

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )</b>	<b>ORDER APPROVING</b>
<b>OF BLACK HILLS POWER INC. DBA )</b>	<b>SECOND ONE-TIME</b>
<b>BLACK HILLS ENERGY FOR APPROVAL )</b>	<b>BILL CREDIT</b>
<b>OF ITS TAX CUT AND JOBS ACT )</b>	
<b>PROPOSAL )</b>	<b>EL18-029</b>

On December 21, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a filing from Commission staff (Staff) requesting a docket (Docket GE17-003) be opened to investigate the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) on South Dakota utilities. Staff also filed a Motion Requesting Order Requiring Comments and Securing Tax Effects for Customers as of January 1, 2018 (Motion). In the Motion, Staff requested the Commission investigate the effect the TCJA will have on South Dakota utilities and requested the Commission issue an order requiring utilities to submit comments on the effect the TCJA will have on each utility. Additionally, Staff requested the Commission issue an order that any adjustment to rates due to the TCJA be effective on January 1, 2018. On December 28, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of January 12, 2018, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On December 29, 2017, the Commission issued an Order Requiring Comments; Order Requiring Rates in Effect January 1, 2018, are Subject to Refund; Order Granting Intervention. On January 29, 2018, NorthWestern Energy submitted initial comments and on February 1, 2018, Black Hills Energy, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., MidAmerican Energy, Xcel Energy, and Otter Tail Power Co. filed initial comments.

On June 29, 2018, Black Hills Energy filed an Application and supporting exhibits setting forth its proposal related to the TCJA. The Application requested Commission approval of a one-time refund to ratepayers in October 2018 associated with TCJA customer benefits and proposed base rate revisions to be effective January 1, 2019, including a reduction to base rates due to future TCJA tax expense reductions and revisions to base rate customer charges.

On July 5, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 20, 2018, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. On August 28, 2018, Staff and Black Hills Energy filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation and a Settlement Stipulation. On September 7, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Granting Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation; Order Approving Settlement Stipulation. On December 14, 2018, Black Hills Energy submitted a compliance filing regarding 2019 revised rates, including revised tariff pages. On December 21, 2018, Black Hills Energy submitted an amended tariff page. On December 28, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Approving Revised Rates and Associated Tariff Revisions on Less Than 30 Days' Notice. On January 14, 2019, Black Hills Energy submitted a proposal for a second one-time February 2019 bill credit to true-up its 2018 TCJA customer benefits as it has completed its 2018 Federal Tax Return and the estimates provided at the time of the Settlement Stipulation have changed.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A, specifically, 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, and 49-34A-26.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 1, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to approve Black Hills Energy's proposal for a second one-time bill credit. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Black Hills Energy's proposal for a second one-time bill credit to true-up its 2018 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act benefits is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4<sup>th</sup> day of February 2019.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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: <u>Karen E. Bremer</u>
Date: <u>02/04/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner