

## **FEDERAL UPDATE**

### **President Trump Nominates Energy Department's Number 2 to Replace Perry**

The President formally nominated the Energy Department's No. 2 official to replace Secretary Rick Perry. Trump had been saying he planned to elevate Dan Brouillette, a former George W. Bush administration official, to the post. The promotion, which was announced by the White House in November, had been anticipated by many in Washington energy circles. Brouillette, 57, a Louisiana native, isn't expected to deviate much from the priorities of his soon-to-be former boss, which have included selling more U.S. natural gas abroad and protecting the electric grid from cyber-attack. Like Perry, Brouillette backs efforts to have the federal government subsidize coal and nuclear plants that have been unable to compete with cheaper electricity from natural gas and renewables. So far, such a federal intervention has been unsuccessful

## **STATE UPDATE**

### **IUB Rules on Opt-out for Alliant Advanced Metering**

The Iowa Utilities Board issued an order creating customer opt-out options for Alliant Energy's advanced metering infrastructure (AMI) program for electric and natural gas customers. For the individual opt-out tariff for electric customers, the IUB is requiring Alliant to offer an AMI meter set in the 'Opt-Out Mode' as a reduced transmission option. An AMI meter set in Opt-Out Mode will only pulse on one day per month when Alliant reads the meter. When a new customer moves into a residence that was already on the opt-out list, Alliant must offer the existing opt-out option to the new customer before changing the meter to an AMI meter. The order also requires Alliant to revise its customer notice regarding the opt-out provision, adding language regarding the privacy policy and a link to the policy on Alliant's website, and revisions to ensure natural gas customers understand the notice applies to them. Alliant is required to further strengthen its privacy policy by clearly indicating that third parties may only use customer data for work performed on Alliant's behalf and prohibiting the sale or use of that data for other purposes without a customer's consent.

### **Iowa County Board of Supervisors Approves, Adopts Wind Ordinance**

A long-debated wind ordinance in Iowa County has officially been approved and adopted by the county's board of supervisors. The agreement sets regulations on where energy companies can place wind turbines across the county. In August, the Iowa County Board of Supervisors voted down a proposed ordinance after representatives from two energy companies argued it was too restrictive, but others argued it was too lenient. A revised ordinance was voted and approved unanimously, with one supervisor continuing to abstain his vote due to a conflict of interest. The four remaining supervisors voted to waive the second and third reading, adopting the new wind turbine regulations. The ordinance can still be amended later with changes, though the ordinance and any amendments would not apply to a current agreement between the county, Invenergy and MidAmerican Energy for plans to place more than 70 turbines across the county.

### Adair County Supervisors Put Limits on Wind Farms

Leaders in southwest Iowa's Adair County have voted to limit the development of wind farms. Following a public hearing at the Adair County Board of Supervisors meeting, and a waiving of the second and third readings, the supervisors approved an amendment to the Wind Energy Ordinance 31B. The amendment caps the number of commercial wind turbines or wind farms erected within the boundaries of Adair County at a total of no more than 535. Adair County currently has 532 turbines completed or under construction. This comes after neighboring Union County earlier this year passed its ordinance allowing the construction of wind farms to start within the county.

### Upcoming Activities

CIPCO Offices Closed in the Afternoon – All	December 24, 2019
CIPCO Offices Closed – All	December 25, 2019
CIPCO Offices Closed in the Afternoon – All	December 31, 2019
CIPCO Offices Closed – All	January 1, 2020
Guthrie County REC Annual Meeting – Panora, IA	January 4, 2020
NRECA CEO Close-up – Palm Desert, CA	January 12-15, 2020
IAEC Legislative Reception – Des Moines, IA	January 14, 2020
ABI Legislative Reception – Des Moines, IA	January 15, 2020
IAEC – NRECA Director Training – Des Moines, IA	January 15, 2020
IAEC Leadership Down the Lines – Des Moines, IA	January 15-17, 202

### Consumer Price Index

Month	Seasonally Adjusted Change from Previous Month
October 2019	0.4%
September 2019	0.0%
August 2019	0.1%
July 2019	0.3%
June 2019	0.1%
May 2019	0.1%
Unadjusted Rolling 12 Month Average: 1.8%	