

Approved: May 2, 2003
Date

Carl D. Holmes

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON UTILITIES.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Carl D. Holmes at 9:06 a.m. on March 20, 2003 in Room 526-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except: Representative Eric Carter
Representative Carl Krehbiel

Committee staff present: Mary Galligan, Legislative Research
Dennis Hodgins, Legislative Research
Mary Torrence, Revisor of Statutes
Jo Cook, Administrative Assistant

Conferees appearing before the committee:
Steve Miller, Sunflower Electric
Tim Rush, Great Plains Energy
Steve Ferry, Aquila
David Springe, Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
Larry Holloway, Kansas Corporation Commission

Others attending: See Attached List

Sub for SB 104 - Prior determination of rate-making principles and treatment

Chairman Holmes opened the hearing on **Sub for SB 104**.

Steve Miller, Senior Manager of External Affairs for Sunflower Electric Power Corporation, addressed the committee as a proponent of **Sub for SB 104 (Attachment 1)**. Mr. Miller told the committee that the bill would assure lenders, that are advancing credit toward generation projects, of the regulatory treatment of the stake of a utility in or the contract to purchase from a new generation facility. He stated that many would benefit by the passage of the bill and that it would further their goals with the Sand Sage project.

Tim Rush, Director of Regulatory Affairs for the Kansas City Power & Light Company, spoke in support of **Sub for SB 104 (Attachment 2)**. Mr. Rush explained that the passage of this bill would allow public utilities to request prior determination of ratemaking principles and treatment from the Corporation Commission.

Steve Ferry, Operating Vice President Kansas Electric division of Aquila, Inc., testified in support of **Sub for SB 104 (Attachment 3)**. Mr. Ferry stated that the bill would provide for the regulatory pre-approval for ratemaking purposes of power supply purchases and additions and transmission facilities.

Written testimony in support of **Sub for SB 104** was submitted by Whitney Damron, on behalf of The Empire District Electric Company (Attachment 4), and Terry Leatherman, on behalf of the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Attachment 5).

David Springe, Consumer Counsel for the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board, appeared before the committee as an opponent to **Sub for SB 104 (Attachment 6)**. Mr. Springe stated that the bill allows a utility to seek a binding determination from the Corporation Commission of the ratemaking principles and treatment to be accorded transmission and generation projects and for power purchase contracts.

Larry Holloway, Chief of Energy Operations for the Kansas corporation Commission, testified in a neutral position on **Sub for SB 104 (Attachment 7)**. Mr. Holloway noted that the current bill, as amended by the Senate sub-committee, resolved all concerns except one issue. It does not require the proposed facilities to be constructed in Kansas. The Commission suggests that language be added to the definition of 'generating facility' and 'transmission facility' to include that requirement. Mr. Holloway referenced the State of Iowa laws (Attachment 8) and Iowa codes on changes in rates, charges, schedule and regulations (Attachment 9).

The conferees responded to questions from the committee. Chairman Holmes closed the hearing on **Sub for SB 104**.

The meeting adjourned at 10:18 a.m. The next meeting will be Friday, March 21, 2003.

Summary - Sub for SB 104

Why is Sub for SB 104 needed?

The creditworthiness of all electric industry participants is questioned due to:

- Bankruptcies and credit problems of large investor-owned companies like Enron.
- Legislative efforts to implement retail competition, and the resulting emphasis on near-term returns rather than long-term planning.
- Regulatory mandates on the use and pricing of transmission services.
- The ability of regulators to disallow cost recovery of plant investments years after the investment is made.

What will Sub for SB 104 accomplish?

It will assure lenders advancing credit toward generation projects of the regulatory treatment of the stake of a utility in or the contract to purchase from, a new generation facility by:

- Allowing for KCC review and determination of the ratemaking principles and treatment of the investment or contract.
- Permitting the approved KCC determination to be relied upon in future KCC proceedings.

Who will benefit by the passage of Sub for SB 104?

- **Stakeholders in a proposed generation facility.** They will invest in a facility with less concern of the investment being "stranded" in a changed marketplace.
- **Utility regulators.** They will be involved on the front end of a project and able to express opinions about the need for the project.
- **The Kansas Legislature.** This bill will aid in the development of the energy needs of Kansans and will help the state meet its energy planning objectives.
- **Utility ratepayers.** The bill will encourage the development of new low-cost generation facilities for their use.

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: 3-20-03

ATTACHMENT 1

**TESTIMONY SUBMITTED TO THE
HOUSE UTILITIES COMMITTEE**

**By
Stephen Miller, Senior Manager, External Affairs
SUNFLOWER ELECTRIC POWER CORPORATION**

March 20, 2003

Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee for providing Sunflower time to speak today on Senate Bill 104, a proposal we believe will improve the electric power supply and delivery systems in Kansas.

As you know, the power industry has evolved recently as a result of failed efforts to implement retail wheeling, continuing efforts at the federal level to transform the nation's power delivery systems from a model of local service to an interstate system, bankruptcies, and other uncertainties in capital markets.

These events have caused changes nationwide that affect the ability of utilities to invest in the infrastructure we need to meet the demands of utility consumers.

Kansas' utilities, and consequently our Sand Sage project, must face a turbulent financial marketplace when considering an investment in a power plant or a long-term purchase power agreement (PPA). That is why we're here today and it is why we need your support for this legislation.

It is our considered opinion that without this legislation, our project will be even more difficult to complete. We also believe that without this legislation, the prospects for any Kansas utility participating in our project, or any other baseload unit, in the near future, are nil.

Volatility in Credit Markets—

Our experience in marketing the Sand Sage project is showing us that without some certainty as to the expected return and cost recovery, utilities are increasingly hesitant to make investments in or purchases from baseload generating facilities. That signal is coming primarily from lenders and from credit rating agencies that have altered their financial analysis models significantly as uncertainty continues to reverberate through the industry. Lenders are simply unwilling to finance investments without an understanding of the risks they are being asked to assume.

Any utility that invests directly in a power plant project must raise the capital for the investment. This obviously increases their debt load and can possibly result in an adverse impact on its credit ratings.

Recently, credit rating analysts have begun to impute debt obligations to utilities that sign long-term PPAs, because the ironclad payment obligations to the power seller are not matched by a reliable stream of payments from the buyer's customers due to

1-2

varying degrees of regulatory uncertainty. The result can be a credit rating downgrade that can make the needed financing either impossible, or at a minimum, more expensive.

In an Electricity Daily article published a few days ago, Edison Electric Institute's David Owens in his Congressional testimony said, "Throughout 2002, credit rating changes in the utility sector were overwhelmingly negative, as downgrades outnumbered upgrades by a whopping 182-to-15, according to Standard & Poor's. This 12:1 ratio of downgrades-to-upgrades compared to a 3:1 ratio in 1999, 2000, and 2001. Currently, 18 percent of all utilities are non-investment grade; as recently as 2000, this percentage was only 5 percent." Owens noted that the industry must refinance about \$100 billion in 2003. "Critical questions facing the industry," he said, "are where and at what cost will the industry find this capital."

Our proposed legislation would provide a level of comfort to the credit ratings agencies, the capital markets, and the utility, all before a firm commitment is made to a project. The net effect of this proposal is to lower capital costs to the utility, which, in turn, will benefit the ultimate consumer. We further believe that the Commission can and will fashion its orders to protect ratepayers if costs rise during construction.

Kansas Corporation Commission meeting—

In preparation for the legislative process, Sunflower met with all three KCC Commissioners, their General Counsel Susan Cunningham, and Larry Holloway, Chief of Energy Operations. Our purpose was to discuss the concepts contained in this bill with the idea that we could achieve a consensus prior to the first hearing.

While we were not able to achieve a consensus at our initial meeting, we were able to work out our differences as this bill went through the Senate. We're very appreciative of their work with us and we hope you will be able to finish this process by passing this bill out without amendments.

The reason I ask for a "clean bill" is that our project is somewhat stalled as it pertains to our Kansas utility prospects until we can determine if the Legislature will pass, and the Governor will sign, this important piece of legislation.

Conclusion—

Mr. Chairman, and members of the Committee, we thank you for hearing our testimony today. This proposal will further Sunflower's goals with regard to the Sand Sage project, but we also believe this is good policy for the State if we are to continue to encourage the development of baseload power plants in Kansas. I'd be happy to answer your questions.

Sand Sage Project Update
March 20, 2003

Sunflower has been actively working to develop a new coal-fired power plant in southwest Kansas that would adjoin our existing facilities. That 600 MW facility is expected to cost approximately \$800 million and is forecast, in a study prepared, by Dr. Ralph Gamble of Fort Hays State University, to result in a \$2.5 billion positive impact on the economy. Dr. Gamble's report shows that 1,117 jobs per year will be created with annual earnings of \$35,468,178 during the 41-month construction period. The report also concludes that 149 permanent jobs would be created in Kansas by this project and 127 would exist outside our borders with a combined annual income of more than \$10,650,000.

It is important to understand that Sunflower will not own this new plant. Investors, most of whom will be regional utilities, will use the plant for their native loads, or will sell the plant's output to other regional load-serving utilities. The benefits to Sunflower from this project are development fees, lease income, reduced operating costs, and fees we will receive for the operation and maintenance of the new facility. It will also provide us with another source of power when our units are not capable of serving our Member's load.

Development Partners—

Sunflower has worked to develop this project with International Energy Partners, and we recently entered into an additional agreement with our newest joint development partner, DTE Energy Services, an operating company owned by DTE Energy.

