

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:	
MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY	DOCKET NO. SPU-2020-0004

ORDER VERIFYING 2019 RENEWABLE ENERGY PERCENTAGE

On April 1, 2020, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) a “Petition for Verification” requesting the Board verify that MidAmerican served 61.3 percent of its retail load using renewable energy in 2019. On April 15, 2020, MidAmerican filed additional information regarding the calculations used to determine the average price for 2019 National Voluntary Wind Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). On April 20, 2020, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, filed a response stating that OCA does not object to the Petition for Verification. No objections were filed to MidAmerican’s request.

Board rules located in 199 Administrative Code (IAC) chapter 30 provide that a utility may petition the Board to verify a specified percentage of a utility’s energy generation is through renewable energy. Pursuant to 199 IAC 30.2(3), a utility requesting verification shall file the following information:

- a. Evidence that the utility records all of its RECs in a tracking system or has transferred RECs recorded in other tracking systems to a tracking system.
- b. Evidence that the MWh of qualifying renewable generation claimed to have been generated during the prior period were in fact generated by the utility’s own renewable generation

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facilities or purchased by the utility from a renewable facility along with the associated RECs during the prior period. Purchased RECs that are not bundled with the associated energy will not be counted as part of the renewable energy percentage (REP) unless the purchased RECs were used to replace otherwise eligible RECs. The purchased RECs must be purchased during the prior period, and their purchase price must be lower than the price of the sold RECs.

- c. Evidence that the number of RECs claimed to have been retired were in fact retired on behalf of the utility's retail customers in the tracking system. Such evidence shall consist of a screenshot of the tracking system's web page that shows the certificate numbers of the retired RECs, the retirement account to which the RECs were transferred and the date of retirement. The utility shall authorize the board to access the tracking system for purposes of verifying the information. Verification of the information shall not constitute personal investigation in connection with any future contested case, the specific controversy underlying that contested case, or a pending factually related contested case or controversy involving the same parties.
- d. An affidavit signed by a corporate officer verifying the accuracy of the REP calculation, the underlying data used in the calculation, compliance with this rule, and the evidence filed in support of it.

MidAmerican filed with the Board REC retirement information from Midwest Renewable Energy Tracking System (M-RETS) and PJM Generation Attribute Tracking System (PJM-GATS). MidAmerican states it recorded all of its renewable generation in 2019 in either M-RETS or PJM-GATS. MidAmerican asserts it owns the vast majority of its generation, with a small amount subject to power purchase agreements. All power purchase agreements entered into by MidAmerican include the renewable energy attributes of the generation.

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With its petition, MidAmerican provided an Exhibit B, which lists all generation along with the REC retirement serial numbers for M-RETS. MidAmerican also provided an Exhibit C, which gives retirement information for PJM-GATS. MidAmerican included an affidavit by Thomas B. Specketer, the Vice President and Chief Financial Officer for MidAmerican, to verify the accuracy of the information provided.

The Board has confirmed the information provided by MidAmerican is consistent with the information available in the databases for M-RETS and PJM-GATS and verified MidAmerican served 61.3 percent of its retail load using renewable energy in 2019. The Board will therefore verify that MidAmerican served 61.3 percent of its retail load using renewable energy in 2019.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The Utilities Board verifies that MidAmerican Energy Company served 61.3 percent of its retail load using renewable energy in 2019.

UTILITIES BOARD

Geri Huser Date: 2020.05.04
16:55:35 -05'00'

Nick Wagner Date: 2020.05.04
15:21:04 -05'00'

ATTEST:

Anna Hyatt Date: 2020.05.04
18:29:03 -05'00'

Richard W. Lozier, Jr. Date: 2020.05.04
15:10:31 -05'00'

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 4th day of May, 2020.