

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

<p>IN RE:</p> <p>BLACK HILLS/IOWAGAS UTILITY COMPANY, LLC, d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY</p>	<p>DOCKET NO. SPU-2015-0039 TF-2015-0352</p>
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**ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO
MODIFY PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

(Issued November 17, 2016)

On October 18, 2016, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order in Docket Nos. SPU-2015-0039 and TF-2015-0352 establishing a procedural schedule for this proceeding and requiring Black Hills/Iowa Gas Utility, d/b/a Black Hills Energy (Black Hills) to file additional information with the Board. The procedural schedule required Black Hills to file prepared direct testimony setting forth and supporting its final proposals on November 7, 2016. It also required the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, and any intervenors to the proceeding to file prepared responsive testimony on or before December 2, 2016; an evidentiary hearing was scheduled to begin on January 12, 2017.

On October 20, 2016, OCA filed a motion to modify the procedural schedule. In support of its motion, OCA states that the time allotted to OCA in the procedural schedule prior to filing its responsive testimony does not allow OCA sufficient time to perform a thorough analysis of Black Hills' final proposals, the adequacy of the cost

support, and the potential impacts on rates for current and future customers. OCA states that an additional two weeks is needed to perform its statutory duties in this proceeding.

On October 28, 2016, Black Hills filed a response to OCA's motion stating that it does not object to an extension of the responsive testimony deadline, provided that all subsequent deadlines are also extended. Specifically, Black Hills offers the following modifications to the procedural schedule: The responsive testimony of OCA and other intervenors is to be filed on or before December 16, 2016; Black Hills' rebuttal testimony shall be filed on or before December 29, 2016; a joint statement of the issues shall be filed on or before January 6, 2017; the evidentiary hearing shall begin on January 26, 2017; and simultaneous briefs shall be filed on or before February 9, 2017.

Also on October 28, 2016, OCA filed a response to Black Hills' proposed schedule stating that OCA has no objection to the revisions proposed by Black Hills.

The Board has considered OCA's motion and Black Hills' response and since OCA has no objection to the proposals offered by Black Hills, the Board will grant OCA's motion to modify the procedural schedule and will adopt the changes to the testimony and joint statement of issues deadlines as offered by Black Hills. However, the Board will change the hearing date to February 2, 2017, to preserve some of the Board's preparation time. The dates for filing simultaneous briefs shall be extended accordingly.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The procedural schedule originally established on October 18, 2016, in Docket Nos. SPU-2015-0039 and TF-2015-0352, is modified as follows:

1. The Office of Consumer Advocate, a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, and any intervenors, shall file prepared direct testimony, with underlying exhibits and workpapers, on or before December 16, 2016.

2. Black Hills/Iowa Gas Utility, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy, shall file prepared rebuttal testimony, with underlying exhibits and workpapers, on or before December 29, 2016.

3. The parties shall provide a joint statement of the issues on or before January 6, 2017.

4. A hearing shall be held beginning at 9 a.m. on Thursday, February 2, 2017, for the purpose of receiving customer comments and documentary evidence into the record as well as conducting the cross-examination of all witnesses. The hearing shall be held at Hearing Room in the IUB-OCA Building at 1375 East Court Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa, 50319-0069. The parties shall appear one-half hour prior to the time of the hearing for the purpose of marking exhibits. Customers wishing to provide comments to the Board shall be present prior to the start of the hearing at 9 a.m. Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate should contact the Board at (515) 725-7334 at least five days in advance of the scheduled date to request that appropriate arrangements be made.

5. All parties and intervenors may file simultaneous briefs on or before
Thursday, February 16, 2017.

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 17th day of November 2016.