Based in Ann Arbor, Michigan, DTE Energy Services develops, builds, owns and operates energy projects for industrial, institutional and commercial customers and for the merchant electricity market. DTE Energy Services has more than 25 projects in operation, construction and development in North America.

Development Process—

We talk frequently about this project being similar to a four-legged milking stool. The first leg is comprised of necessary permits, the second is the identification of investors, the third is contracting for the construction phase (or EPC process) on a fixed-price turnkey basis, and finally, the fourth is identifying long-term off-take customers. These four legs are the keys that help keep this project moving forward.

For the most part, we have completed the development of three of these legs; only one needs to be completed. That leg is the off-take customer leg. We currently are working with 14 regional utilities who we believe are viable candidates for ownership or power purchase agreements (PPAs) from the new plant. While the majority of these candidates are from outside our state, we continue to have interest from several Kansas utilities.

The most significant obstacle facing the project are issues related to credit support for investors and purchased power contract customers and significant constraints in the regional transmission system.

1-4
EB

**Testimony before the House Committee on Utilities
In Support of the Substitute for Senate Bill No. 104**

**Tim M. Rush
Director, Regulatory Affairs
Kansas City Power & Light Company
March 20, 2003**

Thank you Chairman and members of the Committee for this opportunity to appear before you today and offer testimony on the Substitute for SB 104 ("SB 104"). Kansas City Power & Light ("KCPL") is in support of this bill.

SB 104 allows public utilities to request prior determination of ratemaking principles and treatment from the Kansas Corporation Commission ("Commission") for generation, purchase power contracts or transmission facilities. The Bill is a tool to help assist utilities to get the lowest possible interest rates on the financing and other assurances necessary to meet the needs of its customers.

The passage of SB 104 would achieve four important goals:

1. This legislature will be implementing a long-term policy decision to assist electric utilities, the Commission and other parties to work together to jointly and strategically plan for future generation and transmission needs.
2. The investment community will receive an indication of stability from the pre-approval process. With the investment community concern over financial risk issues in the energy sector, SB 104 will provide the appropriate signal for construction or improvements made by electric utilities. By securing pre-approval, utilities can take the determination to the investment community as part of its finance package. Uncertainty is reduced and access to lower-cost capital will be more available
3. Construction of long-term projects such as coal-fired generation units will become more feasible. While coal is our preferred fuel, coal-fired facilities require long lead times of typically five to eight years. SB 104 will encourage and initiate essential, large expensive projects which are necessary to meet future energy needs.
4. Consumers – our customers and your constituency – will benefit from lower financing costs associated with generation and transmission facilities. Customers save through lower interest rates on the rate-based asset investment. This savings in interest rates could amount to millions of dollars considering the capital cost of a new coal-fired facility.

Thank you for your time and I would be glad to answer any questions from the Committee.

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: **3-20-03**

ATTACHMENT **2**

House Utilities Committee

Testimony in Favor of SB No. 104

by

Steve Ferry, Operating Vice President - Kansas Electric
Aquila, Inc.

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

My name is Steve Ferry and I am the Operating Vice President for the Kansas Electric division of Aquila, Inc. Aquila - Kansas Electric, formerly WestPlains Energy, provides reliable and economic electric service to 68,500 retail and 23 wholesale customers in central and western Kansas. Within Kansas, Aquila owns and operates 385 megawatts of generation located in four power stations, is an 8% participant (178 megawatts) in the Jeffrey Energy Center, and purchases the entire 110 megawatt output of the Gray County Wind Farm. In addition to generation, Aquila owns and operates 1,083 miles of 115,000 and 230,000 volt high voltage transmission line.

On behalf of Aquila, I support the passage of Senate Bill No. 104.

The Bill provides for the regulatory pre-approval for ratemaking purposes of power supply purchases and additions and transmission facilities.

While adequate for now, Aquila's power supply resources by 2005 are forecast to be insufficient to serve the needs of its Kansas customers. In particular, an existing power supply purchase from Sunflower will expire on May 31, 2005, and will need to be replaced. Several options, including power supply purchases and generating additions, are being investigated to supply the shortfall. Regardless of which option(s) are determined to be best, the Company will need to raise capital to fund the resource additions.

Aquila, and presumably other utilities, will need to attract capital to permit construction of generation and transmission facilities. These facilities are absolutely essential for utilities to provide safe, reliable and economic electric service to their customers. In order to attract that capital, Aquila must demonstrate to prospective investors and lenders that it can earn an adequate return on their investment.

Regulatory pre-approval of the ratemaking treatment for the assets, in advance of actual commitment and financing, provides assurance to prospective investors and lenders that the utility will be able to earn an adequate return on their investment.

Thank you Mr. Chairman for the opportunity to appear before you today in support of SB 104. I would be pleased to try and answer any questions you may have.

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: 3-20-03

ATTACHMENT 3

WHITNEY B. DAMRON, P.A.
800 SW JACKSON STREET, SUITE 1100
TOPEKA, KANSAS 66612-2205
(785) 354-1354 ♦ 354-8092 (FAX)
E-MAIL: WBDAMRON@aol.com

TESTIMONY

TO: The Honorable Carl Holmes, Chairman
And Members Of The
House Utilities Committee

FROM: Whitney Damron

RE: SB 104 – Prior Determination of Ratemaking Principles and Treatment.

DATE: March 20, 2003

Mr. Chairman and Members of the House Utilities Committee:

On behalf of The Empire District Electric Company, I am pleased to provide testimony in support of SB 104 to the House Utilities Committee.

The Empire District Electric Company is a Kansas corporation, headquartered in Joplin, Missouri. Empire is an investor-owned company serving 10,000 square miles, with approximately 10,000 customers in southeast Kansas.

Empire, as well as other companies in Kansas are facing increased generation requirements due to new load, growth of existing load and the possible retirement of aging power plants. As the company approaches decisions to provide for new generation, they have hit a roadblock that may not allow the company to choose the long-term lowest rate solution. Empire believes SB 104 will give the company the needed assistance to make the bests decisions for Kansas ratepayers.

SB 104 will allow Empire to present their plans to the Kansas Corporation Commission for determination of ratemaking principals for the construction costs of new generation. This would allow the Company to Wall Street with the approval from the KCC showing how the financing would be recovered. The company believes this would provide some certainty to the financial community. In turn, an investment with a lower level of risk would translate into lower interest rates and then lower electric rates for our customers.

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: 3-20-03

ATTACHMENT 4

House Utilities Committee
SB 104
Page Two of Two
March 20, 2003

Empire knows that coal generation is currently the best option for base load power. A 600 megawatt coal plant can cost around \$1 billion and take 7-8 years to plan and build. The same size of natural gas power plant would cost around \$325 million and take half the time to construct. Without certainty to take to the financial markets, the gas plant may be the only option we have. Problems with gas plants are well-understood – fuel costs are 3-5 times higher than coal and extremely volatile, resulting in a long-term higher cost for electricity for customers.

Empire believes SB 104 is crucial for long-term energy cost stability for Kansas ratepayers.

Empire respectfully requests your support for SB 104.

Thank you for your consideration of this information.

Whitney Damron

42

LEGISLATIVE TESTIMONY



The Unified Voice of Business

835 SW Topeka Blvd. • Topeka, KS 66612-1671 • 785-357-6321 • Fax: 785-357-4732 • E-mail: kcci@kansaschamber.org • www.kansaschamber.org

SB 104

March 20, 2003

KANSAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Testimony before the House Committee on Utilities
By Terry Leatherman, Vice President – Legislative Affairs

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee:

I am Terry Leatherman, with the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Thank you for the opportunity to present written testimony this morning in support of SB 104.

KCCI supports state and federal legislation and regulation that will result in a predictable process, which creates investment certainty for regulated utilities. Further, KCCI supports a regulatory process that will enhance, encourage and expand energy production, transmission and distribution. SB 104 appears to embody both concepts. By providing a utility with a clear understanding of how it will recoup expansion costs, it will encourage utility investment in new and expanded electric generation and transmission.

The availability of affordable electricity is an important component in the state's infrastructure that will encourage business growth. To the extent SB 104 promotes investment in our state's electric generating and transmission capacity, KCCI would view this bill as an economic development measure.

Thank you for the consideration of the Kansas Chamber's support of SB 104.

About the Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Kansas Chamber of Commerce and Industry (KCCI) is the leading broad-based business organization in Kansas. KCCI is dedicated to the promotion of economic growth and job creation and to the protection and support of the private competitive enterprise system.

KCCI is comprised of nearly 2,000 businesses, which includes 200 local and regional chambers of commerce and trade organizations that represent more than 161,000 business men and women. The organization represents both large and small employers in Kansas. KCCI receives no government funding.

The KCCI Board of Directors establishes policies through the work of hundreds of the organization's members who make up its various committees. These policies are the guiding principles of the organization and translate into views such as those expressed here.

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: 3-20-03

ATTACHMENT 5

Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board

Board Members:

Gene Merry, Chair
A.W. Dirks, Vice-Chair
Frank Weimer, Member
Francis X. Thorne, Member
Nancy Wilkens, Member
David Springe, Consumer Counsel



State of Kansas
Kathleen Sebelius, Governor

1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road
Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027
Phone: (785) 271-3200
Fax: (785) 271-3116

HOUSE UTILITIES COMMITTEE Sub. S.B 104

Testimony on Behalf of the Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board
By David Springe, Consumer Counsel
March 20, 2003

Chairman Holmes and members of the committee:

Thank you for this opportunity to appear before you today and offer testimony on Sub. S.B 104. CURB did testify as an opponent of this bill before the Senate Utilities Committee. CURB also participated in Sub-committee that redrafted the language of this bill. However, the substance of this bill remains the same as the original bill and CURB still opposes this bill.

