

DIRECT TESTIMONY

OF

MARK MAPLE

Engineering Department  
Energy Division  
Illinois Commerce Commission

MidAmerican Energy Company

Application for Expedited Approval of Gas Utility Portion  
of Reorganization Under Sections 7-204 and 7-204A

Docket No. 05-0506

October 14, 2005

1 Q. Please state your name and business address.

2 A. My name is Mark Maple and my business address is Illinois Commerce  
3 Commission, 527 East Capitol Avenue, Springfield, Illinois 62701.

4 Q. By whom are you employed and in what capacity?

5 A. I am employed by the Illinois Commerce Commission ("Commission") as a Gas  
6 Engineer in the Engineering Department of the Energy Division.

7 Q. Please state your educational background.

8 A. I hold a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a minor in  
9 Mathematics from Southern Illinois University - Carbondale. I also received a  
10 Master's degree in Business Administration from the University of Illinois at  
11 Springfield. Finally, I am a registered Professional Engineer Intern in the State of  
12 Illinois.

13 Q. What are your duties and responsibilities as a Gas Engineer in the Engineering  
14 Department?

15 A. My primary responsibilities and duties are in the performance of studies and  
16 analyses dealing with the day-to-day, and long-term, operations and planning of  
17 the gas utilities serving Illinois. For example, I review purchased gas adjustment  
18 clause reconciliations, rate base additions, levels of natural gas used for working  
19 capital, and utilities' applications for Certificates of Public Convenience and  
20 Necessity. I also perform utility gas meter test shop audits.

21 Q. What is the purpose of this proceeding?

22 A. On August 11, 2005, MidAmerican Energy Company ("MEC") requested  
23 Commission approval of the indirect transfer of control of MEC to Berkshire  
24 Hathaway Inc. through the exercise of the conversion of Berkshire's preferred,  
25 non-voting stock in MidAmerican Energy Holdings Company to common, voting  
26 stock.

27 Q. What are your duties and responsibilities associated with this docket?

28 A. I was assigned to verify that the proposed transaction meets the requirements of  
29 Section 7-204(b)(1) of the Public Utilities Act ("Act").

30 Q. What recommendations are you making in this proceeding?

31 A. I recommend that the Commission find that MEC meets the requirements of  
32 Section 7-204(b)(1) of the Act.

33 Section 7-204(b)(1)

34 Q. What are the requirements of Section 7-204(b)(1) of the Act?

35 A. Section 7-204 of the Act requires Commission approval prior to any proposed  
36 reorganization of a utility and requires the Commission to make a number of  
37 findings, including those contained in Section 7-204(b)(1) of the Act. Specifically  
38 Section 7-204(b)(1) states:

39            "...the proposed reorganization will not diminish the utility's ability to  
40            provide adequate, reliable, efficient, safe and least-cost public utility  
41            service."

42 Q. What information did you review to determine if MEC meets these requirements?

43 A. I reviewed MEC's petition, the testimony of Thomas Specketer, and MEC's  
44 responses to several Staff data requests. In particular, the information provided  
45 in the Companies' responses to Staff data requests ENG 1.1 through 1.6  
46 indicated that MEC does not anticipate any changes in the number of gas  
47 operations personnel nor would any changes to the capital expenditure and the  
48 operations and maintenance expense budgets occur as a result of the  
49 Commission's approval of MEC's proposal. Further, MEC stated that this  
50 reorganization would not change the way MEC operates its gas system and  
51 would not diminish MEC's ability to provide adequate, reliable, efficient, safe, and  
52 least-cost public utility service.

53 Q. Based on your review of this information, do you believe that MEC meets the  
54 requirements of Section 7-204(b)(1) of the Act?

55 A. Yes.

56 Q. Does this conclude your direct testimony?

57 A. Yes.