

STATE OF IOWA  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:  INVESTIGATION INTO A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR IOWA'S TRANSMISSION GRID OF THE FUTURE	DOCKET NO. INU-2021-0001
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**ORDER SETTING WORKSHOP AGENDA**

On July 2, 2021, the Utilities Board (Board) issued an order opening an investigation regarding a comprehensive plan for Iowa's transmission grid of the future. The order requested comments and proposals be filed on or before August 2, 2021, and set a workshop for 9 to 11 a.m. August 30, 2021. Comments have been filed by various parties in response to the Board's July 2, 2021 order, and the Board has reviewed those comments.

The Board needs information to allow a thorough review of plans for Iowa's transmission grid as initiated by Iowa transmission owners. As a regulatory body with obligations under Iowa law, the Board is attempting to determine what, if any, planning obligations are applicable to Iowa transmission owners. Additionally, the Board is seeking to identify how planning coordination can be encouraged among various entities in the state to create an overall state plan that serves the public's interest while giving appropriate consideration to regional interests.

In individual franchise cases, the Board is under an obligation to find that an individual line "represents a reasonable relationship to an overall plan of transmitting electricity in the public interest." Iowa Code § 478.4. In order to meet its obligations

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under Iowa Code chapter 478, the Board must gather information regarding Iowa's transmission grid. Iowa transmission owners (i.e., MidAmerican Energy Company, ITC Midwest LLC, and Iowa electric cooperatives that own transmission lines) that would like to participate in the August 30, 2021 workshop should be prepared to address the following:

- The transmission owner's overall plan for generation and transmission in the next one, two, and five years.
- What the transmission owner believes is the overall plan for transmitting electricity in the public interest.
- How and to what extent Iowa's transmission owners collaborate among themselves and with other companies in the planning process.
- How and to what extent Iowa's transmission owners work to minimize the impact transmission lines have on Iowa landowners and whether there is more that can be done.
- How the Board can foster a more collaborative process to facilitate better long-term planning.

After the workshop, the Board will consider what next steps are necessary, if any, in this investigation. All Iowa transmission owners planning to participate in the workshop shall file a list of participants who will be present at the workshop on or before noon August 27, 2021. If participants wish to submit written comments in response to this order or to the information presented at the August 30, 2021 workshop, comments should be submitted on or before September 10, 2021.

**IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:**

1. A workshop will be held from 9 to 11 a.m. August 30, 2021, in the Board's Hearing Room, located at 1375 E. Court Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

2. Persons wishing to participate in the workshop by webinar may do so. Instructions for participating via webinar will be posted on the Board's website, [iub.iowa.gov](http://iub.iowa.gov), on the Hearing and Meeting Calendar page.

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3. Iowa transmission owners planning to participate and address topics discussed in this order shall file with the Board, on or before noon August 27, 2021, a list of participants who will be present at the workshop.

4. Written comments may be submitted on or before September 10, 2021.

**UTILITIES BOARD**

**Geri Huser** Date: 2021.08.24  
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**Richard Lozier** Date: 2021.08.24  
16:55:13 -05'00'

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ATTEST:

**Louis Vander Streek** Louis Vander Streek  
2021.08.25 11:13:27  
-05'00'

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**Joshua J Byrnes** Date: 2021.08.25  
10:26:15 -05'00'

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Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 25th day of August, 2021.