This bill allows a utility to seek a binding determination from the KCC of the "ratemaking principles and treatment" to be accorded transmission and generation projects, and for power purchase contracts. Once an order is issued those "ratemaking principles and treatment" can never be revisited or changed by any Commission at any time in the future. While this concept is presented as providing regulatory certainty, what this bill does is take away the ability of the Commission, CURB and even the utilities to adjust to changing facts and circumstances over time. The transmission and generation facilities that this bill will impact can last up to 40 or 50 years, and yet for that entire time period, every Commission will be bound to regulatory treatments decided before the first shovel was turned on the project.

Conceptually, what this bill does is no different than suggesting to you that "legal certainty" is needed, and therefore, once the legislature has passed a law, the legislature is forever after precluded from revisiting or amending that law, regardless of whether facts and circumstances have changed, and regardless of whether changing the law would be beneficial. Precluding the Commission's ability to amend regulatory principles for the

HOUSE UTILITIES
DATE: 3-20-03
ATTACHMENT 6

sake of providing regulatory certainty makes no more sense than precluding your ability to amend laws for the sake of providing legal certainty.

In reality, things change over time. Regulation, like the law, is a dynamic process that adjusts itself to facts and circumstances as they change over time. What was appropriate 10 or 20 years ago may not be appropriate now. What is appropriate now may not necessarily be appropriate 10 or 20 years from now.

For all the drafting changes made in the Senate Sub-committee, this bill still creates an absolute preclusion from adjusting the regulatory principles and treatments accorded these facilities regardless of what may be appropriate based on current facts and circumstances. CURB believes this is poor public policy and therefore remains opposed to this bill.

Conservation Measures:

I would further note that the Senate Utilities Committee added the language in Section 1(c)(2) to the bill that requires the utility to submit, as part of its filing “a description of the public utility’s conservation measures” and a “description of the public utility’s demand side management efforts”. However, this language does not actually require the utility to practice conservation efforts or have a demand side management program. The utility could simply state “none” in response to these questions in its application. CURB believes this is a short-sighted energy policy for Kansas. This bill provides an incentive to the utility to build power plants, but does not require the utility to implement practical conservation policies that would help avoid the need to build more power plants. If this bill progresses, CURB suggest that you strengthen this language to require conservation and demand side management programs actually be implemented by the utilities that seek the regulatory the guarantees this bill offers. Perhaps it is time we look at conserving energy as a long term sustainable energy policy rather than a policy that simple incents the building of power plants and transmission lines.

6-2

BEFORE THE HOUSE UTILITIES COMMITTEE
PRESENTATION OF THE
KANSAS CORPORATION COMMISSION
March 20, 2003
Sub SB 104

Thank you Chairman and members of the Committee. I am Larry Holloway, Chief of Energy Operations for the Kansas Corporation Commission. I appreciate the opportunity to be here today to testify for the Commission on Substitute for Senate Bill 104.

The purpose of my testimony is to provide information and perspective on Sub SB 104. Sub SB 104 allows a KCC jurisdictional electric utility to request pre-approval of ratemaking principles and treatment before it enters into an agreement to contract with, or otherwise participate in, the construction of generation or certain transmission facilities.

The Commission does not support or oppose the current version of this bill. The Commission opposed the original version of this bill when it was presented for hearing in the Senate Utilities Committee. The Commission was concerned that, as originally proposed, the bill had the effect of shifting the risk of any bad utility decisions to the electric utility's customer, but did not allow customer input into the utility's decision making process.

The Commission was made aware of a similar law enacted in Iowa, and decisions in Iowa related to that law. However, unlike the Iowa law, this bill does not initially contain many of the same provisions as other Iowa utility laws.

The Commission notes that the Iowa electric utility law that adopted similar provisions also requires the following:

- For pre-approval of ratemaking treatment, the facility must be built in Iowa;
- Net metering (passed by the Iowa Senate in 1998) for customer generation from renewable resources;
- Integrated Resources Planning, whereby each public utility must file a twenty year resource plan with the Iowa Utilities Board every two years;

HOUSE UTILITIES
DATE: 3-20-03
ATTACHMENT 7

- Public funding of the Iowa Energy Center through a kilowatt-hour surcharge on all electric customers' bills;
- and, a mandated 105 megawatts of electricity generated through renewable resources.

Furthermore, Iowa statutes, Code 2001: Section 476.6 contains numerous additional requirements for electric public utilities, including:

- Electric and gas energy efficiency programs and plans that must meet, among other criteria, a "societal test" (476.6.17);
- Electric energy supply and cost review hearings (476.6.16);
- and electric and gas utilities must file an energy efficiency implementation plan which must contain programs for low-income persons and investment in customer energy conservation devices, among other requirements, and be subjected to "contested case proceedings" conducted by the Iowa Utilities Board (476.6.19).

As a result of concerns identified by the Commission and others, the Senate Utilities Committee formed a subcommittee to work with proponents and opponents the bill and develop compromise language. The Commission notes that the current version of the bill resolved all of its concerns with the exception of one issue.

You may hear that this has the potential for economic development by encouraging construction of one or more proposed generating plants. However, the bill as drafted does not require the proposed facilities to be constructed in Kansas. The Commission suggests that the Committee consider adding the language "in Kansas" to the definition of "generating facility" and "transmission facility" in Section 1 (a) (3) and 1 (a) (4) of the bill.

**LAWS OF THE 2001 REGULAR SESSION
OF THE SEVENTY-NINTH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA**

CHAPTER 4 (2001 Extraordinary Session)

**ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION AND TRANSMISSION — MISCELLANEOUS
PROVISIONS**

H.F. 577 Bill History

AN ACT relating to electric power generation and transmission, by addressing the criteria for construction or lease of an electric generating facility, and for the development of ratemaking principles to apply to certain electric generating facilities; waivers; providing for the development of a state electric energy policy; providing for alternate energy purchase programs; approval of plans and budgets for regulating emissions from coal-fired plants; providing for joint agreements for acquisition of ownership of a joint facility for electric power generation and transmission, and for the planning, financing, operation, and maintenance of the joint facility; providing for the bonding authority of electric power agencies; and making certain other changes and requirements related to electric generation and transmission; and providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Iowa:

Section 1. Section 12C.1, subsection 1, Code 2001, as amended by 2001 Iowa Acts, House File 637,¹ section 4, is amended to read as follows:

1. All funds held by the following officers or institutions shall be deposited in one or more depositories first approved by the appropriate governing body as indicated: for the treasurer of state, by the executive council; for judicial officers and court employees, by the supreme court; for the county treasurer, recorder, auditor, and sheriff, by the board of supervisors; for the city treasurer or other designated financial officer of a city, by the city council; for the county public hospital or merged area hospital, by the board of hospital trustees; for a memorial hospital, by the memorial hospital commission; for a school corporation, by the board of school directors; for a city utility or combined utility system established under chapter 388, by the utility board; for a library service area established under chapter 256, by the library service area board of trustees; and for an electric power agency as defined in section 28F.2 or 476A.20, by the governing body of the electric power agency. However, the treasurer of state and the treasurer of each political subdivision or the designated financial officer of a city shall invest all funds not needed for current operating expenses in time certificates of deposit in approved depositories pursuant to this chapter or in investments permitted by section 12B.10. The list of public depositories and the amounts severally deposited in the depositories are matters of public record. This subsection does not limit the definition of "public funds" contained in subsection 2. Notwithstanding provisions of this section to the contrary, public funds of a state government deferred compensation plan established by the executive council may also be invested in the investment products authorized under section 509A.12.

Sec. 2. Section 12C.1, subsection 2, paragraph b, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: 3-20-03

ATTACHMENT 4

b. "Public funds" and "public deposits" mean the moneys of the state or a political subdivision or instrumentality of the state including a county, school corporation, special district, drainage district, unincorporated town or township, municipality, or municipal corporation or any agency, board, or commission of the state or a political subdivision; any court or public body noted in subsection 1; a legal or administrative entity created pursuant to chapter 28E; an electric power agency as defined in section 28F.2 or 476A.20; and federal and state grant moneys of a quasi-public state entity that are placed in a depository pursuant to this chapter.

Sec. 3. Section 28F.2, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

28F.2 DEFINITIONS.

As used in this chapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. ~~The terms "public~~ "Public agency", "state", and "private agency" shall have the meanings prescribed by section 28E.2.

2. ~~The term "project"~~ "Project" or "projects" ~~shall mean~~ means any works or facilities referred to in section 28F.1 and shall include all property real and personal, pertinent thereto or connected with such project or projects, and the existing works or facilities, if any, to which such project or projects are an extension, addition, betterment or improvement.

3. "Electric power agency" means an entity financing or acquiring electric power facilities pursuant to this chapter or chapter 28E or 476A.

Sec. 4. Section 427.1, subsection 2, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

2. MUNICIPAL AND MILITARY PROPERTY. The property of a county, township, city, school corporation, levee district, drainage district, or the Iowa national guard, when devoted to public use and not held for pecuniary profit, except property of a municipally owned electric utility held under joint ownership and property of an electric power facility financed under chapter 28F ~~which~~ or 476A that shall be subject to taxation under chapter 437A and facilities of a municipal utility that are used for the provision of local exchange services pursuant to chapter 476, but only to the extent such facilities are used to provide such services, which shall be subject to taxation under chapter 433, except that section 433.11 shall not apply. The exemption for property owned by a city or county also applies to property which is operated by a city or county as a library, art gallery or museum, conservatory, botanical garden or display, observatory or science museum, or as a location for holding athletic contests, sports or entertainment events, expositions, meetings or conventions, or leased from the city or county for any such purposes, or leased from the city or county by the Iowa national guard or by a federal agency for the benefit of the Iowa national guard when devoted for public use and not for pecuniary profit. Food and beverages may be served at the events or locations without affecting the exemptions, provided the city has approved the serving of food and beverages on the property if the property is owned by the city or the county has approved the serving of food and beverages on the property if the property is owned by the county.

