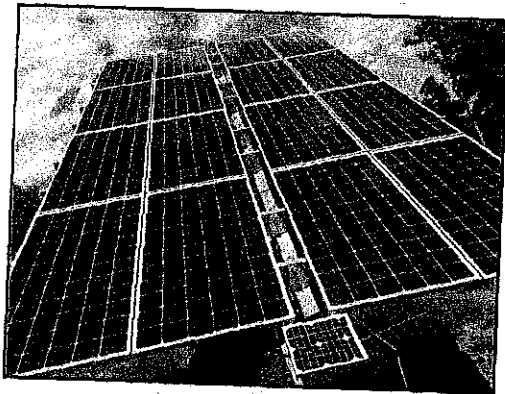


IT'S TIME TO COME CLEAN

As a South Dakotan, I support locally-produced, clean energy. I urge you, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission, to do more to open up this state's energy market to promote market competition in electricity, and let's let South Dakota THRIVE.



DAKOTA RURAL ACTION
GRASSROOTS ORGANIZING FOR THE FUTURE

Public Utilities Commission
Capitol Building, 1st floor
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

RECEIVED

JAN 22 2015

SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC
UTILITIES COMMISSION

Chair Hanson and Commissioners Nelson and Fiegen:

I strongly oppose the rate increase by Black Hills Power, and I urge you to deny their request. It is not in the public interest and it is not good for South Dakota. Black Hills Power tried to use this rate increase to make it harder for us to invest in our own electricity generation; it seems they are not making choices in the best interest of South Dakotans.

Black Hills Power should be investing in local energy and creating a more stable future for South Dakota's citizens and rate payers. The company knew coal was going to get more expensive, and now they're risking our future by investing in natural gas, another fossil fuel subject to price increases and further regulation. *They are a monopoly.*

Please deny Black Hills Power's rate increase request.

NAME: Carol Merwin

ADDRESS: [REDACTED]

EMAIL: [REDACTED]