

IOWA UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE: INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY	DOCKET NOS. RPU-2023-0002, TF-2023-0260, TF-2023-0261, TF-2023-0262
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ORDER DOCKETING PROPOSED TARIFFS, GRANTING WAIVER, AND SETTING SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

On October 12, 2023, Interstate Power and Light Company (IPL) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a proposal to increase its annual revenue requirements for its retail natural gas and electric service rates (Application) pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.6 and chapter 26 of the Board's administrative rules. IPL seeks an increase in natural gas service revenue of approximately \$14 million, or 5 percent above its existing gas revenue requirement, and an increase in electric service revenue of \$284 million, or approximately 16 percent above its existing electric revenue requirement. IPL proposes to implement its electric service increase in two phases. IPL's filing was identified as Docket No. RPU-2023-0002. With its Application, IPL filed a request to waive a portion of the Board's rule at 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 26.4(5)(h), which requires that all exhibits, including those created as Excel files, be submitted in PDF format. In addition, IPL filed a proposed procedural schedule and three proposed tariff revisions:

- Docket No. TF-2023-0260: Reflecting the first phase of the permanent rates it seeks for its electric service
- Docket No. TF-2023-0261: Reflecting the second phase of the permanent rates it seeks for its electric service
- Docket No. TF-2023-0262: Reflecting the permanent rates it seeks for its natural gas service

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On November 1, 2023, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, filed its response. OCA does not object to IPL's requested waiver of the requirements of 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 26.4(5)(h) for the specified documents. OCA objects to IPL's Application and requests that the Board docket the Application and associated tariff filings for further review.

REQUEST FOR WAIVER OF BOARD RULE

IPL requests that the Board grant a waiver of Board subrule 199 IAC 26.4(5)(h), which requires that all exhibits, including those created as Excel files, be submitted in PDF format. Board rule 199 IAC 1.3 permits the Board to grant waivers if the Board finds, based on clear and convincing evidence, that the proposed waiver: (1) relieves an undue hardship that would otherwise occur with respect to the person for whom the waiver is requested; (2) does not prejudice the substantial legal rights of any person; (3) pertains to a rule that is not mandated by statute or other provision of law; and (4) provides for the public health, safety and welfare by other means than the rule for which a waiver is requested.

Without the waiver, IPL asserts it would face significant undue hardship if required to submit the specified exhibits in PDF format because neither IPL's computers nor the Board's electronic filing system (EFS) can handle the large file size without significant difficulty. IPL asserts the waiver will not prejudice the substantial legal rights of any person because the native Excel format of the exhibits will be submitted and available to other interested parties. The provisions of the rule in question are not specifically mandated by another statute or another provision of law, and substantially

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equal protection of public health, safety, and welfare will be afforded as IPL will be submitting the files in their native Excel format. The documents have been filed in the alternative manner described and there are no objections to the request filed in the docket. For the reasons stated above, the Board will grant IPL's request to waive the requirements of 199 IAC 26.4(5)(h) for the files identified.

PROPOSED PERMANENT TARIFFS

To allow OCA and the Board time to fully consider IPL's proposed rate increases, the Board will suspend the proposed permanent rate revisions, identified as Docket Nos. TF-2023-0260, TF-2023-0261, and TF-2023-0262. The Application for the proposed increase and corresponding tariff revisions will also be docketed as a formal proceeding.

REQUIRED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Board rule 199 IAC 26.4(4) provides the minimum filing requirements for evidence to be filed by a utility with its application for a rate increase. Although it appears IPL's filing is substantially complete, Board staff's review is ongoing. Any additional information and/or clarification needed will be addressed in staff letters.

NOTICE OF SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

The Board will set a scheduling conference for 9 a.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2023, in the Utilities Board Hearing Room, 1375 E. Court Ave., Des Moines, Iowa, to consider the procedural schedule proposed by IPL in its October 12, 2023 Application. Interested persons are requested to file a response to IPL's proposed procedural schedule prior to the scheduling conference and may file a joint proposal for

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consideration. Persons with disabilities who will require assistive devices to observe or participate should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 725-7300 at least five business days in advance to request arrangements. Anyone who plans to participate in the scheduling conference should file a notice in the docket by November 17, 2023, and identify whether their participation will be in person or via webinar.

ORDERING CLAUSES

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The Request for Waiver filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on October 12, 2023, is approved.
2. The Application for Revision of Gas and Electric Rates and supporting documentation filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on October 12, 2023, is substantially complete. This matter will be identified as Docket No. RPU-2023-0002. The expenses reasonably attributable to this investigation shall be assessed to Interstate Power and Light Company in accordance with Iowa Code § 476.10.
3. The tariff revisions filed by Interstate Power and Light Company on October 12, 2023, identified as Docket Nos. TF-2023-0260, TF-2023-0261, and TF-2023-0262 and setting forth proposed permanent rates, are docketed and suspended pursuant to Iowa Code § 476.6(4).
4. A scheduling conference in Docket No. RPU-2023-0002 shall be held at 9 a.m. Tuesday, November 21, 2023, in the Utilities Board Hearing Room. Parties are requested to file a proposed procedural schedule on or before November 17, 2023.
5. Persons with disabilities who will require assistive devices to observe or

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participate in the November 21, 2023 scheduling conference should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 725-7300 at least five business days in advance to request arrangements.

UTILITIES BOARD

Erik M. Helland Date: 2023.11.08
12:26:53 -06'00'

Joshua Byrnes Date: 2023.11.08
14:05:06 -06'00'

ATTEST:

Keetah A Horras Date: 2023.11.08
13:41:28 -06'00'

Sarah Martz Date: 2023.11.08
13:10:50 -06'00'

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 8th day of November, 2023.