

STATE OF IOWA
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY

DOCKET NO. RPU-2023-0001

**ORDER APPROVING CUSTOMER NOTICE AND SCHEDULING CONSUMER
COMMENT MEETINGS**

On April 17, 2023, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed with the Utilities Board (Board) an application for approval of a nonstandard notice, pursuant to 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 26.4(1)(a)(3), and a proposed customer notice of rate increase. MidAmerican's application was identified as Docket No. RPU-2023-0001.

MidAmerican states it is preparing an application for an increase in its natural gas base delivery rates in Iowa, pursuant to Iowa Code 476.6, and expects to file that application on June 12, 2023.¹ MidAmerican states it is required to file a nonstandard notice that complies with the provisions set forth in rule at 199 IAC 26.4(1)(b)(2), because it does not intend to use the Board's standard notice. MidAmerican's application also notifies the Board of its intent to implement interim rates under Iowa Code § 476.6(9)(a).

On May 1, 2023, the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, filed an appearance in the docket and its response to the proposed nonstandard notice. OCA recommended MidAmerican make a series of changes to its proposed customer notice.

¹ See Notice of Proposed Rate Increase Brochure, Proposed Natural Gas Rate Increase Schedule (expressing MidAmerican's intent to file its rate case on June 12, 2023, and implement temporary rates on June 22, 2023).

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On May 5, 2023, MidAmerican filed a revised version of its proposed nonstandard notices, stating the revisions were designed to address the concerns identified in OCA's response.

On May 8, 2023, OCA filed a reply stating that MidAmerican appears to have incorporated the most important of the revisions suggested by OCA and it has no objection to MidAmerican's revised customer notice.

PROPOSED NOTICES

MidAmerican's notice contains the information required by the Board's rule at 199 IAC 26.4(1)(b)(2)(1-13). After review, the Board finds MidAmerican's revised nonstandard customer notice, filed on May 5, 2023, is not deficient.

COMMENT MEETINGS

The Board will provide MidAmerican customers with an opportunity to present comments about MidAmerican's proposed general rate increases and general service quality. Persons with specific service complaints must follow the complaint procedure specified in the Board's rule at 199 IAC 6.2.

The Board will schedule five consumer comment meetings at locations throughout MidAmerican's natural gas service territory and conduct one virtual consumer comment meeting. To the extent that MidAmerican's revised proposed draft notice also included a placeholder for information about any consumer comment meetings scheduled by the Board, MidAmerican will be required to include in its actual customer notice the information about the meetings, as specified in Ordering Clause No. 2.

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MidAmerican will be required to provide a presentation at each consumer comment meeting that explains the pertinent points of the proposal, including the rate increase, the requested changes to rates and riders, and an overview of the changes, as applied to residential and other customer classes. MidAmerican shall also reasonably respond to any questions directed to the utility either at the consumer comment meeting or in a subsequent filing in the docket, as set out in 199 IAC 26.9(2).

ORDERING CLAUSES

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. The nonstandard notice of rate increase filed by MidAmerican Energy Company in Docket No. RPU-2023-0001, originally filed on April 17, 2023, as revised on May 5, 2023, is approved.
2. Consumer comment meetings shall be held on the following dates and locations to receive comments from the general public:

Sioux City – 6 p.m. Monday, July 24, 2023
Sioux City Convention Center, 801 Fourth St.

Waterloo – 6 p.m. Wednesday, July 26, 2023
Majestic Moon, 1955 Locke Ave.

Des Moines – 6 p.m. Thursday, July 27, 2023
Holiday Inn Des Moines-Airport Conference Center, 6111 Fleur Drive

Davenport – 6 p.m. Monday, July 31, 2023
The River Center, 136 E. Third St.

Cedar Rapids – 6 p.m. Tuesday, August 1, 2023
The Olympic South Side Theater, 1202 Third St. S.E., Suite 200

Virtual – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Thursday, August 3, 2023. Details about participating online and at the customer comment meetings will be available on the Board's website at iub.iowa.gov.

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3. Persons with disabilities requiring assistive services or devices to observe or participate in a consumer comment meeting should contact the Utilities Board at (515) 725-7300 or customer@iub.iowa.gov at least five days in advance of the scheduled date to request appropriate arrangements.

UTILITIES BOARD

Erik M. Helland Date: 2023.05.16
15:00:42 -05'00'

Sarah Martz Date: 2023.05.16
12:52:29 -05'00'

ATTEST:

Keetah Horras 2023.05.16
16:41:28 -05'00'

Joshua Byrnes Date: 2023.05.16
15:26:57 -05'00'

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 16th day of May, 2023.