



Mr John Peppmeier

Deadwood SD 57732-0343

27 Nov 09

Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, South Dakota 57501

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NOV 30 2009

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

To The P.U.C.:

I am writing to strongly protest the excessive and completely unreasonable 26.6 per cent rate increase requested by Black Hills Power. This increase would be extremely damaging to the economy by severely impacting businesses and residents, particularly people on fixed incomes. Such an excessive rate increase would be inflationary, and contribute to unemployment as business and industry tries to adjust.

I have no doubt that Black Hills Power is fully aware that 26.6 percent is completely unreasonable, and purposely inflated the request by about three times in order to get a compromise of about 8 per cent, which should be the maximum allowed by the P.U.C.

I suggest that if Black Hills Power persists in this unreasonable request, that they be required to submit to an independent business audit before any rate increase would be approved.

I urge the P.U.C. to deny the requested increase and any other number exceeding 8 per cent.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

John D. "J.D." Peppmeier

[Redacted]