that IPL has satisfied the two conditions in Iowa Code and is therefore eligible for advance ratemaking principles in [Docket No. RPU-2016-0005](#). The order also noted that the Board, in reviewing the Settlement as a whole, found it to be reasonable, in the public interest, and not contrary to law, subject to two modifications. The Board modified the Size Cap and Cancellation Cost Recovery principles. A complete list of the approved ratemaking principles is attached to the Board’s order.

The Board stated the ratemaking principles associated with the New Wind Project, as agreed to by the parties and modified by the Board, are reasonable, will reduce IPL’s reliance on fossil-fueled generation and position IPL to meet ongoing and future environmental mandates in a manner that is likely to benefit its ratepayers.

The Settlement’s benefits to retail customers will help ensure that IPL’s current and future customers continue to enjoy adequate service and facilities at just and reasonable rates.

IPL will also be required to file semi-annual reports updating construction progress and other information regarding the New Wind facilities. Today’s Board order requires IPL to file the first report on or before March 3, 2017.

IPL filed their New Wind Project request for advanced ratemaking principles with the Board on July 27, 2016, and asked the Board for an expedited review to take full advantage of the federal production tax credit. Alternative energy production facilities, such as the New Wind Project, are eligible for advance ratemaking principles under Iowa Code § 476.53 (2015).

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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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