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**From:** Steve Bauer [redacted]

**Sent:** Sunday, May 04, 2014 4:21:31 PM

**To:** PUC

**Subject:** rate increase for Black Hills Power for October of 2014

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Hello!

I have two comments with any of these on going increases in utility rates.

- 1) Why don't they break out the infrastructure charges (Line maintenance, plant construction, plant maintenance etc.) from the rates. This way when/if onsite power generation (solar/wind ,etc.) happens in a larger amount, they can properly bill for the infrastructure costs.
- 2) Why do we as customers have to bear the full cost from the atlas storm? This is a for profit company, shouldn't they be using some of the profits to fix there lines? All it appears to be happening for the rate increase is that we (public) are guaranteeing the dividend paybacks to the share holders.
- 3) Speaking of damages of the Atlas storm.. Shouldn't they be doing either more line burial or trimming back of the trees to prevent outages? This tree trimming, etc. should be happening all of the time.

Steve