

199—26.2(17A,476) Definitions. Terms not otherwise defined in these rules shall be understood to have their usual meanings.

“*Board*” means the Iowa utilities board or a majority of its members.

“*Board staff*” means the staff employed by the board.

“*Bridge period*” means the period between the most recent calendar year and the beginning of the proposed future test year.

“*Commodity*” or “*commodities*” means water, sanitary sewage disposal, storm water drainage, electricity, or natural gas.

“*Effective date*” means the date, approved by the board, on which the utility may begin charging a new rate or charge or implementing tariff changes approved by the board.

“*Future test year*” means any 12-month period beginning no later than the date on which a proposed rate change is expected to take effect.

“*Historic test year*” means a 12-month period preceding when the application for a general rate increase is filed for which verifiable data exists concerning the utility’s costs and revenues.

“*Rates*” means the per-unit or per-occurrence amounts billed to customers for a recurring or nonrecurring service or commodity rendered or offered by the utility, and any charge, schedule, or regulation which a utility includes in a tariff approved by the board.

“*Subsequent proceeding*” means the proceeding the board is required to conduct subsequent to the effective date of the rates approved by the board based upon a future test year.

“*Utility*” means an investor-owned public utility subject to rate regulation by the board pursuant to Iowa Code chapter 476.

“*Verification period*” means the 12-month period of data required to be filed as part of the subsequent proceeding. The 12-month period begins the first day of the month following the month in which the rates approved by the board become effective.

“*Written notice*” means any form of written communication, including first-class mail or electronic mail if a customer has agreed to receive electronic notices from the utility for matters other than billing.

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