

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA BLACK )  
HILLS ENERGY FOR APPROVAL TO )  
EXTEND THE FILING DATE OF ITS )  
VEGETATION MANAGEMENT ANNUAL )  
REPORT )

ORDER APPROVING REQUEST  
FOR EXTENSION OF TIME TO  
FILE VEGETATION  
MANAGEMENT ANNUAL  
REPORT

EL16-039

On December 12, 2016, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy (BHP) for approval to extend the filing date of its vegetation management annual report to April 30, 2017. Per the Settlement Stipulation in EL12-061, BHP is required to provide an annual report by December 31 of each year to outline the progress made on the overall five-year plan and update the forecast for the remaining years based on actual progress to date. BHP states that due to an estimated first quarter 2017 trim cycle completion, BHP believes that it would be in the benefit of both the BHP and the Commission to delay its December filing requirement until April 30, 2017.

On December 15, 2016, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 19, 2016, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 1-26 and 49-34A.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on December 20, 2016, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff stated they had no objection to BHP's request. The Commission voted unanimously to approve BHP's request for an extension until April 30, 2017, to file its 2016 annual report. It is therefore

ORDERED, that BHP's request for an extension until April 30, 2017, to file its vegetation management annual report is approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2016.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Karen E. Bremer</u>
Date: <u>12/21/2016</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner