

Senate File 2240

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AN ACT

RELATING TO TEMPORARY RATE AUTHORITY AND RULES OF THE IOWA UTILITIES BOARD REGARDING RATE REGULATION PROCEEDINGS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

Section 1. Section 476.6, subsection 10, unnumbered paragraph 2, Code Supplement 2003, is amended to read as follows:

A public utility may choose to place in effect temporary rates, charges, schedules, or regulations without board review ten days after the filing under this section. If the utility chooses to place such rates, charges, schedules, or regulations in effect without board review, the utility shall file with the board a bond or other corporate undertaking approved by the board conditioned upon the refund in a manner prescribed by the board of amounts collected in excess of the amounts which would have been collected under rates, charges, schedules, or regulations finally approved by the board. At the conclusion of the proceeding if the board determines that the temporary rates, charges, schedules, or regulations placed in effect under this paragraph were not based on previously established regulatory principles, the board shall consider ordering refunds based upon the overpayments made by each individual customer class, rate zone, or customer group.

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~~ time 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.

Sec. 2. Section 476.33, subsection 4, Code Supplement 2003, is amended to read as follows:

4. The board shall adopt rules that require the board, in rate regulatory proceedings under sections 476.3 and 476.6, to consider the use of the most current test period possible in determining reasonable and just rates, subject only to the availability of existing and verifiable data respecting costs and revenues, and in addition to consider verifiable data that exists ~~as of the date of commencement of the proceedings~~ within nine months after the conclusion of the test year, respecting known and measurable changes in costs not associated with a different level of revenue, and known and measurable revenues not associated with a different level of costs, that are to occur at any time within twelve months after the date of commencement of the proceedings. Parties proposing adjustments that are not verifiable at the commencement of the proceedings shall include projected data related to the adjustments in their initial substantive filing with the board. For purposes of this subsection, a proceeding commences under section 476.6 upon the filing date of new or changed rates, charges, schedules or regulations. This subsection does not limit the authority of the board to consider other evidence in proceedings under sections 476.3 and 476.6.

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JEFFREY M. LAMBERTI
President of the Senate

CHRISTOPHER C. RANTS
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that this bill originated in the Senate and
is known as Senate File 2240, Eightieth General Assembly.

MICHAEL E. MARSHALL
Secretary of the Senate

Approved _____, 2004

THOMAS J. VILSACK
Governor