Sec. 5. Section 437A.3, subsection 17, paragraph b, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

b. An electric power generating plant where the acquisition cost of all interests acquired exceeds ten million dollars. For purposes of this paragraph, "electric power generating plant" means each nameplate rated electric power generating plant owned solely or jointly by any person or electric power facility

8-2

financed under the provisions of chapter 28F or 476A in which electrical energy is produced from other forms of energy, including all equipment used in the production of such energy through its step-up transformer.

Sec. 6. Section 437A.6, subsection 1, paragraph b, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

b. Facilities owned by or leased to a municipal utility when devoted to public use and not held for pecuniary profit, except facilities of a municipally owned electric utility held under joint ownership or lease and facilities of an electric power facility financed under chapter 28F or 476A.

Sec. 7. Section 437A.7, subsection 2, paragraph a, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

a. Transmission lines owned by or leased to a municipal utility when devoted to public use and not for pecuniary profit, except transmission lines of a municipally owned electric utility held under joint ownership and transmission lines of an electric power facility financed under chapter 28F or 476A.

Sec. 8. Section 476.1A, Code 2001, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 5A. Filing alternate energy purchase program plans with the board, and offering such programs to customers, pursuant to section 476.47.

Sec. 9. Section 476.1B, subsection 1, Code 2001, is amended by adding the following new paragraphs:

NEW PARAGRAPH. m. An electric power agency as defined in chapters 28F and 476A that includes as a member a city or municipally owned utility that builds transmission facilities after July 1, 2001, is subject to applicable transmission reliability rules or standards adopted by the board for those facilities.

n. Filing alternate energy purchase program plans with the board, and offering such programs to customers, pursuant to section 476.47.

Sec. 10. Section 476.6, Code 2001, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 16B. ELECTRIC POWER GENERATING FACILITY EMISSIONS.

a. It is the intent of the general assembly that the state, through a collaborative effort involving state agencies and affected generation owners, provide for compatible statewide environmental and electric energy policies with respect to regulated emissions from rate-regulated electric power generating facilities in the state that are fueled by coal. Each rate-regulated public utility that is an owner of one or more electric power generating facilities fueled by coal and located in this state on July 1, 2001, shall develop a multiyear plan and budget for managing regulated emissions from its facilities in a cost-effective manner.

(1) The initial multiyear plan and budget shall be filed with the board by April 1, 2002. Updates to the plan and budget shall be filed at least every twenty-four months.

(2) Copies of the initial plan and budget, as well as any subsequent updates, shall be served on the environmental protection division of the department of natural resources.

(3) The initial multiyear plan and budget and any subsequent updates shall be considered in a contested case proceeding pursuant to chapter 17A. The environmental protection division of the department of

natural resources and the consumer advocate shall participate as parties to the proceeding.

(4) The department of natural resources shall state whether the plan or update meets applicable state environmental requirements for regulated emissions. If the plan does not meet these requirements, the department shall recommend amendments that outline actions necessary to bring the plan or update into compliance with the environmental requirements.

b. The board shall not approve a plan or update that does not meet applicable state environmental requirements and federal ambient air quality standards for regulated emissions from electric power generating facilities located in the state.

c. The board shall review the plan or update and the associated budget, and shall approve the plan or update and the associated budget if the plan or update and the associated budget are reasonably expected to achieve cost-effective compliance with applicable state environmental requirements and federal ambient air quality standards. In reaching its decision, the board shall consider whether the plan or update and the associated budget reasonably balance costs, environmental requirements, economic development potential, and the reliability of the electric generation and transmission system.

d. The board shall issue an order approving or rejecting a plan, update, or budget within one hundred eighty days after the public utility's filing is deemed complete; however, upon good cause shown, the board may extend the time for issuing the order as follows:

(1) The board may grant an extension of thirty days.

(2) The board may grant more than one extension, but each extension must rely upon a separate showing of good cause.

(3) A subsequent extension must not be granted any earlier than five days prior to the expiration of the original one-hundred-eighty-day period, or the current extension.

e. The reasonable costs incurred by a rate-regulated public utility in preparing and filing the plan, update, or budget and in participating in the proceedings before the board and the reasonable costs associated with implementing the plan, update, or budget shall be included in its regulated retail rates.

f. It is the intent of the general assembly that the board, in an environmental plan, update, or associated budget filed under this section by a rate-regulated public utility, may limit investments or expenditures that are proposed to be undertaken prior to the time that the environmental benefit to be produced by the investment or expenditure would be required by state or federal law.

g. The board shall report to the general assembly by January 21, 2003, on the appropriateness and desirability of requiring the municipal utilities and the rural electric cooperatives to file multiyear plans and budgets for managing regulated emissions from their electric power generating facilities fueled by coal and located in this state, similar to the process required for rate-regulated public utilities under this subsection.

Sec. 11. NEW SECTION. 476.47 ALTERNATE ENERGY PURCHASE PROGRAMS.

1. Beginning January 1, 2004, an electric utility, whether or not rate-regulated under this chapter, shall offer an alternate energy purchase program to customers, based on energy produced by alternate energy production facilities in Iowa.

8-4

2. The board shall require electric utilities to file plans for alternate energy purchase programs offered pursuant to this section.

a. Rate-regulated electric utilities shall file plans for alternate energy purchase programs that allow customers to contribute voluntarily to the development of alternate energy in Iowa, and shall file tariffs as required by the board by rule.

b. Electric utilities that are not rate-regulated shall offer alternate energy purchase programs at rates determined by their governing authority, and shall file tariffs with the board for informational purposes only.

3. The electric utility shall notify consumers of its alternate energy purchase program and any proposed modifications to such program at least sixty days prior to implementation of the program or any modification.

4. For purposes of this section, an electric utility may base its program on energy produced by alternate energy production facilities located outside of Iowa under any of the following circumstances:

a. The energy is purchased by the electric utility pursuant to a contract in effect prior to July 1, 2001, and continues until the expiration of the contract, including any options to renew that are exercised by the electric utility.

b. The electric utility has a financial interest, as of July 1, 2001, in the alternate energy production facility that is located outside of Iowa, or in an entity that has a financial interest in an alternate energy production facility located outside of Iowa.

c. The energy is purchased by an electric utility that is not rate-regulated and that is required to purchase all of its electric power requirements from a single supplier that is physically located outside of Iowa.

5. This section shall not apply to non-rate-regulated electric utilities physically located outside of Iowa that serve Iowa customers.

6. Any consumer-owned utility may apply to the board for a waiver under this section, and the board, for good cause, may grant the waiver.

Sec. 12. Section 476.53, Code 2001, is amended by striking the section and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

476.53 ELECTRIC GENERATING AND TRANSMISSION FACILITIES.

1. It is the intent of the general assembly to attract the development of electric power generating and transmission facilities within the state in sufficient quantity to ensure reliable electric service to Iowa consumers and provide economic benefits to the state.

2. The general assembly's intent with regard to the development of electric power generating and transmission facilities, as provided in subsection 1, shall be implemented in a manner that is cost-effective and compatible with the environmental policies of the state, as expressed in Title XI.

3. a. If a rate-regulated public utility files an application pursuant to section 476A.3 to construct in Iowa a baseload electric power generating facility with a nameplate generating capacity equal to or greater

than three hundred megawatts or a combined-cycle electric power generating facility, or an alternate energy production facility as defined in section 476.42, or if a rate-regulated public utility leases or owns in Iowa, in whole or in part, a new baseload electric power generating facility with a nameplate generating capacity equal to or greater than three hundred megawatts or a combined-cycle electric power generating facility, or a new alternate energy production facility as defined in section 476.42, the board shall specify in advance, by order issued after a contested case proceeding, the ratemaking principles that will apply when the costs of the facility are included in regulated electric rates.

b. In determining the applicable ratemaking principles, the board shall not be limited to traditional ratemaking principles or traditional cost recovery mechanisms.

c. In determining the applicable ratemaking principles, the board shall make the following findings:

(1) The rate-regulated public utility has in effect a board-approved energy efficiency plan as required under section 476.6, subsection 19.

(2) The rate-regulated public utility has demonstrated to the board that the public utility has considered other sources for long-term electric supply and that the facility or lease is reasonable when compared to other feasible alternative sources of supply. The rate-regulated public utility may satisfy the requirements of this subparagraph through a competitive bidding process, under rules adopted by the board, that demonstrate the facility or lease is a reasonable alternative to meet its electric supply needs.

d. The applicable ratemaking principles shall be determined in a contested case proceeding, which proceeding may be combined with the proceeding for issuance of a certificate conducted pursuant to chapter 476A.

e. The order setting forth the applicable ratemaking principles shall be issued prior to the commencement of construction or lease of the facility.

f. Following issuance of the order, the rate-regulated public utility shall have the option of proceeding with construction or lease of the facility in Iowa, or withdrawing its application for a certificate under chapter 476A.

g. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the contrary, the ratemaking principles established by the order issued pursuant to paragraph "e" shall be binding with regard to the specific electric power generating facility in any subsequent rate proceeding.

Sec. 13. Section 476A.4, Code 2001, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 5. A proceeding for the issuance of a certificate under section 476A.5 may be consolidated with a contested case proceeding for determination of applicable ratemaking principles under section 476.53.

