962-05-1243 **Stephen G. Hartke*** (hartke@math.rutgers.edu), Department of Mathematics, Rutgers University, Hill Center – Busch Campus, 110 Frelinghuysen Rd., Piscataway, NJ 08854-8019, and **Aparna W Higgins** (higgins@saber.udayton.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Dayton, Dayton, OH 45469-2316. *Minimum Degree Growth of the Iterated Line Graph.* Preliminary report.

Let δ_k denote the minimum degree of the k^{th} iterated line graph $L^k(G)$. For any connected graph G that is not a path, the inequality $\delta_{k+1} \geq 2\delta_k - 2$ holds. Niepel, Knor, and Šoltés have conjectured that there exists an integer K such that, for all $k \geq K$, equality holds; that is, the minimum degree δ_k attains the least possible growth. We prove this conjecture using methods similar to those developed to prove the corresponding conjecture for the maximum degree Δ_k. (Received October 03, 2000)