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MAY 21 2010

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

[REDACTED]
Spearfish, SD 57783

5/19/10

Public Utilities Commission
Pierre, SD

Attn: Dusty Johnson & Gary Hanson

As you consider the 26.6 % rate increase Black Hills Corp. has requested please keep the following points in mind.

1. We customers do not have the choice to go to a cheaper supplier of electricity--we are captives!! I believe that is the reason for your office.
2. This much increase will raise the price of absolutely everything for everyone. That much increase cannot be absorbed.
3. The recent full page ads in all the local papers. I am appalled at the total waste of company funds to run these ads which were mostly blank pages with very little info on them. This info could have been sent out on 2 pages with everyone's bill. Maybe they need to consider operating a little more efficiently.
4. As a small stockholder, I realize the Co. has acquired several more companies and built more plants and as a result the execs directors have duties, but their pay has increased about four-fold.

I believe BHC has historically been a well run company, let's keep it that way.

Doris Schenk

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