Sec. 14. Section 476A.6, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

476A.6 DECISION — CRITERIA.

The board shall render a decision on the application in an expeditious manner. A certificate shall be issued to the applicant if the board finds all of the following:

846

1. The services and operations resulting from the construction of the facility are ~~required by the present or future public convenience, use and necessity~~ consistent with legislative intent as expressed in section 476.53 and the economic development policy of the state as expressed in Title I, subtitle 5, and will not be detrimental to the provision of adequate and reliable electric service.

2. The applicant is willing to ~~perform such services and~~ construct, maintain, and operate the facility pursuant to the provisions of the certificate and this chapter.

3. The construction, maintenance, and operation of the facility will ~~cause minimum adverse~~ be consistent with reasonable land use; and environmental, and aesthetic impact policies and are consonant with reasonable utilization of air, land, and water resources, ~~for beneficial purposes~~ considering available technology and the economics of available alternatives.

4. The applicant, if a public utility as defined in section 476.1, ~~has in effect a comprehensive energy management program designed to reduce peak loads and to increase efficiency of use of energy by all classes of customers of the utility; and the facility in the application is necessary notwithstanding the existence of the comprehensive energy management program. As used in this subsection, a "comprehensive energy management program" includes at a minimum the following:~~

a. ~~Establishment of load management and interruptible service programs, where cost effective.~~

b. ~~Development of wheeling agreements and other energy sharing agreements, where cost effective with utilities that have available capacity.~~

e. ~~Establishment of cost effective energy efficiency and renewable energy services and programs.~~

d. ~~Compliance with board rules on energy management procedures.~~

5. The applicant, if a public utility as defined in section 476.1, ~~shall demonstrate to the board that the utility has considered sources for long term electric supply from either purchase of electricity or investment in facilities owned by other persons.~~

6. The applicant, if a public utility as defined in section 476.1, ~~has considered all feasible alternatives to the proposed facility including nongeneration alternatives; has ranked those alternatives by cost; has implemented the least cost alternatives first; and the facility in the application is necessary notwithstanding the implementation of these alternatives.~~

Sec. 15. Section 476A.7, Code 2001, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

NEW SUBSECTION. 3. Pursuant to the provisions of section 476.53, a rate-regulated public utility shall have the option of withdrawing its application for issuance of a certificate at any time prior to the issuance of the certificate, or after the certificate has been issued.

Sec. 16. Section 476A.15, Code 2001, is amended to read as follows:

476A.15 WAIVER.

The board, if it determines that the public interest would not be adversely affected, may waive any of the requirements of this chapter ~~for facilities with a capacity of one hundred or fewer megawatts.~~

8.7

Sec. 17. NEW SECTION. 476A.20 DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this subchapter, unless the context otherwise requires:

1. "Electric power agency" means an entity as defined in section 28F.2.
2. "Facility" means an electric power generating plant, or transmission line or system, as defined in section 476A.1.
3. "Public bond or obligation" means an obligation as defined in section 76.14.

Sec. 18. NEW SECTION. 476A.21 ELECTRIC POWER AGENCY — GENERAL AUTHORITY.

In addition to other powers conferred upon an electric power agency by chapter 28F or other applicable law, an electric power agency may enter into and carry out joint agreements with other participants for the acquisition of ownership of a joint facility and for the planning, financing, operation, and maintenance of the joint facility, as provided in this subchapter.

Sec. 19. NEW SECTION. 476A.22 ELECTRIC POWER AGENCY — AUTHORITY — CONFLICTING PROVISIONS.

1. In addition to any powers conferred upon an electric power agency under chapter 28F or other applicable law, an electric power agency may exercise all other powers reasonably necessary or appropriate for or incidental to the effectuation of the electric power agency's authorized purposes, including without limitation, the powers enumerated in chapters 6A and 6B for purposes of constructing or acquiring an electric power facility.
2. An electric power agency, in connection with its property and affairs, and in connection with property within its control, may exercise any and all powers that might be exercised by a natural person or a private corporation in connection with similar property and affairs.
3. The enumeration of specified powers and functions of an electric power agency in this subchapter is not a limitation of the powers of an electric power agency, but the procedures prescribed for exercising the powers and functions enumerated in this subchapter control and govern in the event of any conflict with any other provision of law.
4. The authority conferred pursuant to this subchapter applies to electric power agencies, notwithstanding any contrary provisions of section 28F.1.

Sec. 20. NEW SECTION. 476A.23 ISSUANCE OF PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS — PURPOSES — LIMITATIONS.

1. An electric power agency may from time to time issue its public bonds or obligations in such principal amounts as the electric power agency deems necessary to provide sufficient funds to carry out any of its purposes and powers, including but not limited to any of the following:
 - a. The acquisition or construction of any project to be owned or leased by the electric power agency, or the acquisition of any interest in such project or any right to the capacity of such project, including the acquisition, construction, or acquisition of any interest in an electric power generating plant to be constructed in this state, or the acquisition, construction, or acquisition of any interest in a transmission

8-8

line or system.

b. The funding or refunding of the principal of, or interest or redemption premiums on, any public bonds or obligations issued by the electric power agency whether or not the public bonds or obligations or interest to be funded or refunded have become due.

c. The establishment or increase of reserves to secure or to pay the public bonds or obligations or interest on the public bonds or obligations.

d. The payment of all other costs or expenses of the electric power agency incident to and necessary to carry out its purposes and powers.

2. Notwithstanding anything in this subchapter or chapter 28F to the contrary, a facility shall not be financed with the proceeds of public bonds or obligations, the interest on which is exempt from federal income tax, unless the public issuer of such public bonds or obligations covenants that the issuer shall comply with the requirements or limitations imposed by the Internal Revenue Code or other applicable federal law to preserve the tax exemption of interest payable on the bonds or obligations.

3. Notwithstanding anything in this subchapter or chapter 28F to the contrary, an electric power generating facility shall not be financed under this subchapter unless all of the following conditions are satisfied:

a. The portion of the electric power generating facility financed by the electric power agency is not designed to serve the electric power requirements of retail customers of members that are municipal electric utilities established in the state after January 1, 2001.

b. The electric power agency annually files with the board, in a manner to be determined by the board, information regarding sales from the electric power generating facility in sufficient detail to determine compliance with these provisions.

The board shall report to the general assembly if any of the provisions are being violated.

Sec. 21. NEW SECTION. 476A.24 PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS AUTHORIZED BY RESOLUTION OF BOARD — TERMS.

1. The board of directors of an electric power agency, by resolution, may authorize the issuance of public bonds or obligations of the electric power agency.

2. The public bonds or obligations may be issued in one or more series under the resolution or under a trust indenture or other security agreement.

3. The resolution, trust indenture, or other security agreement, with respect to such public bonds or obligations, shall provide for all of the following:

a. The date on the public bonds or obligations.

b. The time of maturity.

c. The rate of interest.

- d. The denomination.
 - e. The form, either coupon or registered.
 - f. The conversion, registration, and exchange privileges.
 - g. The rank or priority.
 - h. The manner of execution.
 - i. The medium of payment, including the place of payment, either within or outside of the state.
 - j. The terms of redemption, either with or without premium.
 - k. Such other terms and conditions as set forth by the board in the resolution, trust indenture, or other security agreement.
4. Public bonds or obligations authorized by the board of directors shall not be subject to any restriction under other law with respect to the amount, maturity, interest rate, or other terms of obligation of a public agency or private person.
5. Chapter 75 shall not apply to public bonds or obligations authorized by the board of directors as provided in this section.

Sec. 22. NEW SECTION. 476A.25 PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS PAYABLE SOLELY FROM AGENCY REVENUES OR FUNDS.

1. The principal of and interest on any public bonds or obligations issued by an electric power agency shall be payable solely from the revenues or funds pledged or available for their payment as authorized in this subchapter.
2. Each public bond or obligation shall contain all of the following terms:
- a. That the principal of or interest on such public bonds or obligations is payable solely from revenues or funds of the electric power agency.
 - b. That neither the state or a political subdivision of the state other than the electric power agency, nor a public agency that is a member of the electric power agency is obligated to pay the principal or interest on such public bonds or obligations.
 - c. That neither the full faith and credit nor the taxing power of the state, of any political subdivision of the state, or of any such public agency is pledged to the payment of the principal of or the interest on the public bonds or obligations.

Sec. 23. NEW SECTION. 476A.26 PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS — TYPES — SOURCES FOR PAYMENT — SECURITY.

1. Except as otherwise expressly provided by this subchapter or by the electric power agency, every issue of public bonds or obligations of the electric power agency shall be payable out of any revenues or funds of the electric power agency, subject only to any agreements with the holders of particular public

8-10

bonds or obligations pledging any particular revenues or funds.

2. An electric power agency may issue types of public bonds or obligations as it may determine, including public bonds or obligations as to which the principal and interest are payable exclusively from the revenues from one or more projects, or from an interest in such project or projects, or a right to capacity of such project or projects, or from any revenue-producing contract made by the electric power agency with any person, or from its revenues generally.

3. Any public bonds or obligations may be additionally secured by a pledge of any grant, subsidy, or contribution from any public agency or other person, or a pledge of any income or revenues, funds, or moneys of the electric power agency from any other source.

Sec. 24. NEW SECTION. 476A.27 PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS AND RATES FOR DEBT SERVICE NOT SUBJECT TO STATE APPROVAL.

