

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

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IN RE:  MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. RPU-2018-0003
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**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT FILED  
MARCH 1, 2019**

(Issued March 21, 2019)

On March 1, 2019, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) an application for confidential treatment of certain information contained in its status update regarding MidAmerican's Wind XII project. The information for which confidential treatment is sought includes certain cost information for the project. MidAmerican supported the request for confidentiality with an affidavit by a corporate officer. The material for which confidentiality was requested was filed separately and marked confidential. MidAmerican cited Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 22.7(6) as authority for confidential treatment of the data.

MidAmerican claims the information is a report to a governmental agency that, if released, would give advantage to competitors and serve no public purpose and, therefore, should be held confidential pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7(6). MidAmerican said the release of the information would harm its ability to obtain competitively priced power in the wholesale market and hurt its negotiating leverage for future wind projects, to the detriment of MidAmerican's retail customers. No objections have been filed.

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The information in question qualifies as a report to a governmental agency. Based on the affidavit submitted by MidAmerican, release of such information serves no public purpose. Therefore, the Board will hold the information confidential pursuant to Iowa Code § 22.7(6).

The filed information may also be confidential as a trade secret pursuant to Iowa Code §§ 22.7(3) and 550.2(4). However, because the Board finds the information should be held confidential under Iowa Code § 22.7(6), the Board does not reach the question of whether the information is a trade secret.

### ORDERING CLAUSES

#### IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The request for confidential treatment filed by MidAmerican Energy Company on March 1, 2019, is granted under the provisions of Iowa Code § 22.7(6).
2. The information shall be held confidential by the Utilities Board subject to the provisions of Iowa Admin. Code 199—1.9(8)(b)(3).

#### UTILITIES BOARD

/s/ Geri D. Huser

/s/ Nick Wagner

ATTEST:

/s/ Bradley Nielsen

/s/ Richard W. Lozier Jr.

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2019.