

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-2009-0003
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**ORDER DOCKETING CASE, SETTING INTERVENTION
DEADLINE, AND GRANTING INTERVENTION**

(Issued April 9, 2009)

On March 25, 2009, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for advance ratemaking principles that would apply for up to 1001 MW of wind generation to be built between 2009 and 2012. MidAmerican calls the project Wind VII. Included with the filing was a stipulation and agreement between MidAmerican and the Consumer Advocate Division of the Department of Justice and a joint motion to approve the settlement agreement.

MidAmerican asked for expedited review and that the Board issue a final order no later than May 29, 2009. MidAmerican said that approval "by that date enables MidAmerican to proceed with development of the Wind VII Iowa Project sites in a manner than ensures MidAmerican can take full advantage of economical opportunities to pursue wind generation as they arise during the remaining term of the current Production Tax Credit." (MidAmerican request for approval, p. 11).

Iowa Code § 476.53 provides that when defined new electric generation is to be constructed by a public utility, the Board shall specify in advance, by order issued

after a contested case proceeding, the ratemaking principles that will apply when the costs are included in electric rates. MidAmerican's expansion falls within the defined class of new electric generation eligible for advance ratemaking principles.

The Board has reviewed the application and will docket it for investigation and set an intervention deadline. As noted earlier, MidAmerican requested that the Board conduct an expedited review of the application. The Board is in the initial stages of its review, but believes it might have questions in at least two areas, return on equity and resource planning. Subsequent to the April 17, 2009, intervention deadline, the Board will determine if additional procedures or processes, such as a hearing, are necessary to complete its review.

Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed a petition to intervene on April 7, 2009. IPL said any decision in MidAmerican's ratemaking principles docket may impact future IPL regulatory filings, thereby directly or indirectly affecting both IPL and its customers. IPL said it was not asking that the settlement be rejected or modified or that a hearing be held, but that, in the event the Board scheduled a hearing, IPL wanted the opportunity to participate or comment.

The petition to intervene will be granted. IPL has demonstrated a unique interest in this proceeding that should be represented.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. An investigation is initiated with respect to the application for determination of advance ratemaking principles filed by MidAmerican Energy

Company on March 25, 2009, pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.53. This matter is identified as Docket No. RPU-2009-0003, a formal contested case proceeding. The expenses reasonably attributable to this investigation will be assessed to MidAmerican in accordance with Iowa Code § 476.10 (2009).

2. The deadline to file a petition to intervene in this proceeding shall be April 17, 2009. The petition to intervene shall state whether the prospective intervenor supports or opposes the settlement and agreement.

3. The petition to intervene filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on April 7, 2009, is granted.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Krista K. Tanner

ATTEST:

/s/ Judi K. Cooper
Executive Secretary

/s/ Darrell Hanson

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9th day of April, 2009.