

**IOWA UTILITIES BOARD  
Safety & Engineering Section**

**TO: Docket No. P-0831**

**FROM: Alek Milewski**

**DATE: August 26, 2021**

**SUBJECT: Staff Report on MidAmerican Energy Company's Petition for  
Renewal of Pipeline Permit 1180**

On January 28, 2021, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) a petition for renewal of Permit No. 1180, in Docket No. P-0831, pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 479, for its pipeline in Clinton, Dubuque, Jackson and Scott counties, Iowa. By letters filed on April 15 and June 25, 2021, IUB staff (Staff) advised MidAmerican of petition deficiencies requiring correction. On May 14 and July 1, 2021, MidAmerican filed revised petition exhibits.

Docket No. P-0831 consists of an approximately 62.77-mile, 16-inch diameter natural gas pipeline with a maximum allowable operating pressure (MAOP)<sup>1</sup> of 960 psig<sup>2</sup> and located in Clinton, Dubuque, Jackson and Scott counties.

The pipeline is installed in private and public rights-of-way and crosses one set of railroad tracks. The pipeline extends for 60.54 miles in Class 1 location, 1.02 miles in Class 2 location, and 1.21 miles in Class 3 location, as defined in 49 CFR § 192.5. MidAmerican records show that there are High Consequence Areas (HCAs) as defined by 49 CFR § 192.903.

In Petition Exhibit F, MidAmerican states the pipeline provides a source of natural gas supply for rural customers in Clinton, Dubuque, Jackson and Scott counties, a large-volume customer in Clinton County and the Quad Cities in Scott County. MidAmerican believes that continuing to provide natural gas service to the community will benefit the public and promote convenience and necessity.

The lateral requires a pipeline permit because it operates at pressure above 150 psig and because it meets the definition of a transmission line in 49 CFR §192.3. See 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 10.1(2). It meets the definition of a transmission line because it transports gas from another transmission line (and ultimately from gathering lines and/or storage facilities) to distribution centers and also because at the MAOP, the pipeline operates at more than 20 percent of specified minimum yield strength (SMYS).

The IUB issued Pipeline Permit No. 1180 on January 12, 1996, in Docket No. P-0831 to MidAmerican Energy Company, a successor by merger to Iowa-Illinois Gas and Electric Company, to construct and operate 62 miles of 16-inch-diameter, at an MAOP of 960 psig, in Clinton, Dubuque, Jackson and Scott counties.

On April 1 and 2 and May 4, 2021, Staff inspected the pipeline for compliance with the pipeline safety standards adopted by the IUB. On July 7, 2021, Staff filed a report indicating that no probable violations had been found.

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<sup>1</sup> As determined under 49 CFR § 192.619

<sup>2</sup> Pounds per square inch gauge

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On July 28 and August 5 and 24, 2021, MidAmerican filed proof of publication showing a notice was published in The Clinton Herald in Clinton County on July 13 and 20, 2021; Telegraph Herald in Dubuque County on July 14 and 21, 2021; Maquoketa Sentinel Press in Jackson County on July 14 and 21, 2021; and the Quad-City Times in Scott County on July 14 and 21, 2021. No objections have been filed.

Staff has reviewed the petition and exhibits in this docket. It appears from the information presented the pipeline complies with all design, construction, testing, operating, and maintenance requirements of the IUB. No special safety or engineering considerations are recommended for the permit for this pipeline.

Staff recommends Pipeline Permit No. R2104 be issued for this pipeline for a period of 25 years, specifying a maximum allowable operating pressure of 960 psig, after the 20-day objection period ends and if no objections are filed.