

Lois,

Thanks for your email. I understand your concerns and we are providing a great deal of scrutiny to Black Hills Power's request. I don't know what the commission will decide, as there is still a great deal of evidence we need to review before any decision can be made. We will make our decision based on the facts in the record and state law, but comments like yours help us keep the request in perspective. Certainly many people would be adversely affected by an increase of that size.

Thanks for talking the time to write. I will make sure your comments get added to the record of this proceeding so my colleagues can read your concerns, as well.

Sincerely,  
Dusty

Dustin "Dusty" Johnson  
Public Utilities Commission  
605-773-3201  
[dustin.johnson@state.sd.us](mailto:dustin.johnson@state.sd.us)

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

**From:** Ward Family  
**Sent:** Monday, December 07, 2009 11:28 AM  
**To:** Johnson, Dustin (PUC)  
**Subject:** Electric rates skyrocket?

Dusty,

BH Power has proposed a 26.6% increase in electric rates. We cannot afford such an increase. Please look at the proposal very carefully to see if the increase in rates could be cut to a reasonable level.

Now that the EPA has determined they can regulate Carbon Dioxide withOUT Congress' permission, I expect we will be slapped with confiscatory fees and penalties on coal, which will likely double our cost of electricity. If we also have a huge rate increase for BH Power to expand their company, we will not be able to live in our house.

Thank you for your consideration,

Lois Ward