

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA)
BLACK HILLS ENERGY FOR)
APPROVAL OF 2017 ENVIRONMENTAL)
IMPROVEMENT ADJUSTMENT)
)
)**

**ORDER GRANTING JOINT
MOTION FOR APPROVAL OF
SETTLEMENT STIPULATION**

EL17-008

On February 15, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application by Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy (BHE) for Approval of its 2017 Environmental Improvement Adjustment (EIA). BHE seeks approval of the annual true-up of EIA revenue requirement from June 1, 2016, through May 31, 2017, as approved in Docket EL16-006, and the forecasted recovery of EIA revenue requirement associated with eligible environmental improvements from June 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018. The Company proposes EIA rates effective June 1, 2017, through May 31, 2018. Approximately 68,000 South Dakota customers are affected by the EIA rate change. The average bill impact for a typical residential electric customer using 650 kWh would be approximately 0.03 percent.

On February 16, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 3, 2017, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. As of the date of this order, no petitions to intervene or comments had been filed. On March 1, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Assessing Filing Fee. On March 29, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Suspending Operation of Rate Schedule. On June 9, 2017, a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation, Settlement Stipulation, and Staff Memorandum Supporting Settlement Stipulation were filed with the Commission.

The revised tariff sheets attached to the Settlement Stipulation effective for service rendered on and after July 1, 2017, are as follows:

South Dakota Electric Rate Book

Section No. 3C

Twentieth Revised Sheet No. 11	Cancels Nineteenth Revised Sheet No. 11
Sixth Revised Sheet No. 20	Cancels Fifth Revised Sheet No. 20
Fourth Revised Sheet No. 22	Cancels Third Revised Sheet No. 22

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-8.4, 49-34A-10, 49-34A-11, 49-34A-12, 49-34A-97 through 49-34A-100, and ARSD 20:10:01:19.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 16, 2017, the Commission considered this matter. Having thoroughly reviewed the filings in the docket, the Commission found that the terms and conditions proposed in the Settlement Stipulation were just, reasonable, and in the public interest and that good and sufficient cause was demonstrated to approved the Settlement Stipulation. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Joint Motion for Approval of the Settlement Stipulation. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation is granted. The Settlement Stipulation is incorporated by reference into this Order the same as if it had been set forth in its entirety herein. It is further

ORDERED, that the aforementioned tariff sheets are approved with an effective date of July 1, 2017.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 20th day of June, 2017.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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 or by mail.
By: <u>Adam Detbeck</u>
Date: <u>6/20/17</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner