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From: Sue Swartz

To: puc@state.sd

Sent: Thu, Nov 26, 2009 7:35 am

Subject: rate hike opposition

We moved to the Black Hills in 2008 and being good stewards of energy saving installing an on demand system in our home. We also inquired about installing a photovoltaic system to generate our own energy. This was met with a response indicating there was no need to explore this alternative energy producing system. In a time when fossil fuels are limited and polluting, why isn't Black Hills Power working with its consumers who are willing to produce their own energy and even generate it for others? To ask for funding to build the same ol' style of energy without exploring methods that help users to be more self-sufficient and green seems counter productive. Our income has no 26% cost of living increase to off set the impact of such a hike. We are a fixed income retired couple. Please look into cooperative methods of energy production.

Sue Swartz