
From: Gina Jahr [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, May 03, 2014 8:51 AM
To: Fiegen, Kristie; Nelson, Chris; Hanson, Gary (PUC)
Subject: BHC request for a rate increase

Hello Commissioners, with this email I am attaching a May 1, 2014 press release from Black Hills Corporation touting their recent earnings. I am also forwarding information from the Bureau of Economic Analysis about the fact that SD is the only state to see a drop in personal income. For me, these two items are sufficient reason for you to decline BHC's request for another rate increase.

Thank you for taking this into consideration on behalf of the hardworking people that comprise BHC's paying customers.

Sincerely,

Regina Jahr
[REDACTED]

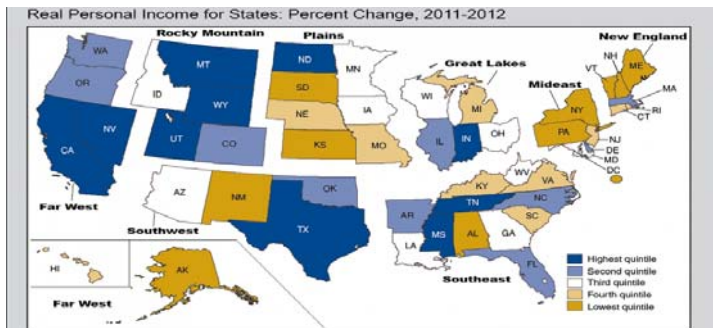
----- Original Message -----



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Friday, April 25, 2014

Dear Gina,



In 2012, South Dakota was the only state to experience a [decline in inflation-adjusted personal income](#), according to new data released by the Bureau of Economic Analysis. Between 2011 and 2012, real personal income in South Dakota dropped 1.2 percent, falling from \$40.997 billion to \$40.523 billion. On a per capita basis the decline was even greater, dropping 2.3 percent.

Across the country, changes in real personal income ranged from South Dakota's low of -1.2 percent to an increase of 15.1 percent in North Dakota. Across all regions of the United States, real personal income rose by an average of 2.3 percent in 2012.

On a nominal basis (without adjusting for inflation) personal income in South Dakota rose 2.4 percent, which was still the smallest increase in the United States, compared to an increase of 4.4 percent in Wyoming, 3.9 percent in Nebraska, 3.8 percent in Iowa, 4.6 percent in Minnesota, 18.7 percent in North Dakota, and 5.8 percent in Montana.

Rapid City Council Passes Texting Ban Ordinance

The Rapid City Council voted at Monday night's meeting to enact a [texting ban](#) ordinance. Police Chief Allender and Fire Chief Maltaverne advocated for the ordinance. The ban will go into effect mid-May.

Technology & History Convene to Tell Story of Greenway

A flick of a smart phone over interpretive signs along the Leonard Swanson Bike Path will now take viewers to the past with first hand audio and video recollections of the 1972 Flood, or click them into the present with information and statistics about Memorial Park today.



Demographers estimate that about 3/4 of Rapid City's current residents either didn't live here or were not yet born in 1972. The signs and the QR codes offer an opportunity to inform the audience not familiar with flood history. Hillary Dobbs-Davis, a member of the Friends' board, notes, "The generation that

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Donate Now!

The [Give Black Hills](#) website connects you to profiles of nonprofits doing important work throughout the Black Hills. Through this site you can make a financial contribution to the work of over 200 wonderful local organizations, and receive one receipt for all of your tax-exempt donations.

This Week's Featured Cause



[Starting Strong](#)

Advocates for children in Rapid City understand that poverty limits

remembers the flood is getting older. If we don't get the next generation into that space, soon, so that they can appreciate it, there will be fewer and fewer people left to fight for it."

Read the full article about the [bike path QR codes](#) here.

Out With The Old, In With The New - Recycling Facility

The old [Fairmont recycling site](#) has been replaced with a new 24-hour location on Highway 79. There have been a few complaints because of the added mile and a half to drive to the new location. A spokesman said, "We think it's a great site. We have lights, we have security cameras, and we really think it will be more convenient once people get use to the idea that it's just a few miles away."

Destination Rapid City Asks City Council To Reconsider Parking Lot Agreement

Destination Rapid City asked the City Council to reconsider its offer of \$500,000 of matching funds to fix and expand the



[parking area on 8th and Omaha Streets](#). The proposed parking area is located on the Greenway. Several members of the Friends of Rapid City Parks spoke out against the project, citing an agreement in 2009 with the former Parks Director and the School Board to return the proposed area to greenway land. The Council voted to review the offer again at the May 13 Public Works meeting and the May 19 City Council meeting.

Foothills Kiwanis Holds Kids' & Teens' Stuff Sale

The [Foothills Kiwanis](#) are holding a fundraiser consignment sale of children's clothing, furniture, toys, books, etc. You mark with your price and they'll sell it! You keep 70 percent and the Kiwanis gets 30 percent. For more information, click the link above.

children's development. That's why the plight of more than 450 Head Start-eligible Rapid City children consigned to a waiting list prompted action by the John T. Vucurevich Foundation, Early Childhood Connections and South Dakota Voices for Children.

If you support education for children whose families would otherwise be unable to afford preschool services, please attend the **third annual May Day breakfast on May 1**. All funds raised benefit local children and our community. For more information, visit the [Starting Strong website](#) or contact Megan Larson at 605-721-0699 or by e-mail at meganl@sdvoicesforchildren.org.

This Week in Black Hills History

April 25, 1897: As a small and relatively new community, Rapid City, which was founded in 1876, had no official courthouse when the county seat was relocated in 1877. Commissioners rented space for 6 years, until a courthouse was constructed in 1883. County business was conducted in this courthouse until it was destroyed by fire on this day in 1897.

Find a lot more information about the [history of the court system in Pennington County](#).

The Black Hills Knowledge Network currently has several openings. We're looking for a few summer interns, as well as full-time Associate Project Coordinator. If you or someone you know is interested in one of these positions, find more information at the bottom of our [About Us page](#).



What do you want to know about the Black Hills? [Just ask!](#)

Sincerely,

Jessica Boyd

Associate Project Coordinator

The [Black Hills Knowledge Network](#) is an online, library-based regional information service that connects people to ideas and local information. Sponsored by the Black Hills Area Community Foundation and a consortium of eleven libraries and communities including Rapid City, Spearfish, Sturgis, Custer, Deadwood, Lead, Wall, Whitewood, Box Elder, Piedmont, and Oglala Lakota College, the Black Hills Knowledge Network has received funding from the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, the Bush Foundation, Black Hills Vision, Regional Health, the SD Community Foundation, the Rapid City Library Foundation, Friends of the Rapid City Library, the South Dakota Humanities Council (an affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities), and other local funders.

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