

CHAPTER 111

ELECTRIC FRANCHISE

111.01 Franchise Granted
111.02 Placement of Facilities
111.03 Excavations
111.04 Location of Facilities
111.05 Installation of Meters

111.06 Quality of System
111.07 Nonexclusive Franchise
111.08 No Interruption of Service
111.09 Term of Franchise

111.01 FRANCHISE GRANTED. There is hereby granted unto INTERSTATE POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY, herein called the “Company,” its successors and assigns, the right and franchise to acquire, construct, erect, maintain and operate in the City works and plants for the manufacture and generation of electricity and a distribution system for electric light, heat and power and the right to erect and maintain the necessary poles, lines, wires, conduits and other appliances for the transmission of electric current along, under and upon the streets, avenues, alleys and public places in the City; also the right to erect and maintain upon the streets, avenues, alleys and public places transmission lines through the City, to supply individuals, corporations, communities, and municipalities both inside and outside of the City with electric light, heat and power for the period of twenty-five (25) years;[†] also the right of eminent domain as provided in Section 364.2 of the *Code of Iowa*. Prior to the exercise of Company’s right of eminent domain for public use or purpose of benefit to the City, Company shall consult with the City in advance of the exercise of such right so as to minimize the impact of any such taking.

111.02 PLACEMENT OF FACILITIES. The poles, wires and appliances shall be placed and maintained so as not to unnecessarily interfere with the travel on said streets, alleys and public places in the City or unnecessarily interfere with the proper use of the same, including ordinary drainage, or with the sewers, underground pipe and other property of the City, and the said Company, its successors and assigns shall hold the City free and harmless from all damages arising from the negligent acts or omissions of the Company in the erection or maintenance of said system.

111.03 EXCAVATIONS. In making any excavations in any street, alley, avenue or public place, the Company, its successors and assigns, shall protect the site while work is in progress by guards, barriers or signals, shall not unnecessarily obstruct the use of the streets, shall back fill all openings in such manner as to prevent settling or depressions in surface, and shall replace the surface, pavement or sidewalk of such excavations with same materials, restoring the condition as nearly as practical and if defects are caused shall repair the same.

111.04 LOCATION OF FACILITIES. The Company shall, at its cost and expense, locate and relocate its existing facilities or equipment in, on, over or under any public street or alley in the City in such a manner as the City may at any time reasonably require for the purposes of facilitating the construction, reconstruction, maintenance or repair of the street or alley or any public improvement of, in or about any such street or alley of reasonably promoting the efficient operation of any such improvement. If the City orders or requests the Company to relocate its existing facilities or equipment for the primary benefit of a commercial or private project, or as the result of the initial request of a commercial or private developer or other non-public entity, the Company shall receive payment for the cost of such relocation as a precondition to relocating its existing facilities or equipment. The City shall consider reasonable alternatives in designing its public works projects so as not arbitrarily to cause the

[†] **EDITOR’S NOTE:** Ordinance No. 516, adopting an electric franchise for the City, was passed and adopted on June 11, 2007.

Company unreasonable additional expense in exercising its authority under this section. The City shall also provide a reasonable alternative location for the Company's facilities. The City shall give the Company reasonable advance written notice to vacate a public right-of-way. Vacating a public right-of-way shall not deprive the Company of its right to operate and maintain existing facilities, until the reasonable cost of relocating the same are paid to the Company.

111.05 INSTALLATION OF METERS. The Company, its successors and assigns, shall furnish and install all meters at their own expense, and shall provide the service wire to buildings as set forth in the Company's tariff filed with the Iowa Utilities Board.

111.06 QUALITY OF SYSTEM. The system authorized by this chapter shall be modern and up-to-date and shall be of sufficient capacity to supply all reasonable demands of the City and its inhabitants and shall be kept in a modern and up-to-date condition.

111.07 NONEXCLUSIVE FRANCHISE. The franchise granted by this chapter shall not be exclusive.

111.08 NO INTERRUPTION OF SERVICE. Service to be rendered by the Company under this chapter shall be continuous unless prevented from doing so by fire, acts of God, unavoidable accidents or casualties, or reasonable interruptions necessary to properly service the Company's equipment, and in such event service shall be resumed as quickly as is reasonably possible.

111.09 TERM OF FRANCHISE. The term of the franchise granted by this chapter and the rights granted hereunder shall continue for the period of twenty-five (25) years from and after its acceptance by the said Company, as herein provided.