

Mike,

Thanks for your email. Please accept my apologies that it has taken so long for me to get back to you.

You raise several important issues. We have spent more than 1400 hours digging into the specifics of this case, and I can promise you that whatever the PUC finally decides will not result in excess profits for BHP. The whole point of our proceeding is to make sure that Black Hills Power receives reasonable recovery for their prudently-incurred expenses and not one dollar more. A fair rate of return is required under law, but there is currently a settlement stipulation filed (it has not been approved by the PUC) that would set that return at 8.26%.

Thanks for taking the time to email me. If you want additional information, please let me know.

Thanks,
Dusty

Dustin "Dusty" Johnson
Public Utilities Commission
605-773-3201

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

From: Mike Paver
Sent: Saturday, April 24, 2010 10:00 AM
To: Johnson, Dustin (PUC)
Subject: Electric Rate Increase

Mr Johnson,

Any business that wants to expand uses their profits or obtains money from another source. If they raise prices a person has other competition to choose from. I do not have a choice of where to buy my electricity. If they are making a profit any rate increase is unacceptable.

Thank You
Sincerely,
Mike Paver