

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION) OF BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. FOR) AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS) ELECTRIC RATES)	SCHEDULING ORDER EL14-026
---	---

On March 31, 2014, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates (Application) filed by Black Hills Power, Inc. (BHP) for approval to increase rates for electric service to customers in its South Dakota service territory by approximately \$14.6 million annually or approximately 9.27% based on BHP's test year ending September 30, 2013. BHP states a typical residential electric customer using 650 kWh per month would see an increase of \$10.91 per month. The proposed changes may potentially affect approximately 65,500 customers in BHP's South Dakota service territory. The proposed increase would be effective no earlier than October 1, 2014. On June 26, 2014, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention to Black Hills Industrial Intervenor and Dakota Rural Action. On October 1, 2014, BHP implemented interim rates at the level and with the rate design requested in the Application. On December 9, 2014, BHP and the Commission's staff filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation, Settlement Stipulation, and Exhibits. The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A.

On December 10, 2014, BHP notified the Commission that the parties have agreed on a procedural schedule covering the remaining proceedings up to and including hearing as follows:

Intervenors' testimony filed and served	December 30, 2014
All parties' rebuttal testimony filed and served	January 15, 2015
All parties' exhibit lists and witness lists filed and served	January 20, 2015
Evidentiary hearing	January 27-29, 2015

It is therefore

ORDERED, that the parties shall follow the procedural schedule as set forth above except as otherwise ordered by the Commission.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 12th day of December, 2014.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE	
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.	
By:	<u>Joy Lashley</u>
Date:	<u>12.12.14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

<u>Gary Hanson</u>
GARY HANSON, Chairman
<u>Chris Nelson</u>
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner
<u>Kristie Fiegen</u>
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner