

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

WHAT: Black Hills Power Teckla, Wyoming to Rapid City electric transmission line Project – Pennington County, South Dakota
WHEN: Monday, August 25, 2014, at 6:30 p.m. MDT
WHERE: Sylvan I Room, Ramkota Conference Center in Rapid City, 2111 N. LaCrosse St., located north of I-90 at the LaCrosse Street, Exit 59 exit

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) will hold a public input hearing at the above time and place on the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. for a 230-kV Transmission Line and Associated Substation Modification Facility Permit filed by Black Hills Power, Inc. (BHP or Applicant) on June 30, 2014. The Application requests Commission approval of a permit to construct the 45.4-mile South Dakota portion of an approximately 144-mile long 230-kilovolt (kV) transmission line to connect the Teckla Substation in Campbell County, Wyoming to the Osage Substation in Weston County, Wyoming and the Lange Substation in Pennington County, South Dakota near Rapid City and make modifications to the Lange Substation to accommodate the new transmission facility (Project). The line will cross the South Dakota/Wyoming border in Pennington County, South Dakota and extend east through western Pennington County to the Lange Substation located near Rapid City on the northeast side.

At the public input hearing, Applicant will present a brief description of the Project, following which interested persons may appear and present their questions, views, and comments regarding the Application and Project. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5), the Application is on file in the Pennington County Auditor's office and in the Commission's office in Pierre, and the Application and all other documents in the case may also be accessed on the Commission's website at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2014 Electric Dockets, EL14-061.

The parties to this proceeding are currently BHP and the Commission. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17, any person residing in the area of the Project, each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the Project area, any non-profit organization formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values, to preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the Project area, or any interested person, may be granted formal party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission as provided in ARSD 20:10:22:40 on or before August 29, 2014. Application forms for party status will be available at the public input hearing on August 25, 2014, or may be obtained from the Commission or the Commission's website.

Following the public input hearing, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, Commission Staff, or the Commission itself. At such formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, and cross-examine the other parties' witnesses and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22. Absent a contested issue, the Commission will schedule the matter for decision at a regular or special meeting of the Commission.

For approval, Applicants must show that the Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially

impair the health, safety, or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether the permit should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance of the Project as the Commission finds appropriate. The parties will have the right to appeal the final decision in this case to the appropriate Circuit Court by serving and filing a notice of appeal of the decision in accordance with SDCL 1-26-31, within thirty (30) days after the date of service of the notice of decision in this case.

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, this hearing is being held in a physically accessible location. Please contact the Commission at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you. The Commission's contact information is: ph (800) 332-1782; fax (866) 757-6031; www.puc.sd.gov; 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD 57501.