

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-2016-0001
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**ORDER SETTING PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE
AND INTERVENTION DEADLINE,
SHORTENING DATA REQUEST RESPONSE TIME,
AND REQUESTING RESPONSES**

(Issued May 9, 2016)

On April 14, 2016, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a request for ratemaking principles that would apply to up to 2000 MW of wind generation. MidAmerican calls the project Wind XI.

MidAmerican asked for expedited review, including a request that the Board issue a final order no later than September 21, 2016. MidAmerican said that if Wind XI is approved by that date, MidAmerican will be able to take full advantage of the federal production tax credit, which MidAmerican said is a prerequisite for the economics of Wind XI. (MidAmerican "Request for Approval of Ratemaking Principles," pp. 4-5).

On April 22, 2016, the Board issued an order docketing MidAmerican's application for further investigation. Also in the April 22 order, the Board scheduled a telephone conference with the parties to discuss a proposed procedural schedule, which was included in the order and prepared with the intent to meet MidAmerican's request for a final order by September 21, 2016.

The telephone conference took place on April 28, 2016. At the conclusion of that conference, certain participants agreed to review the procedural schedule proposed in the April 22 order and file any modifications to that proposed schedule with the Board.

On May 2, 2016, MidAmerican filed a motion to approve the procedural schedule first proposed by the Board in its April 22 order, with the understanding that participants retain the right to make a motion to extend or modify the procedural schedule in the future.

The Board has reviewed MidAmerican's motion and will adopt the procedural schedule proposed on April 22, 2016, and set an intervention deadline.

The Board will also shorten the time for responding to discovery requests from seven to five days to facilitate MidAmerican's requested expedited time schedule. 199 IAC 7.15(2). While the time for response is being shortened, the Board understands that these deadlines may not always be feasible because of the volume or type of information requested. The Board expects the parties to work together in good faith during the discovery process so that the deadlines set forth in the procedural schedule can be met.

In addition, the Board seeks responses within 7 days from the date of this order from MidAmerican regarding the following questions relating to its application:

1. The proposed principles listed in the application and the proposed principles listed in the supporting testimony are not identical. Provide a complete list of the principles that MidAmerican is proposing.

2. On page 7 of Mr. Fehr's testimony, he states that MidAmerican does not expect to be able to place into service all 2,000 MW prior to January 1, 2019. How many MW does MidAmerican expect to be able to place into service prior to January 1, 2019? Of the remaining MW, when does MidAmerican expect to place them into service? Does the economic analysis presented by Mr. Specketer reflect these timing expectations? If not, how does the analysis differ from these expectations?

3. Explain the meaning of the phrase "for future projects" as it is used on page 23, line 11 of Mr. Fehr's testimony.

4. Under MidAmerican's proposal, will any shared revenue be used to reduce the deferred depreciation regulatory asset that was approved in RPU-2013-0004? If yes, will shared revenue be applied to the regulatory asset first? If not first, when?

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. Interventions shall be due within ten days from the date of this order, pursuant to 199 IAC 7.13(1).

2. The following procedural schedule is established:

a. The Office of Consumer Advocate, a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, and any intervenors shall file prepared direct testimony, with underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before June 17, 2016. If a party refers to a data request or response in its prepared testimony, the data request or response shall be filed as an exhibit.

b. MidAmerican shall file rebuttal testimony, with underlying workpapers and exhibits, on or before June 24, 2016.

c. A joint statement of issues shall be filed on or before July 11, 2016.

d. A hearing shall be held beginning at 9 a.m. on Wednesday, August 17, 2016, for the purpose of receiving testimony and the cross-examination of all testimony. The hearing shall be held in the Board's hearing room at 1375 E. Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa 50319. The parties shall appear one-half hour prior to the time of the hearing for the purpose of marking exhibits. Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 725-7334 at least five days in advance of the scheduled date to request that appropriate arrangements be made.

e. Parties may file simultaneous briefs on or before August 25, 2016.

3. In the absence of objection, all underlying workpapers shall become a part of the evidentiary record of these proceedings at the time the related testimony and exhibits are entered into the record.

4. In the absence of objection, all data requests and responses referred to in oral testimony or on cross-examination, which have not been previously filed, shall become a part of the evidentiary record of these proceedings. The party making

reference to the data request shall file the data request and response with the Board at the earliest possible time.

5. Pursuant to 199 IAC 7.15(2), the time to respond to data requests is shortened from seven days to five days.

6. MidAmerican Energy Company shall file responses to the questions identified in this order within seven days of the date of this order.

UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser

/s/ Elizabeth S. Jacobs

ATTEST:

/s/ Trisha M. Quijano
Executive Secretary, Designee

/s/ Nick Wagner

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 9th day of May 2016.