

BEFORE THE
EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
Lucas State Office Building
Fourth floor
Des Moines, Iowa 50319

GERALD FERGEN

Claimant,

and

DAKOTA FOOD & FUEL

Employer.

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HEARING NUMBER: 08B-UI-02255

EMPLOYMENT APPEAL BOARD
DECISION

SECTION: 10A.601 Employment Appeal Board Review

D E C I S I O N

FINDINGS OF FACT:

The notice of hearing in this matter was mailed March 7, 2008. The notice set a hearing for March 20, 2008. The employer did not appear for or participate in the hearing. The reason the employer did not appear is because the employer did not receive notice of the hearing and did not know the hearing was taking place.

REASONING AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW:

Iowa Code section 10A.601(4) (2005) provides:

5. Appeal board review. The appeal board may on its own motion affirm, modify, or set aside any decision of a administrative law judge on the basis of the evidence previously submitted in such case, or direct the taking of additional evidence, or may permit any of the parties to such decision to initiate further appeals before it. The appeal board shall permit such further appeal by any of the parties interested in a decision of an administrative law judge and by the representative whose decision has been overruled or modified by the administrative law judge. The appeal board shall review the case pursuant to rules adopted by the appeal board. The appeal board shall promptly notify the interested parties of its findings and decision.

Here the employer did not participate in the hearing through no fault of the employer. The employer did not receive the Notice of Hearing in order to participate. For this reason, the matter will be remanded for another hearing before an administrative law judge.

DECISION:

The decision of the administrative law judge dated March 21, 2008 is not vacated. This matter is remanded to an administrative law judge in the Workforce Development Center, Appeals Section. The administrative law judge shall conduct a hearing following due notice. After the hearing, the administrative law judge shall issue a decision which provides the parties appeal rights.

Mary Ann Spicer

John A. Peno

AMG/fnv

DISSENTING OPINION OF ELIZABETH L. SEISER:

I respectfully dissent from the majority decision of the Employment Appeal Board; I would affirm the decision of the administrative law judge in its entirety.

Elizabeth L. Seiser

AMG/fnv