

Sec. 9. Section 298.3, Code 2009, is amended by adding the following new subsection:
NEW SUBSECTION. 13. Demolition, clean up, and other costs if such costs are necessitated by, and incurred within two years of, a disaster as defined in section 29C.2, subsection 1.

Approved April 17, 2009

CHAPTER 66

ABBREVIATED ELECTRIC TRANSMISSION FRANCHISE PROCESS

S.F. 279

AN ACT providing for the establishment of an abbreviated electric transmission franchise process, and providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 478.1, Code 2009, is amended by adding the following new subsection:
NEW SUBSECTION. 5. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, if an existing transmission line, wire, or cable is operating at thirty-four and one-half kilovolts, it may be franchised, rebuilt, and upgraded to be capable of operation at sixty-nine kilovolts using an abbreviated franchise process if the upgraded line will meet required safety standards, will be on substantially the same right-of-way, and will have substantially the same effect on the underlying properties. The abbreviated franchise process shall not require published notice or a public informational meeting. The board may adopt rules defining relevant terms, setting forth the steps of the abbreviated process, and specifying the requirements for the petition and landowner notification. The petitioner shall provide written notice concerning the anticipated construction to the last known address of the owners of record of the property where construction will occur and to the parties residing on such property. The franchise may be granted if the board finds the upgraded line is necessary to serve a public use and represents a reasonable relationship to an overall plan of transmitting electricity in the public interest. The franchise shall not become effective until the petitioner has paid, or agreed to pay, all costs and expenses of the franchise proceeding specified in section 478.4.

Sec. 2. **EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act, being deemed of immediate importance, takes effect upon enactment.

Approved April 17, 2009