LAW OFFICES

Lynn, Jackson, Shultz & Lebrun, P.C.

LAWYERS ALSO ADMITTED IN MINNESOTA, IOWA, NEBRASKA AND WYOMING

www.lynnjackson.com Member of Lex Mundi

A Global Association of 125 Independent Law Firms

REPLY TO: Sioux Falls 605-332-5999

First National Bank Building 909 St. Joseph Street Suite 800 P.O. Box 8250 Rapid City, SD 57709-8250 605-342-2592 Fax 605-342-5185

From the offices of Lee A. Magnuson e-mail address: lmagnuson@lynnjackson.com

April 28, 2010

Executive Director South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Capitol Building, 1st Floor 500 East Capitol Avenue Pierre, SD 57501-5070

> Re: In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc., for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates SDPUC Docket No. EL09-018

Dear Executive Director Van Gerpen:

We are submitting this letter on behalf of our client, Black Hills Power, Inc. ("BHP"), and on behalf of and with the express approval of the Black Hills Industrial Intervenors ("BHII") and the Staff of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission Staff") (collectively, the "Settling Parties"). After extensive negotiations, BHP has agreed to broad settlement terms with Commission Staff and BHII. Commission Staff and BHII are presently working with BHP to draft separate and specific settlement documents to be filed for the Commissioners' review in the very near future. Therefore, neither BHII nor Commission Staff intends to file direct testimony this Friday, April 30, 2010.

The separate settlements negotiated by the Settling Parties will be presented to the Commission by separate joint motion. The settlement between BHP and BHII is confidential, and will therefore be filed on a confidential basis. BHP is continuing to pursue a settlement with the South Dakota Peace and Justice Intervenors ("SDPJI"). To the extent BHP is unable to reach a settlement with SDPJI, the Settling Parties intend to allow SDPJI an opportunity to comment on the individual settlement between BHP and Commission Staff, in accordance with South Dakota law.

First Bank & Trust Financial Centre 110 N. Minnesota Avenue Suite 400 P.O. Box 2700 Sioux Falls, SD 57101-2700 605-332-5999 Fax 605-332-4249 April 28, 2010 Page 2

The Settling Parties believe the settlements between BHP, Commission Staff, and BHII will result in an efficient and fair resolution of this case. We appreciate the Commissioners' attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

LYNN, JACKSON, SHULTZ & LEBRUN, P.C.

Lee A. Magnuson

LAM/pmh

cc Todd Brink Andrew P. Moratzka Karen Cremer Sam Khoroosi Jana Linderman Nicole Shalla