Thomas Baillargeon Lead, South Dakota 57754 Phone

March 30, 2010

RE: BHP rate hike

Public Utilities Commission Capitol Building, 1st floor 500 E. Capitol Ave. Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Dear Sir or Madam:

In regards to the recent rate hike I wish to comment.

I am on Social Security which you are aware does not pay much. Further I am disabled. As you can see a rate hike of 33% will create a new hard ship that I don't need. Although I can see where a rate hike is needed didn't BHP understand that the power plant has to be paid for when it was built? Where was BHP planning before that plant was started? I am outraged at this was not planned up front!

In closing I ask that you do not approve the request of this rate hike.

Cordially

Thomas Baillargeon