Public bonds or obligations of an electric power agency may be issued under this subchapter, and rents, rates, and charges may be established in the same manner as provided in section 28F.5 and pledged for the security of public bonds or obligations and interest and redemption premiums on such public bonds or obligations, without obtaining the consent of any department, division, commission, board, bureau, or agency of the state and without any other proceeding or the happening of any other condition or occurrence, except as specifically required by this subchapter.

Sec. 25. NEW SECTION. 476A.28 PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS TO BE NEGOTIABLE.

All public bonds or obligations of an electric power agency shall be negotiable within the meaning and for all of the purposes of the uniform commercial code, chapter 554, subject only to the registration requirement of section 76.10.

Sec. 26. NEW SECTION. 476A.29 VALIDITY OF PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS AT DELIVERY — TEMPORARY BONDS.

1. Any public bonds or obligations may be issued and delivered, notwithstanding that one or more of the officers executing them shall have ceased to hold office at the time when the public bonds or obligations are actually delivered.

2. Pending preparation of definitive bonds or obligations, an electric power agency may issue temporary bonds or obligations that shall be exchanged for the definitive bonds or obligations upon their issuance.

Sec. 27. NEW SECTION. 476A.30 PUBLIC OR PRIVATE SALE OF BONDS AND NOTES.

Public bonds or obligations of an electric power agency may be sold at public or private sale for a price and in a manner determined by the electric power agency.

Sec. 28. NEW SECTION. 476A.31 PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS AS SUITABLE INVESTMENTS FOR GOVERNMENTAL UNITS, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS, AND FIDUCIARIES.

The following persons may legally invest any debt service funds, money, or other funds belonging to such person or within such person's control in any public bonds or obligations issued pursuant to this subchapter:

1. A bank, trust company, savings association, building and loan association, savings and loan association, or investment company.
2. An insurance company, insurance association, or any other person carrying on an insurance business.
3. An executor, administrator, conservator, trustee, or other fiduciary.
4. Any other person authorized to invest in bonds or obligations of the state.

Sec. 29. NEW SECTION. 476A.32 RESOLUTION, TRUST INDENTURE, OR SECURITY AGREEMENT CONSTITUTES CONTRACT — PROVISIONS.

The resolution, trust indenture, or other security agreement under which any public bonds or obligations are issued shall constitute a contract with the holders of the public bonds or obligations, and may contain provisions, among others, prescribing any of the following terms:

1. The terms and provisions of the public bonds or obligations.
2. The mortgage or pledge of and the grant of a security interest in any real or personal property and all or any part of the revenue from any project or any revenue producing contract made by the electric power agency with any person to secure the payment of public bonds or obligations, subject to any agreements with the holders of public bonds or obligations which might then exist.
3. The custody, collection, securing, investment, and payment of any revenues, assets, money, funds, or property with respect to which the electric power agency may have any rights or interest.
4. The rates or charges for electric energy sold by, or services rendered by, the electric power agency, the amount to be raised by the rates or charges, and the use and disposition of any or all revenue.
5. The creation of reserves or debt service funds and the regulation and disposition of such reserves or funds.
6. The purposes to which the proceeds from the sale of any public bonds or obligations to be issued may be applied, and the pledge of the proceeds to secure the payment of the public bonds or obligations.
7. Limitations on the issuance of any additional public bonds or obligations, the terms upon which additional public bonds or obligations may be issued and secured, and the refunding of outstanding public bonds or obligations.
8. The rank or priority of any public bonds or obligations with respect to any lien or security.
9. The creation of special funds or moneys to be held for operating expenses, payment, or redemption of public bonds or obligations, reserves or other purposes, and the use and disposition of moneys held in these funds.
10. The procedure by which the terms of any contract with or for the benefit of the holders of public bonds or obligations may be amended or abrogated, the amount of public bonds or obligations the holders of which must consent to such amendment or abrogation, and the manner in which consent may be given.

8-12

11. The definition of the acts or omissions to act that constitute a default in the duties of the electric power agency to holders of its public bonds or obligations, and the rights and remedies of the holders in the event of default including, if the electric power agency so determines, the right to accelerate the date of the maturation of the public bonds or obligations or the right to appoint a receiver or receivers of the property or revenues subject to the lien of the resolution, trust indenture, or other security agreement.

12. Any other or additional agreements with or for the benefit of the holders of public bonds or obligations or any covenants or restrictions necessary or desirable to safeguard the interests of the holders.

13. The custody of any of the electric power agency's property or investments, the safekeeping of such property or investments, the insurance to be carried on such property or investments, and the use and disposition of insurance proceeds.

14. The vesting in a trustee or trustees, within or outside the state, of such property, rights, powers, and duties as the electric power agency may determine; or the limiting or abrogating of the rights of the holders of any public bonds or obligations to appoint a trustee, or the limiting of the rights, powers, and duties of such trustee.

15. The appointment of and the establishment of the duties and obligations of any paying agent or other fiduciary within or outside the state.

Sec. 30. NEW SECTION. 476A.33 MORTGAGE OR TRUST DEED TO SECURE BONDS.

For the security of public bonds or obligations issued or to be issued by an electric power agency, the electric power agency may mortgage or execute deeds of trust of the whole or any part of its property.

Sec. 31. NEW SECTION. 476A.34 NO PERSONAL LIABILITY ON PUBLIC BONDS OR OBLIGATIONS.

An official, director, member of an electric power agency, or any person executing public bonds or obligations shall not be liable personally on the public bonds or obligations or be subject to any personal liability or accountability by reason of the issuance of such public bonds or obligations.

Sec. 32. NEW SECTION. 476A.35 REPURCHASE OF SECURITIES.

An electric power agency may purchase public bonds or obligations out of any funds available for such purchase, and hold, pledge, cancel, or resell the public bonds or obligations, subject to and in accordance with any agreements with the holders.

Sec. 33. NEW SECTION. 476A.36 PLEDGE OF REVENUE AS SECURITY.

An electric power agency may pledge its rates, rents, and other revenues, or any part of such rates, rents, and revenues, as security for the repayment, with interest and redemption premiums, if any, of the moneys borrowed by the electric power agency or advanced to the electric power agency for any of its authorized purposes and as security for the payment of moneys due and owed by the electric power agency under any contract.

Sec. 34. Section 478.3, Code 2001, is amended by adding the following new subsection:

8-13

NEW SUBSECTION. 3. For the purpose of this section, the term "public" shall not be interpreted to be limited to consumers located in this state.

Sec. 35. CODE EDITOR DIRECTIVE. The Code editor shall change references to "this chapter" in sections 476A.1 through 476A.15 as necessary and appropriate to reflect the addition of the new subchapter to chapter 476A as a result of this Act.

Sec. 36. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved July 3, 2001

¹ 2001 Iowa Acts, Regular Session, chapter 158 herein



© 1995 Cornell College and League of Women Voters of Iowa

Comments about this site or page? webmaster@staff.legis.state.ia.us

Please remember that the person listed above does not vote on bills. Direct all comments concerning legislation to State Legislators.

Updated: 01-Nov-2001 03:12 PM
rc/sw

8-14

476.6 Changes in rates, charges, schedules and regulations--supply and cost review--water costs for fire protection.

1. *Filing with board.* A public utility subject to rate regulation shall not make effective a new or changed rate, charge, schedule or regulation until the rate, charge, schedule, or regulation has been approved by the board, except as provided in subsections 11 and 13.

A subscriber of a telephone exchange or service, who is declared to be legally blind under section 422.12, subsection 1, paragraph "e", is exempt from any charges for telephone directory assistance that may be approved by the board.

2. *Telephone directory assistance charges--record provided.* The board shall not approve a schedule of directory assistance charges unless the schedule provides that residential customers be provided a record of the date and time of each directory assistance call made from their residence.

3. *Telephone directory assistance charges--approval by board.* Notwithstanding contrary provisions of this section, a public utility shall not implement a charge for telephone directory assistance or implement a new or changed rate for telephone directory assistance except pursuant to a tariff that has been filed with the board and finally approved by the board.

4. *First seven calls exempted.* A telephone directory assistance tariff that is approved by the board on or after July 1, 1981, shall be subject to the limitation that a subscriber shall not be charged for the first seven directory assistance calls made from the subscriber's station during each of the first twelve months in which the tariff is in effect, and a charge made in violation of this limitation is an unlawful charge within the meaning of this chapter.

5. *Written notice of increase.* All public utilities, except those exempted from rate regulation by section 476.1, shall give written notice of a proposed increase of any rate or charge to all affected customers served by the public utility no more than sixty-two days prior to and prior to the time the application for the increase is filed with the board. Public utilities exempted from rate regulation by section 476.1 shall give written notice of a proposed increase of any rate or charge to all affected customers served by the public utility at least thirty days prior to the effective date of the increase. If the public utility is subject to rate regulation, the notice to affected customers shall also state that the customer has a right to file a written objection to the rate increase and that the affected customers may request the board to hold a public hearing to determine if the rate increase should be allowed. The board shall prescribe the manner and method that the written notice to each affected customer of the public utility shall be served.

6. *Facts and arguments submitted.* At the time a public utility subject to rate regulation files with the board an application for any new or changed rates, charges, schedules, or regulations, the public utility also shall submit factual evidence and written argument offered in support of the filing. If the filing is an application for a general rate increase, the utility shall also file affidavits containing testimonial evidence to be offered in support of the filing, although this requirement does not apply if the public utility is a rural electric cooperative.

