

## HOUSE REPUBLICAN STAFF ANALYSIS

Bill:	House File 2583	House Committee:	<b>PASSED 2/16/26 (22-0)</b>
Committee:	Commerce	House Floor:	<b>PASSED 3/2/26 (90-0)</b>
Floor Manager:	Rep. David Young	Senate Floor:	<b>PASSED 3/24/26 (45-0)</b>
Date:	March 30, 2026	Governor:	
Staff:	Natalie Ginty (281-7479)		

### Transmission Lines Emergency Planning, Response

- This bill came from discussions with IUC regarding out-of-state transmission owners. The IUC recommended additional emergency planning and response requirements including filing a emergency response plan with the IUC, notifications to IUC and department of homeland security and emergency response, as well as civil penalties for violations of these requirements.

### Section by Section Analysis

#### Section 1 (Iowa Code 478.34) – New Section

“Electric transmission line”, “electric transmission line owner” and “proclaimed disaster emergency”.

Requires electric transmission line owners to independently develop an emergency response plan that is submitted to the IUC. The plan shall include:

- 24-hour contact information for at least 2 designated individuals with the authority to coordinate and direct emergency response and restoration efforts.
- Procedures for notifying state and local emergency management agencies and neighboring utilities during service interruption.
- Strategies for the staging and mobilization of personnel and equipment
- A summary of mutual aid arrangements with other entities for supplemental repair crews and equipment
- A methodology for prioritizing the restoration of services for essential facilities

An initial plan must be submitted to IUC by December 31, 2026, with annual submissions thereafter. These plans are confidential and only subject to disclosure for coordination of emergency response and restoration efforts.

Requires notification to IUC when there is a projected outage for more than six hours. Notification shall include:

- The general nature and cause of the interruption
- Geographic area affected
- Preliminary assessment of the damage
- Estimated time for restoration

In the event of a disaster emergency, the electric transmission line shall coordinate with other utilities for repair and shall provide IUC and department of homeland security and emergency management to facilitate state-level emergency response.

Violations of this bill are subject to civil penalty of not more than \$100 per violation or \$1,000 per day.

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### **Amendment Analysis**

**H-8261 by the Senate** – The amendment comes from the IUC after coordinating with additional stakeholders.

- Clarifies that transmission lines by owners who have not previously filed an emergency response plan with the IUC, shall file the initial plan within 90 days of filing a petition.
- Makes other clarifications on notification after the initial assessment of damage, taking into account that transmission often has built-in redundancy to route electricity to not impact customers
- Increases the civil penalty to better match the scale and size of transmission companies (from \$100 to \$1000 per violation, and from \$1000 to \$10,000 per day.