

BLACK HILLS POWER, INC.
d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY
EL25-008

REQUEST DATE : 03/14/25

RESPONSE DATE : 04/01/25

REQUESTING PARTY: Staff

SDPUC Request No. 1.4:

Refer to the Business Retention, Recruitment, and Marketing section of Exhibit 2. Explain the \$6,000 Site Selection Partnership cost. Is this a continued cost for the current Quest Site Solutions participants or if new participants join? How long will these costs continue?

Response to SDPUC Request No. 1.4:

The \$6,000 expense under the 2025 budget for Site Location Partnership covers the cost of the subscription for the property database that Rushmore Region Alliance uses on their website through a partnership with Elevate Rapid City and Governor's Office of Economic Development. The annual subscription is \$6,000 and Black Hills Power covers that cost for the regional communities through economic development funds. We have sponsored this expense for our west river communities for many years and foresee continuing to do so if it is cost effective and beneficial to the work of our economic development organizations. We do discuss this subscription with the executive directors prior to renewal each year. You can see the property database at the Rushmore Regional Alliance website here: www.rushmoreregion.com/property-search-analysis. Prior to this current subscription, Black Hills Power covered the cost for the subscription for LocationOne, which is another property marketing database. However, Site Location Partnership service is more user-friendly, interacts more efficiently with the state system and was requested by the communities.

The cost is not related to the Quest Site Solutions project.

Responder: Lynn Kendall

Attachments: None