

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

From: Lonnie D. Burnham

Sent: Wednesday, April 07, 2010 1:46 PM

To: SD PUC

Subject: RE: Black Hills Power rate increase

Thank you for your response!! Yes I would very much appreciate you posting my comment on the web for the Commissioner and others to see!!! On lines two, and three I mistakenly stated Black Hills Power,...what was intended was, Black Hill Electrial Coop. Thank you for your help,

Sincerely,

Lonnie D. Burnham
Rapid City, SD 57702

Tenant message begins here::

I have to agree Steve, I think this is a very irresponsible thing for a utility to do to a community, If there were a place for me to do business with Black Hills Power, I would seriously consider the move, I would hope you convey my feelings to the property owner, Sam Adelstien, and most importantly the PUC, if business owners do not express their feeling, on this atrocity, there is no way the PUC will understand our predicament. A 20% plus increase in my electricity bill is huge, for us, trying to make the store profitable, and paying that much more for power. There is no alternative for those businesses, who have to operate coolers, and freezers, 24-7, 365 days a year! To add to this burden, municipalities paying more to Black Hills Power, will have to raise taxes to pay their bill, which when passed on to all consumers will result in higher property taxes, private and commercial!! If they need more money to expand, which I understand, the new end user should be the payer, if I rent more square footage from you my business plan demands that I pay more for that product. If Black Hills Power is expecting to sell more energy, they should charge that new customer. I have been told that a major need for the additional power is for the transfer of petroleum, via pipeline from Canada to southern destinations, requiring electricity to pump said product,.....let them pay for the expansion. This is my opinion, as a small business owner, and on my behalf, I would appreciate you as a representative of NWE, forwarding this letter to the PUC.

Thanks for your concerns Steve,

Sincerely

Lonnie D. Burnham
Rapid City, SD 57702
