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SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION



May 2, 2011

Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building - 1st Floor
500 E. Capitol Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

This is an objection for rate increases by Black Hills Power for any purpose what so ever.

With the economy in such a turmoil, I recommend that Black Hills Power look into in-house means as many other companies and citizens are doing to make ends meet.

People with fixed incomes - there has been no increase in retirement incomes.

Unemployment is at an all time high - there is no promising outlook in the near future.

Company workers are not receiving salary raises to keep up with higher living costs, many companies are curtailing benefits and releasing or laying off employees.

With higher costs of operating automobiles and high gasoline prices (which is surmounting) - this increases the cost of all consumer commodities, especially all essentials to sustain life.

Black Hills Power was authorized a rate increase within the last year or so. This should be ample until the economy improves.

In view of the above - recommend the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission reject any increase for Environmental Improvement Adjustment. Also recommend that the SDPUC lower electric rates to the 2008 level.

Sincerely:

EDWARD R. GALLES
BHP Customer