7. *Hearing set.* After the filing of an application for new or changed rates, charges, schedules, or regulations by a public utility subject to rate regulation, the board, prior to the expiration of thirty days after the filing date, shall docket the case as a formal proceeding and set the case for hearing unless the new or changed rates, charges, schedules, or regulations are approved by the board. However, if an application presents no material issue of fact subject to dispute, and the board determines that the application violates a relevant statute, or is not in substantial compliance with a board rule lawfully adopted pursuant to chapter 17A, the application may be rejected by the board without prejudice and without a hearing, provided that the board issues a written order setting forth all of its reasons for rejecting the application. In the case of a gas public utility having less than two thousand customers, the board shall docket a case as a formal proceeding and set the case for hearing as provided in section 476.1C. In the case of a rural electric cooperative, the board may docket the case as a formal proceeding and set the case for hearing prior to the proposed effective date of the tariff. The board shall give notice of formal proceedings as it deems appropriate. The docketing of a case as a formal proceeding suspends the effective date of the new or changed rates, charges, schedules, or regulations until the rates, charges, schedules, or regulations are approved by the board, except as provided in subsection 13.

8. *Utility hearing expenses reported.* When a case has been docketed as a formal proceeding under subsection 7, the public utility, within a reasonable time thereafter, shall file with the board a report outlining the utility's expected expenses for litigating the case through the time period allowed by the board in rendering a decision. At the conclusion of the utility's presentation of comments, testimony, exhibits, or briefs the utility shall submit to the board litigation expenses in the proceeding. As part of the findings of the board under subsection

HOUSE UTILITIES

DATE: 3-20-03

ATTACHMENT 9

of costs of the litigation expenses over a reasonable period of time to the extent the board deems the expenses reasonable and just.

9. *Finding by board.* If, after hearing and decision on all issues presented for determination in the rate proceeding, the board finds the proposed rates, charges, schedules, or regulations of the utility to be unlawful, the board shall by order authorize and direct the utility to file new or changed rates, charges, schedules, or regulations which, when approved by the board and placed in effect, will satisfy the requirements of this chapter. The rates, charges, schedules, or regulations so approved are lawful and effective upon their approval.

10. *Limitation on filings.* A public utility shall not make a subsequent filing of an application for a new or changed rate, charge, schedule, or regulation which relates to services for which a rate filing is pending within twelve months following the date the prior application was filed or until the board has issued a final order on the prior application, whichever date is earlier, unless the public utility applies to the board for authority and receives authority to make a subsequent filing at an earlier date.

11. *Automatic adjustments permitted.* This chapter does not prohibit a public utility from making provision for the automatic adjustment of rates and charges for public utility service provided that a schedule showing the automatic adjustment of rates and charges is first filed with the board.

12. *Rate levels for telephone utilities.* The board may approve a schedule of rate levels for any regulated service provided by a utility providing communication services.

13. *Temporary authority.* Upon the request of a public utility, the board shall, when required by this subsection, grant the public utility temporary authority to place in effect any or all of the suspended rates, charges, schedules or regulations by filing with the board a bond or other undertaking approved by the board conditioned upon the refund in a manner to be prescribed by the board of any amounts collected in excess of the amounts which would have been collected under rates, charges, schedules or regulations finally approved by the board. In determining that portion of the new or changed rates, charges, schedules or regulations to be placed in effect prior to a final decision, the board shall apply previously established regulatory principles and shall, at a minimum, permit rates and charges which will allow the utility the opportunity to earn a return on common stock equity equal to that which the board held reasonable and just in the most recent rate case involving the same utility or the same type of utility service, provided that if the most recent final decision of the board in an applicable rate case was rendered more than twelve months prior to the date of filing of the request for temporary rates, the board shall in addition consider financial market data that is filed or that is otherwise available to the board and shall adjust the rate of return on common stock equity that was approved in that decision upward or downward as necessary to reflect current conditions. The board shall render a decision on a request for temporary authority within ninety days after the date of filing of the request. The decision shall be effective immediately. If the board has not rendered a final decision with respect to suspended rates, charges, schedules or regulations upon the expiration of ten months after the filing date, plus the length of any delay that necessarily results either from the failure of the public utility to exercise due diligence in connection with the proceedings or from intervening judicial proceedings, plus the length of any extension permitted by section 476.33, subsection 3, then those portions that were approved by the board on a temporary basis shall be deemed finally approved by the board and the utility may place them into effect on a permanent basis, and the utility also may place into effect subject to refund and until the final decision of the board any portion of the suspended rates, charges, schedules or regulations not previously approved on a temporary basis by filing with the board a bond or other undertaking approved by the board.

If the board finds that an extension of the ten-month period is necessary to permit the accumulation of necessary data with respect to the operation of a newly constructed electric generating facility that has a capacity of one hundred megawatts or more of electricity and that is proposed to be included in the rate base for the first time, the board may extend the ten-month period up to a maximum extension of six months, but only with respect to that portion of the suspended rates, charges, schedules or regulations that are necessarily connected with the inclusion of the generating facility in the rate base. If a utility is proposing to include in its rate base for the first time a newly constructed electric generating facility that has a capacity of one hundred megawatts or more of electricity, the filing date of new or changed rates, charges, schedules or regulations shall, for purposes of computing the ninety-day and ten-month limitations stated above, be the date as determined by the board that the new plant went into service, but only with respect to that portion of the suspended rates, charges, schedules or regulations that are necessarily connected with the inclusion of the generating facility in the rate base.

The board shall determine the rate of interest to be paid by a public utility to persons receiving refunds. The interest rate to be applied to refunds of moneys collected subject to refund under this subsection is two percent per annum plus the average quarterly interest rate at commercial banks for twenty-four-month loans for personal expenditures, as determined by the board, compounded annually. The board shall consider federal reserve statistical release G.19 or its equivalent when

9-2

determining interest to be paid under this subsection.

14. *Refunds passed on to customers.* If pursuant to federal law or rule a rate-regulated public utility furnishing gas to customers in the state receives a refund or credit for past gas purchases, the savings shall be passed on to the customers in a manner approved by the board. Similarly, if pursuant to federal law or rule a rate-regulated public utility furnishing gas to customers in the state receives a rate for future gas purchases which is lower than the price included in the public utility's approved rate application, the savings shall be passed on to the customers in a manner approved by the board.

15. *Natural gas supply and cost review.* The board shall periodically conduct a proceeding for the purpose of evaluating the reasonableness and prudence of a rate-regulated public utility's natural gas procurement and contracting practices. The natural gas supply and cost review shall be conducted as a contested case pursuant to chapter 17A.

Under procedures established by the board, each rate-regulated public utility furnishing gas shall periodically file a complete natural gas procurement plan describing the expected sources and volumes of its gas supply and changes in the cost of gas anticipated over a future twelve-month period specified by the board. The utilities shall file information as the board deems appropriate.

During the natural gas supply and cost review, the board shall evaluate the reasonableness and prudence of the gas procurement plan. If a utility is not taking all reasonable actions to minimize its purchase gas costs, consistent with assuring an adequate long-term supply of natural gas, the board shall not allow the utility to recover from its customers purchase gas costs in excess of those costs that would be incurred under reasonable and prudent policies and practices.

16. *Electric energy supply and cost review.* The board shall periodically conduct a proceeding for the purpose of evaluating the reasonableness and prudence of a rate-regulated public utility's procurement and contracting practices related to the acquisition of fuel for use in generating electricity. The evaluation may review the reasonableness and prudence of actions taken by a rate-regulated public utility to comply with the federal Clean Air Act Amendments of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-549. The proceeding shall be conducted as a contested case pursuant to chapter 17A. Under procedures established by the board, the utility shall file information as the board deems appropriate. If a utility is not taking all reasonable actions to minimize its fuel and allowance transaction costs, the board shall not allow the utility to recover from its customers fuel and allowance transaction costs in excess of those costs that would be or would have been incurred under reasonable and prudent policies and practices.

17. *Energy efficiency plans.* Electric and gas public utilities shall offer energy efficiency programs to their customers through energy efficiency plans. An energy efficiency plan as a whole shall be cost-effective. In determining the cost-effectiveness of an energy efficiency plan, the board shall apply the societal test, utility cost test, rate-payer impact test, and participant test. Energy efficiency programs for qualified low-income persons and for tree planting programs need not be cost-effective and shall not be considered in determining cost-effectiveness of plans as a whole. The energy efficiency programs in the plans may be provided by the utility or by a contractor or agent of the utility.

18. *Water costs for fire protection in certain cities.*

a. *Application.* A city furnished water by a public utility subject to rate regulation may apply to the board for inclusion of all or a part of the costs of fire hydrants or other improvements, maintenance, and operations for the purpose of providing adequate water production, storage, and distribution for public fire protection in the rates or charges assessed to consumers covered by the applicant's fire protection service. The application shall be made in a form and manner approved by or as directed by the board. The applicant shall provide such additional information as the board may require to consider the application.

b. *Review.* The board shall review the application, and may in its discretion consider additional evidence, beyond that supplied in the application or provided by the applicant in response to a request for additional information pursuant to paragraph "a", including, but not limited to, soliciting oral or written testimony from other interested parties.

c. *Notice.* Written notice of a proposed rate increase shall be provided by the public utility pursuant to subsection 5, except that notice shall be provided within ninety days of the date of application. Costs of the notice shall be paid for by the applicant.

d. *Conditions for approval.* As a condition to approving an application to include water-related fire protection costs in the utility's rates or charges, the board shall make an affirmative determination that the following conditions will be met:

9-3

- (1) That the service area currently charged for fire protection, either directly or indirectly, is substantially the same service area containing those persons who will pay for water-related fire protection through inclusion of such costs within the utility's rates or charges.
 - (2) That the inclusion of such costs within the utility's rates or charges will not cause substantial inequities among the utility's customers.
 - (3) That all or a portion of the costs sought to be included in the utility's rates or charges by the applicant are reasonable in the circumstances, and limited to the purposes specified in paragraph "a".
 - (4) That written notice has been provided pursuant to paragraph "c" and that the costs of the notice have been paid by the applicant.
- e. Inclusion within rates or charges. If the board affirmatively determines that the conditions of paragraph "d" are or will be satisfied, the board shall include the reasonable costs in the rates or charges assessed to consumers covered by the applicant's fire protection service.
- f. Written order. The board shall issue a written order within six months of the date of application. The written order shall include a recitation of the facts found pursuant to consideration of the application.

