

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER ASSESSING
BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. FOR A)	FILING FEE
PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A 230 KV)	
TRANSMISSION LINE FROM)	EL14-061
NORTHEASTERN WYOMING TO THE)	
RAPID CITY AREA IN SOUTH DAKOTA)	

On June 30, 2014, Black Hills Power, Inc. (BHP), a South Dakota corporation, filed with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) an Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. for a 230-kV Transmission Line and Associated Substation Modification Facility Permit (Application). The Application requests Commission approval of a permit to construct the 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. The South Dakota portion of the project (Project) consists of approximately 45.4 miles of 230-kV transmission line from the South Dakota/Wyoming border in Pennington County to the Lange Substation near Rapid City and modifications to the Lange Substation to accommodate the new transmission facility. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

On July 2, 2014, a Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Hearing; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status was served by mail on the Pennington County Commission and the Rapid City Council and Mayor and electronically on the Pennington County Auditor. On July 3, 2014, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the Application and the intervention deadline of August 29, 2014, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. As of the date of this order, no petitions to intervene or comments have been filed. The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1A and 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-12 and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

SDCL 49-41B-12 authorizes the Commission to assess a filing fee not to exceed one-quarter of one percent of the first one hundred million dollars of estimated construction costs of the facility, plus one-twentieth of one percent of the estimated construction costs in excess of one hundred million dollars and requires a minimum fee payment of \$8,000. The fee is to be deposited in the Commission's regulatory assessment fee fund to defray Commission expenses incurred in analyzing and ruling upon energy facility construction permit applications.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 8, 2014, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission's staff recommended assessing BHP a filing fee up to the statutory limit of \$43,450 with an initial fee assessment of the \$8,000

statutory minimum. The Commission unanimously voted to assess BHP a filing fee not to exceed the statutory limit of \$43,450, with an initial fee assessment of \$8,000, the statutory minimum. It is therefore

ORDERED, that BHP shall be assessed a filing fee up to the statutory limit of \$43,450 for deposit in the Commission's regulatory assessment fee fund; and it is further

ORDERED, that BHP shall make an initial nonrefundable payment of the statutory minimum filing fee of \$8,000 and shall from time to time make such additional payments, up to the maximum total fee amount of \$43,450, as invoiced by the Commission's Finance Manager.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10th day of July, 2014.

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.	
By:	<u><i>Joy Lashley</i></u>
Date:	<u>07-10-14</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner