

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. FOR APPROVAL )  
OF ITS ELECTRIC COST ADJUSTMENT )  
)**

**ORDER DISMISSING APPLICATION  
AND CLOSING DOCKET**

**EL12-030**

On April 16, 2012, Black Hills Power, Inc. (BHP) filed an Application for Electric Cost Adjustment (Application) with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission). The Application requested approval of its Electric Cost Adjustment (ECA) to its electric rates and the changes that BHP proposed to its ECA rates to be effective June 1, 2012. BHP requested that this rate adjustment be approved without the requirement of posting a bond or other security.

On April 19, 2012, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 4, 2012, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene were filed. The proposed tariff sheets are as follows:

Section No. 3C	
Eighth Revised Sheet No. 11	Cancels Seventh Revised Sheet No. 11
Second Revised Sheet No. 12	Cancels First Revised Sheet No. 12
Second Revised Sheet No. 16	Cancels First Revised Sheet No. 16
Second Revised Sheet No. 17	Cancels First Revised Sheet No. 17

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A and specifically SDCL 49-34A-25.

At its regular meeting on May 22, 2012, the Commission considered this matter. Commission Staff provided a memorandum in this matter explaining the filing and also addressing the issue as to whether Commission approval was necessary in this proceeding. Staff explained that filings made by other regulated companies pursuant to SDCL49-34A-25 are automatic in nature and not approved by the Commission when the only changes taking place are updated inputs to previously approved formulas which calculate the new revised adjustment rates. Staff advised the Commission that no barrier existed at this time which would prohibit the Commission from treating this filing, and future like filings, in a manner consistent with similar filings made by other companies. Staff related that if the Commission decided such consistent treatment was appropriate, it could simply dismiss the Application. Upon consideration, the Commission unanimously voted to dismiss the Application. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Black Hills Power's Application for Electric Cost Adjustment for 2012 is dismissed and Docket EL12-030 is hereby closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 24th day of May, 2012.

<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, electronically.
By: <u>Joy Stoney</u>
Date: <u>Monday 24, 2012</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner