



Governor Kim Reynolds
Lt. Governor Adam Gregg

Geri D. Huser, Chair
Nick Wagner, Board Member
Richard W. Lozier, Jr., Board Member

March 13, 2020

Bret A. Dublinske
Fredrikson & Byron, P.A.
505 E. Grand Avenue, Suite 200
Des Moines, IA 50309-1977

RE: Docket No. E-22436

Dear Mr. Dublinske:

On February 7, 2020, the Iowa Utilities Board (Board) Chairperson issued a letter in Docket No. E-22436, scheduling the following informational meetings to discuss the building of a 525 kV direct current transmission line:

March 13, 2020:

Allamakee County (Postville, Iowa) – Noon
Chickasaw County (New Hampton, Iowa) – 5:30 pm

March 16, 2020:

Jackson County (Bellevue, Iowa) – Noon
Dubuque County (Dubuque, Iowa) – 5:30 pm

March 18, 2020:

Floyd County (Charles City, Iowa) – Noon
Cerro Gordo County (Mason City, Iowa) – 5:30 pm

March 23, 2020:

Winneshiek County (Calmar, Iowa) – Noon
Clayton County (Luana, Iowa) – 5:30 pm

As of the date and time of this letter and based on current information concerning COVID-19, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) advises that “[p]eople who are higher risk are encouraged to avoid crowds as much as possible.” Similarly, the World Health Organization (WHO) recommends that persons who are over 60 years or have certain underlying health conditions should avoid crowded areas and places where they may interact with people who are sick. The Iowa Department of Public Health (IDPH) recommends Iowans stay home when experiencing symptoms of a respiratory virus.

Iowa Code § 478.2 requires informational meetings in transmission line cases to provide affected landowners necessary information about the project and how that project may impact the landowners' property. The undersigned are concerned that the purposes of the informational meeting may not be accomplished in light of the recommendations of the CDC, WHO, and IDPH. Affected Iowa landowners who wish to obtain information about the project should not be required to attend informational meetings if that attendance is in contravention to the advice provided by the CDC and WHO. Similarly, Iowans who are ill should not be required to potentially expose their neighbors to illness in order to receive information about the project.

For these reasons, the undersigned postpone the informational meetings scheduled for March 16, 18, and 23, 2020, in Jackson, Dubuque, Floyd, Cerro Gordo, Winneshiek, and Clayton counties. The informational meetings scheduled for March 13, 2020, in Allamakee and Chickasaw counties will occur as previously scheduled; however, the Board will hold additional informational meetings in both counties so that affected landowners who do not wish to attend today's meetings will have another opportunity.

The Board will reschedule informational meetings in each of the affected counties. SOO Green HVDC Link ProjectCo, LLC (SOO Green) is directed to notify affected landowners by any available means of the rescheduled information meetings and directed to identify proposed dates and times for the informational meetings during the week of April 20, 2020 to the extent possible. Affected landowners are encouraged to monitor Docket No. E-22436 for further announcements. SOO Green is further directed to develop plans to allow for livestreaming and for remote or electronic participation by affected landowners, which should be included in the landowner notification. SOO Green shall file its proposed date, times, locations, and the additional information regarding remote participation with the Board. The Board will issue its informational meeting letter within 24 hours after receipt of the information from SOO Green.

Sincerely,

/s/ Geri D. Huser

Geri D. Huser
Iowa Utilities Board Chairperson

/s/ Nick Wagner

Nick Wagner
Iowa Utilities Board Member

/s/ Richard Lozier

Richard Lozier
Iowa Utilities Board Member