

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. FOR AUTHORITY TO INCREASE ITS ELECTRIC RATES	) ) ) )	ORDER EXTENDING SUSPENSION OF IMPOSITION OF TARIFF EL06-019
--	------------------	--

On June 30, 2006, Black Hills Power, Inc. (BHP), filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an application to increase rates for electric service to customers in its service territory by \$9,593,688 annually or approximately 9.5% based on BHP's 2005 test year. The company states the proposed increase for a residential customer would be \$5.16 per month based on usage of 600 kwh. The proposed rates may potentially affect approximately 60,434 customers in BHP's service territory. On October 19, 2006, Commission Staff recommended that the suspension of the tariff be further extended for 60 days beyond October 28, 2006.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, including 1-26-18, 1-26-19, 49-34A-2, 49-34A-3, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.1, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-13, 49-34A-13.1, 49-34A-14, 49-34A-16, 49-34A-17, 49-34A-19, 49-34A-19.1, 49-34A-19.2, 49-34A-20, 49-34A-21, 49-34A-22, and 49-34A-23.

At its October 19, 2006, meeting, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the extension sought by Commission Staff. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the proposed schedule of rates shall be further suspended for 60 days beyond October 28, 2006, pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-14.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 31<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2006.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>	
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.	
By:	<u><i>Delvino Kolbo</i></u>
Date:	<u>10/31/06</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

*Dustin Johnson*  
 DUSTIN M. JOHNSON, Commissioner

*Gary Hanson*  
 GARY HANSON, Commissioner