19. *Energy efficiency implementation, cost review, and cost recovery.*

- a. Gas and electric utilities required to be rate-regulated under this chapter shall file energy efficiency plans with the board. An energy efficiency plan and budget shall include a range of programs, tailored to the needs of all customer classes, including residential, commercial, and industrial customers, for energy efficiency opportunities. The plans shall include programs for qualified low-income persons including a cooperative program with any community action agency within the utility's service area to implement countywide or communitywide energy efficiency programs for qualified low-income persons. Rate-regulated gas and electric utilities shall utilize Iowa agencies and Iowa contractors to the maximum extent cost-effective in their energy efficiency plans filed with the board.
- b. A gas and electric utility required to be rate-regulated under this chapter shall assess potential energy and capacity savings available from actual and projected customer usage by applying commercially available technology and improved operating practices to energy-using equipment and buildings. The utility shall submit the assessment to the board. Upon receipt of the assessment, the board shall consult with the energy bureau of the division of energy and geological resources of the department of natural resources to develop specific capacity and energy savings performance standards for each utility. The utility shall submit an energy efficiency plan which shall include economically achievable programs designed to attain these energy and capacity performance standards.
- c. The board shall conduct contested case proceedings for review of energy efficiency plans and budgets filed by gas and electric utilities required to be rate-regulated under this chapter. The board may approve, reject, or modify the plans and budgets. Notwithstanding the provisions of section 17A.19, subsection 5, in an application for judicial review of the board's decision concerning a utility's energy efficiency plan or budget, the reviewing court shall not order a stay. Whenever a request to modify an approved plan or budget is filed subsequently by the office of consumer advocate or a gas or electric utility required to be rate-regulated under this chapter, the board shall promptly initiate a formal proceeding if the board determines that any reasonable ground exists for investigating the request. The formal proceeding may be initiated at any time by the board on its own motion. Implementation of board-approved plans or budgets shall be considered continuous in nature and shall be subject to investigation at any time by the board or the office of the consumer advocate.
- d. Notice to customers of a contested case proceeding for review of energy efficiency plans and budgets shall be in a manner prescribed by the board.
- e. A gas or electric utility required to be rate-regulated under this chapter may recover, through an automatic adjustment mechanism filed pursuant to subsection 11, over a period not to exceed the term of the plan, the costs of an energy efficiency plan approved by the board, including amounts for a plan approved prior to July 1, 1996, in a contested case proceeding conducted pursuant to paragraph "c". The board shall periodically conduct a contested case proceeding to evaluate the reasonableness and prudence of the utility's implementation of an approved energy efficiency plan and budget. If a utility is not taking all reasonable actions to cost-effectively implement an approved energy efficiency plan, the board shall not allow the utility to recover from customers costs in excess of those costs that would be incurred under reasonable and prudent

9-4

implementation and shall not allow the utility to recover future costs at a level other than what the board determines to be reasonable and prudent. If the result of a contested case proceeding is a judgment against a utility, that utility's future level of cost recovery shall be reduced by the amount by which the programs were found to be imprudently conducted. The utility shall not represent energy efficiency in customer billings as a separate cost or expense unless the board otherwise approves.

f. A rate-regulated utility required to submit an energy efficiency plan under this subsection shall, upon the request of a state agency or political subdivision to which it provides service, provide advice and assistance regarding measures which the state agency or political subdivision might take in achieving improved energy efficiency results. The cooperation shall include assistance in accessing financial assistance for energy efficiency measures.

20. *Filing of forecasts.* The board shall periodically require each rate-regulated gas or electric public utility to file a forecast of future gas requirements or electric generating needs and the board shall evaluate the forecast. The forecast shall include, but is not limited to, a forecast of the requirements of its customers, its anticipated sources of supply, and its anticipated means of addressing the forecasted gas requirements or electric generating needs.

21. *Energy efficiency program financing.* The board may require each rate-regulated gas or electric public utility to offer qualified customers the opportunity to enter into an agreement for the amount of moneys reasonably necessary to finance cost-effective energy efficiency improvements to the qualified customers' residential dwellings or businesses.

22. *Allocation of replacement tax costs.* The costs of the replacement tax imposed pursuant to chapter 437A shall be reflected in the charges of utilities subject to rate regulation, in lieu of the utilities' costs of property taxes. The imposition of the replacement taxes pursuant to chapter 437A is not intended to initiate any change in the rates and charges for the sale of electricity, the sale of natural gas, or the transportation of natural gas that is subject to regulation by the board and in effect on January 1, 1999.

The cost of the replacement taxes imposed by chapter 437A shall be allocated among and within customer classes in a manner that will replicate the tax cost burden of the current property tax on individual customers to the maximum extent practicable.

Upon the restructuring of the electric industry in this state so that individual consumers are given the right to choose their electric suppliers, replacement tax costs shall be assigned to the service corresponding to the individual generation, transmission, and delivery taxes. In all other respects, the allocation of the replacement tax costs among and within the customer classes shall remain the same to the maximum extent practicable.

Notwithstanding this subsection, the board may determine the amount of replacement tax properly included in retail rates subject to its jurisdiction. The board may determine whether the base rates or some other form of rate is most appropriate for recovery of the costs of the replacement tax, subject to the requirement that utility rates be reasonable and just. The board may also determine the appropriate allocation of the tax. Any significant modification to rate design relating to the replacement tax shall be made in a manner consistent with this subsection unless made in a contested case proceeding where the impact of such modification on competition and consumer costs is considered.

23. *Replacement tax study committee.* On or before July 1, 2000, the utilities board, in consultation with the department of revenue and finance, shall initiate and coordinate the establishment of a replacement tax study committee and provide staffing assistance to the committee. It is the intent of the general assembly that the committee include representatives of the utilities board, department of revenue and finance, department of management, investor-owned utilities, municipal utilities, cooperative utilities, local governments, major customer classes, and other stakeholders.

The committee shall study the effects of the replacement tax on both restructuring and the development of competition in the gas and electric industries in this state. The board shall report to the general assembly by January 1 of each year through 2003, the results of the study, and the committee's recommendations as to whether the replacement tax, in its then present form, should be continued, whether a different form of taxation of electric and gas utilities should be adopted in order to allow free and fair competition in the electric and gas industries, and fair competitive prices for all classes of consumers, whether a different basis for determination of the generation, transmission, and delivery taxes should be adopted or whether the relative share of the total replacement tax burden imposed on each of the generation, transmission, and delivery functions should be modified in order to allow free and fair competition in the electric and gas industries, and fair competitive prices for all classes of consumers, and whether the replacement tax in its then present form, appropriately accounts for the decline in value of electric power generating plants. The replacement tax study committee shall reconvene by January 1, 2006, to further study these same issues, and the board shall report the results of the study and the committee's recommendations to the general assembly by January 1, 2008.

Upon recommendation of the committee, the board may contract for services necessary to the implementation of this subsection with persons who are not state employees, including, but not limited to, facilitators, consultants, and other experts required to assist the committee. The cost of contracted services shall not be paid from appropriated funds, but shall be assessed to entities paying replacement tax pursuant to chapter 437A, subchapter II, pro rata, based on the amount of tax paid.

24. *Recovery of management costs.* A public utility which is assessed management costs by a local government pursuant to chapter 480A is entitled to recover those costs. If the public utility serves customers within the boundaries of the local government imposing the management costs, such costs shall be recovered exclusively from those customers.

Section History: Early form

[C66, 71, 73, 75, § 490A.6; C77, 79, 81, § 476.6; 81 Acts, ch 156, § 6, 9, ch 157, § 1-3; 82 Acts, ch 1100, § 23]

Section History: Recent form

83 Acts, ch 127, § 19-26, 51; 84 Acts, ch 1023, § 1; 87 Acts, ch 21, § 2; 89 Acts, ch 58, § 1; 89 Acts, ch 148, § 1; 89 Acts, ch 321, § 29; 90 Acts, ch 1103, § 1; 90 Acts, ch 1252, § 23-27; 91 Acts, ch 253, § 22; 93 Acts, ch 68, § 1; 96 Acts, ch 1196, § 8, 9; 98 Acts, ch 1013, § 1; 98 Acts, ch 1148, § 2, 9; 98 Acts, ch 1194, § 37, 40

Internal References

Referred to in § 34A.7, 437A.14, 476.1C, 476.2, 476.4A, 476.10, 476.10A, 476.33, 476.46, 476.52, 476.97

Footnotes

Subsections 22 and 23 are effective January 1, 1999, and apply to property tax assessment years and replacement tax years beginning on or after that date; 98 Acts, ch 1194, § 40

Previous Section [476.5](#)

Next Section [476.7](#)



© 2001 Cornell College and League of Women Voters of Iowa

Comments about this site or page? iacode@staff.legis.state.ia.us.

Please remember that the person listed above does not vote on bills. Direct all comments concerning legislation to State Legislators.

Last update: Mon Jan 22 17:13:42 CST 2001

URL: [/IACODE/2001/476/6.html](http://IACODE/2001/476/6.html)

jhf

9-6