

*Jim*

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**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
UTILITIES COMMISSION**

**Hot Springs, SD 57747  
November 3, 2009**

Mr. Gary Hanson  
500 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre, SD 57701-5070

Dear Mr. Hanson,

This letter is in reference to the request by Black Hills Power and Light Company to raise their fees. I really don't see that it is necessary to raise their rates by 26% especially if they have a lot of new customers.

My husband and I are on a fixed income and our monthly cost for electricity is \$318 year round. We do not have air conditioning. This increase would make our bill around \$400 a month which is really out of reach for our budget.

I hope that you will consider carefully the burden that this increase would put on retired people.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

*Melanie Snow*