

-----Original Message-----

From: Michelle Nasstrom

To: Gary Hanson

ReplyTo: [REDACTED]

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Sent: Oct 2, 2014 8:00 PM

Chair

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

Michelle Nasstrom
[REDACTED]

002161

From: PUC

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 1:36 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Ms. Nasstrom:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

BHP is a public utility and as such, extensive laws at the federal and state levels govern it and also govern the commission as to regulatory oversight of the utility. The utility is allowed to pass along to its consumers most of the costs it incurs in providing you and all customers with electric service. This government oversight is in contrast to most other businesses providing us with services.

When a utility files a rate case with the commission, the commission is obligated by law to thoroughly process the case. We cannot simply say no and reject it outright since we are legally required to investigate it and make a just and reasonable decision. This process can take almost a year to complete. Each commissioner, the commission's staff and expert consultants hired by staff will review the entire case – also referred to as a docket – separately, along with any intervenors in the case. We request and review additional data and information from the utility before a decision is rendered.

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My fellow commissioners and I are consumers too. We have family of several generations affected by utility costs and we understand how rate increases affect all of us. We have a strong desire to keep rates down and to protect citizens against increases. None of us want to raise rates. In fact, we hate to agree to any rate increase.

I believe your comments regarding BHP making it harder for ratepayers to invest in their own electric generation are in reference a rate change the utility decided to withdraw. Thus, as the commission won't be ruling on that request, those comments are not addressed in this letter.

Your comments and my response will be filed in the open docket so my fellow commissioners and others can read them. You can access the complete docket online at <http://www.puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2014/EL14-026.aspx>

Given your interest, I encourage you to read the key documents filed in this docket as well as submissions that continue to be posted. This will allow you to become educated on the issues in this case. Here is a document which helps explain the commission's processing of rate cases:

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Gary Hanson, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.sd.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: John Craig Waddington

To: Gary Hanson

ReplyTo: [REDACTED]

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Sent: Oct 2, 2014 5:45 PM

Chair

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

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Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

John Craig Waddington
[REDACTED]

002164

From: PUC

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 1:40 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Mr. Waddington:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

BHP is a public utility and as such, extensive laws at the federal and state levels govern it and also govern the commission as to regulatory oversight of the utility. The utility is allowed to pass along to its consumers most of the costs it incurs in providing you and all customers with electric service. This government oversight is in contrast to most other businesses providing us with services.

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South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
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-----Original Message-----

From: kevin wormstadt

To: Gary Hanson

ReplyTo: [REDACTED]

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Sent: Oct 2, 2014 5:07 PM

Chair

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

kevin wormstadt
[REDACTED]

From: PUC

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 1:43 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Mr. Wormstadt:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

BHP is a public utility and as such, extensive laws at the federal and state levels govern it and also govern the commission as to regulatory oversight of the utility. The utility is allowed to pass along to its consumers most of the costs it incurs in providing you and all customers with electric service. This government oversight is in contrast to most other businesses providing us with services.

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Gary Hanson, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
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-----Original Message-----

From: Danielle Wheeler [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 1:17 AM

To: Fiegen, Kristie

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Commissioner

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

Danielle Wheeler
[REDACTED]

From: PUC

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 1:46 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Ms. Wheeler:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

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South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
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-----Original Message-----

From: Jo Ann Parks

To: Gary Hanson

ReplyTo: [REDACTED]

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Sent: Oct 3, 2014 8:25 AM

Chair

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

Jo Ann Parks
[REDACTED]

From: PUC

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 4:13 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Ms. Parks:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

BHP is a public utility and as such, extensive laws at the federal and state levels govern it and also govern the commission as to regulatory oversight of the utility. The utility is allowed to pass along to its consumers most of the costs it incurs in providing you and all customers with electric service. This government oversight is in contrast to most other businesses providing us with services.

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Gary Hanson, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
www.puc.sd.gov

-----Original Message-----

From: Marla Knaup [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 10:43 AM

To: Fiegen, Kristie

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Commissioner

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

Marla Knaup
[REDACTED]

From: PUC
Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 4:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Ms. Knaup:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

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Gary Hanson, Chairperson
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
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-----Original Message-----

From: Rick Kingsbury [REDACTED]

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 12:53 PM

To: Fiegen, Kristie

Subject: Reject the Black Hills Power rate request

Commissioner

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation.

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

Rick Kingsbury
[REDACTED]

From: PUC

Sent: Friday, October 03, 2014 4:51 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Subject: BHP Rate Case, EL14-026

Mr. Kingsbury:

This is response to your message regarding the Black Hills Power rate case currently before the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission.

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