

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION
OF BLACK HILLS POWER INC. DBA)	FOR RELEASE OF INDEMNITY
BLACK HILLS ENERGY FOR A FACILITY)	BOND
PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A 230 KV)	
TRANSMISSION LINE AND ASSOCIATED)	
FACILITIES IN PENNINGTON COUNTY)	EL19-006

On February 5, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for a Facility Permit for a wind energy facility (Application) from Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy (BHE) for a permit to construct a 0.7 mile 230 kV transmission line and associated facilities (Project) in Pennington County, South Dakota. The Project would include a substation at the location of the former Ben French Power Plant on the northwest side of Rapid City, South Dakota. It will also include a 230 kV transmission line from the substation running southeast approximately 0.2 miles, then east approximately 0.5 miles. The transmission line will be constructed entirely within an existing BHE easement, and the substation will be constructed on property owned by BHE.

On February 7, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 8, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. A public input meeting was held in Rapid City on March 18, 2019. No person sought party status in this docket. BHE responded to all staff data requests. BHE and staff filed a Settlement Stipulation and Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation on May 20, 2019. On May 31, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Granting Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation and Order Granting Permit to Construct Transmission Facilities. On August 10, 2020, BHE filed a Final Construction Report. On April 27, 2021, BHE filed governmental permits. On December 8, 2021, BHE filed a Motion for Release of Indemnity Bond.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter-41B, specifically 49-41B-38.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 1, 2022, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant BHE's Motion for Release of Indemnity Bond. It is therefore

ORDERED, that BHE's Motion for Release of Indemnity Bond is hereby granted, and the Executive Director or commission counsel is authorized to execute any necessary release document to release Liberty Mutual Insurance Company Bond No. 190041041.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of February 2022.

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 or by mail.

By: Adam DeHueck

Date: 2/4/22

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner