

IOWA UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE:

MIDAMERICAN ENERGY COMPANY

DOCKET NO. RPU-2026-0001

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST FOR WAIVER AND SETTING SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

BACKGROUND

On July 7, 2026, MidAmerican Energy Company (MidAmerican) filed an application for rate relief with the Utilities Commission (Commission) to revise its natural gas rates. Along with the application, MidAmerican also filed a request for waiver of the requirement to provide paper copies for the “...documents offered in support of the minimum filing requirements supporting the [a]pplication...,” as required by 199 Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 26.4(5)(g).

WAIVER REQUEST

MidAmerican requests to waive the requirements of paragraph 26.4(5)(g), so it does not need to provide six copies of the rate case application filing, including three copies each to the Commission and the Office of Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice. MidAmerican references the Commission’s former waiver rule¹ and the four criteria that must be met to grant such a waiver. The waiver rules, 7 IAC 2504.1(2), require the petitioner to meet all of the factors listed in Iowa

¹ MidAmerican cites 199 IAC 1.3; however, as of July 1, 2026, rule 1.3 was rescinded and the Commission’s waiver rule is found under the Uniform Rules on Agency Procedure, specifically 7 IAC chapter 2504 for rule waivers.

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Code § 17A.9A(2).² Pursuant to Iowa Code § 17A.9A(2), the utility must show the following:

- a. The application of the rule would pose an undue hardship on the person for whom the waiver is requested.
- b. The waiver from the requirements of a rule in the specific case would not prejudice the substantial legal rights of any person.
- c. The provisions of a rule subject to a petition for a waiver are not specifically mandated by statute or another provision of law.
- d. Substantially equal protection of public health, safety, and welfare will be afforded by a means other than that prescribed in the particular rule for which the waiver is requested.

MidAmerican asserts there would be an undue hardship because printing the information required in the rate case application would amount to printing and providing more than 40,200 pages, as the filing contains over 6,700 pages and would need to be printed six times. An example of publicly available information outside of the filing includes the minimum filing requirements of the Security Exchange Commission Forms 10Q and 10K, which are about 2,012 pages. Additionally, MidAmerican states “much” of the information is publicly available with access to the Commission’s electronic filing system (EFS), and the remaining information will be provided electronically to the Commission, OCA, and any parties with the necessary protective agreements. For these same reasons, MidAmerican states that the substantial legal rights of any person will not be prejudiced.

MidAmerican states that 199 IAC 26.4(5)(g) is not specifically mandated by another statute or provision of law. Lastly, MidAmerican provides that granting the waiver would not adversely impact the public health, safety, and welfare. MidAmerican reiterates that by having EFS access, the Commission, OCA, and any other interested

² The four factors in Iowa Code § 17A.9A(2) are the same as in former rule 1.3.

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persons can view publicly available information, and those with protective agreements can view confidential information. Furthermore, MidAmerican provides that it spoke with a representative at OCA and was informed that OCA did not have an objection to the waiver and that MidAmerican could so represent that stance in its request. MidAmerican also requests the waiver be permanent.

The information shows there will be an undue burden on MidAmerican if the waiver is not granted. MidAmerican would be required to print, compile and deliver more than 40,200 pages of information to the Commission and OCA. The information that MidAmerican would be required to print and deliver is already filed in the Commission's EFS and available for viewing. If the information is confidential and the interested person is not with the Commission or OCA, a protective agreement will need to be reached, which would be necessary for paper copies. Requiring MidAmerican to provide paper copies in this instance would pose an undue hardship on MidAmerican; therefore, the first factor is met. The Commission also finds that the substantial legal rights of any person will not be prejudiced for the same reasons, as the information is already available, although in a different format. The second factor is therefore also met.

The third factor, not required by statute or another provision of law, is easily decipherable. The requirement of paper copies is not required by any other provision of law. More specifically, Commission rules require electronic filing under chapter 14. See 199 IAC 14.7 ("The official agency record in any proceeding is the electronic record maintained in EFS and any paper filings accepted by the commission that are not stored in electronic form.") Therefore the third factor is met.

MidAmerican argues that because the information is mostly publicly available outside the filing, in EFS, or through a protective agreement if confidential (unless the

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viewer is with the Commission or OCA), the equal protection of public health, safety, and welfare are afforded by other means because the information can be reviewed without the paper copies. The Commission agrees. The paper copies are not necessary to complete the review of the rate case with the information available electronically. If an interested person is able to view the confidential information with a paper copy, that individual would have access to the confidential information in some form electronically. Based on this information the fourth factor is met. Therefore, the Commission will grant the waiver. Additionally, the Commission finds value in maintaining the same filing requirements throughout this proceeding; therefore, the Commission will grant MidAmerican a permanent waiver of 26.4(5)(g) for Docket No. RPU-2026-0001.

SCHEDULING CONFERENCE

In its application, MidAmerican states that it will discuss a proposed procedural schedule with OCA and other potential parties and will then submit that proposed procedural schedule. Due to the Commission's calendar and in the interest of ensuring a scheduling conference can be scheduled in a timely manner, the Commission will hold a scheduling conference at 9 a.m. September 2, 2026, in the Commission's Hearing Room. Interested persons will be required to submit a proposed procedural schedule no later than a week prior to the scheduling conference, along with a notice of intent to participate and whether participation will be in person or virtual.

ORDERING CLAUSES

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

1. MidAmerican Energy Company's request for waiver filed on July 7, 2026, for 199 Iowa Administrative Code 26.4(5)(g) is granted as a permanent waiver for

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2. A scheduling conference is scheduled for 9 a.m. September 2, 2026, in the Utilities Commission Hearing Room, 1375 E. Court Ave., Des Moines. Persons with disabilities who will require assistive services or devices to observe or participate in this scheduling conference shall contact the Utilities Commission Customer Service at (515) 725-7300 at least five business days in advance of the scheduling conference to request accommodations.

3. Parties or interested persons shall file a proposed procedural schedule no later than seven days prior to the scheduling conference.

4. Parties or interested persons shall file a notice of intent to participate no later than seven days prior to the scheduling conference, including whether the intent is to participate in person or virtually.

UTILITIES COMMISSION



Sarah Martz, Chair



Joshua Byrnes, Commissioner



Erik Helland, Commissioner