

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY BLACK HILLS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY FOR APPROVAL OF ITS 1998 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN AND 1997 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ANNUAL REPORT)	ORDER APPROVING 1997 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT AND 1998 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PLAN
)	EL98-006

On April 1, 1998, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received Black Hills Power and Light Company's (BHPL) proposed Economic Development Plan for 1998. On May 22, 1998, the Commission received BHPL's 1997 Economic Development Annual Report. The report and proposed plan were filed in accordance with the settlement agreement reached between BHPL and Commission Staff, and approved by the Commission in the company's most recent rate case filing, Docket EL95-003. The Commission approved BHPL's 1997 Economic Development Plan on April 28, 1997.

For 1998, BHPL's proposed economic development investment budget is \$116,000. The actual expenditures for the 1997 economic development plan were \$159,473.

On July 23, 1998, at a duly noticed meeting, the Commission reviewed BHPL's Economic Development Annual Report for 1997 and Economic Development Plan for 1998. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically, SDCL 49-34A-4 and 49-34A-6. After review of the report and plan, the Commission found that they are just and reasonable and voted to approve them. It is therefore

ORDERED, that BHPL's 1997 Economic Development Annual Report and Economic Development Plan for 1998 are approved as revised.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 5th day of August, 1998.

<p>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.</p> <p>By: <u>Delaine Kelbo</u></p> <p>Date: <u>8/6/98</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner