

From: Blaise Emerson [mailto:bemerson@tie.net]

Sent: Thursday, May 26, 2011 11:56 AM

To: Hanson, Gary (PUC)

Subject: Black Hills Power Wind Project

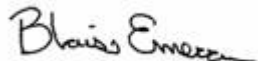
Dear Commissioner Gary Hanson:

I am Blaise Emerson, Executive Director of Black Hills Community Economic Development, Inc. The purpose of this letter is to state on behalf of the Board of Directors support of the Black Hills Power Wind Project proposed to be built north of Belle Fourche, SD. We are in support of this project because it will have a positive economic impact to Butte County and the City of Belle Fourche as well as western South Dakota during the construction phase through employment opportunities and the purchase of goods and service that will influence local sale tax revenues. In addition, the project will provide long-term property tax revenue to counties, schools and other local entities.

Based on the potential impact of the project to our region, this letter is to indicate support by the Community Economic Development, Inc. for the Black Hills Power Wind Project which will further the goals of our organization to provide a vibrant economic environment in the region.

Black Hills Power is a strong corporate partner in all of the communities they serve. This project is just one example of Black Hills Power investing into the region's economic base. If you have question, please contact me at 605-394-1706.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Blaise Emerson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Blaise Emerson

06/02/2011

Executive Director

Blaise Emerson y Executive Director
Black Hills Council of Local Governments
Black Hills Community Economic Development, Inc.
525 University Loop, Suite 102 y Rapid City, SD 57701
605.394.2681 (O) y 605.381.4788 (C)
www.blackhillscouncil.com or www.bhced.org