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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

PUC:

I want to write a nice letter to you this time requesting a denial of BHP's request for their absurd 26% increase in rates. I am sure you have heard the hundreds of reasons that this should be denied. I want to add my voice in opposition as well.

I would like to know what the CEO of BH Power makes annually. I know that many high up employees are not doing their jobs and being responsible in their jobs. Even employees working for the co. will tell you that the upper people are passing the buck for their responsibilities. Why are the working people for BHP the ones that are turning over their jobs in Wyoming? There is a problem there.

BHP is stating that it will ONLY be about \$18/Mo. increase in electricity for the average household. This state has one of the poorest pay scales in the nation. I am sure that BHP is on of the highest paying jobs in the state. I know that they are in the Northern Black Hills. (don't figure).

For BHP to make the statement that other areas are paying more for electricity then we are is crazy. That is like me saying that another landlord is getting \$100/mo. more rent than I am and so I should raise my rent. That has nothing to do with it. I believe your job is to protect the public from rip offs. I know that BHP has not had some recent increases. We all know that it is because of some good contracts they made in the past. I also know that they were always getting their cost of living increases when none of the rest of us got any increases. I do not believe you were doing your job then when you did not deny them their annual cost of living raises. Who else gets an annual raise year after year? Not people from this area.

The final point I want to make today is about "inflation". This increase in electricity will cause everything else to increase its cost. The wages around this area do not go up near 26%. We cannot afford for everything to go up. Please do your job. Deny this increase. BHP will be getting a great increase in their revenues from the Lab in Lead. I understand this one account is worth millions to BHP.

This is a bad thing for the people of the state. There are only a few at the top of BHP who will benefit from this rip off.

Thanks,
Bernie Reausaw

