

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

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

“*Commission*” means the Iowa utilities commission or a majority of its members.

“*Commission staff*” means the staff employed by the commission.

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

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

“*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 commission.

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

“*Utility*” means an investor-owned public utility subject to rate regulation by the commission 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 commission 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.

[ARC 5629C, IAB 5/19/21, effective 6/23/21; Editorial change: IAC Supplement 7/24/24]