

199—11.4 (478) Informational meetings. Not less than 30 days or more than two years prior to filing a petition or related petitions requesting franchise for a new transmission line which is capable of operating at 69 kilovolts (or for which line, easement will be sought for 69 kV) or more, with one or more miles of the total proposed route across privately owned real estate, the prospective petitioner(s) shall hold informational meetings in each county in which real property or real property rights will be affected. Informational meetings shall comply with the following:

11.4(1) Facilities. Prospective petitioners for franchise shall be responsible for all negotiations and compensation for a suitable facility to be used for each informational meeting, including but not limited to a building or facility which is in substantial compliance with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act Accessibility Guidelines, Chapter 4, where such a building or facility is reasonably available.

11.4(2) Location. The informational meeting location shall be reasonably accessible to all persons, companies or corporations which may be affected by the granting of a franchise in that county.

11.4(3) Personnel. The prospective petitioner shall provide qualified personnel to speak for the petitioner in matters relating to the following:

- a. Utility service requirements and planning which have resulted in the proposed construction.
- b. When the line will be constructed.
- c. In general terms, the physical construction, appearance and typical location of poles and conductors with respect to property lines.
- d. In general terms, the rights which petitioner shall seek to acquire by easements.
- e. Procedures to be followed in contacting affected parties for specific negotiations in acquiring voluntary easements.
- f. Methods and factors used in arriving at an offered price for voluntary easements including the range of cash amount of each component.
- g. Manner in which voluntary easement payments are made, including discussion of conditional easements, signing fees and time of payment.
- h. Other factors or damages not included in the easement for which compensation is made, including features of interest to affected parties but not limited to computation of amounts and manner of payment.
- i. If the undertaking is a joint effort by more than one entity, the other participants shall also be represented at the informational meeting by qualified personnel to speak for them in the matters set forth in 11.4(3)“a” through 11.4(3)“h.”

11.4(4) Coordinating with board. The date, time, and location of the informational meeting shall be selected after consultation with the board to allow for scheduling of presiding officers.

11.4(5) Amendments to franchise. Prior to filing any petition for amendment to franchise where petitioner must obtain new or additional interests in real property for a total of one route mile or more, informational meetings shall be held which meet the requirements of 199 IAC 11.4(478).

11.4(6) Length of easements. The length of easements required for conductor and crossarm overhang of private property, even if no supporting structures are located on that land, shall be included in determining whether an informational meeting is required pursuant to Iowa Code section 478.2.