Iowa Utilities Commission

Docket No. GCU-2026-0001 — Central Iowa Power Cooperative (CIPCO)
Proposed electric generation facility (Scott County)

CIPCO proposes to construct, operate and maintain a 240-megawatt natural gas-fired simple-cycle combustion turbine known as the Hickory Grove Generating Station in Scott County. The company filed its application for a certificate of public convenience, use and necessity on May 19, 2026.

Proposed project: The facility would be sited on approximately 25 acres within a 95-acre project site roughly one mile east of Maysville and five miles west of Eldridge. The facility would be fueled by natural gas during normal operating conditions, with diesel fuel as a backup fuel source.

Legal authority: Iowa Code chapter 476A outlines the IUC's jurisdiction and the parameters that guide Commissioners' decisions in acting on applicants' requests to build power generating plants.

Unlike local elected bodies such as city councils, school boards or county boards of supervisors, the IUC Commissioners are a quasi-judicial body appointed by the governor. Hearings are operated much like court proceedings. Commissioners cannot let personal interests or public opinion determine how they decide an issue.

Procedural schedule: On June 30, 2026, the Commission accepted the Application and set a procedural schedule, shown below.

Docket No. GCU-2026-0001 Procedural Schedule	
Filing/Action	**Dates**
Scheduling Conference	June 22, 2026
45-Day Review deadline	July 2, 2026
Intervention deadline	July 31, 2026
CIPCO Direct Testimony due	August 20, 2026
Official Notice filed	September 9, 2026
OCA/Intervenor Direct Testimony due*	October 1, 2026
Concerned Citizens of Scott County Direct Testimony due*	October 12, 2026
CIPCO Reply Testimony due	November 2, 2026
Settlement deadline	October 29, 2026
Statement of Issues due	November 3, 2026
Discovery deadline	November 5, 2026
Hearing	November 17, 2026

* Concerned Citizens of Scott County filed a request for extension, which was granted by order and included revised deadlines for CIPCO reply testimony and discovery.

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Hearing information: November 17-19, 2026, Double Tree by Hilton, 111 E. Second St., Davenport. Day one hearing begins at 9 a.m.; subsequent schedules will be determined daily.

Read more about procedures for this hearing on the What to Know About IUC Contested Case Hearings webpage at iuc.iowa.gov, which includes information about how to file comments in the docket, the intervention process, and how and when a decision will be reached following the conclusion of the evidentiary hearing.

Common Questions

What is a GCU docket?
The GCU docket type is used when a company requests to build certain electric generating facilities. The owner of the proposed electric generating facility is required to request from the Commission a generating certificate and file an application for a certificate of public convenience, use and necessity. These certificates are required pursuant to Iowa Code 476A.2 and are needed before beginning construction on generating facilities with a generation capacity of 25 megawatts and more.

Was eminent domain requested by CIPCO?
No, eminent domain was not requested. CIPCO states it has obtained all necessary land rights for the proposed project.

Was there a public informational meeting?
Yes. The informational meeting was held on April 6, 2026, at the Rhythm City Casino in Davenport. On April 16, 2026, the Commission filed the informational meeting checklist.

Who are the parties in the proceeding?
The Office of the Consumer Advocate (OCA), a division of the Iowa Department of Justice, represents consumers generally as a party to all IUC proceedings. The IUC also granted intervention to Scott County Board of Supervisors; the Environmental Law & Policy Center; Concerned Citizens of Scott County; Jerome Mohr; the David Golinghorst Revocable Trust, the Linda Golinghorst Revocable Trust, and DLG Family Farms, LLC; and the Michael and Susan Meinert Living Trust.

When will the Commission issue a final decision on the application?
Following the hearing, the Commission weighs the evidence and testimony presented, along with other filings that are part of the official record. There is no statutory time frame for the IUC to issue a decision.