

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

Attention: Dusty Johnson, Chairman

Dear Mr. Johnson,

Your web site has been designed such that your email address will not accept emails. Following is the message I tried to send to you.

Much has been reported about BHP's intention to increase electricity rates by 26.6%. BHP could not have picked a worse or more inconsiderate time to force such an **outrageous rate increase** on struggling customers. In the present state of the economy, some are possibly facing foreclosure, out of work, hand to mouth existing or retired elderly as my ailing wife and myself. This increase has the appearance of *outright managerial greed*, since it is reported that the major cost for building the plant in question has been covered, the plant has already been built and is ready to be put on line. It appears BHP executives have no conscience and no consideration for their captive customers whom they, in effect, *have by the throat*.

Surely the PUC, who are the watchdogs and the only champions to fight for the consumers, the "little guys", will not permit this obscene increase demanded by BHP. Under present conditions a 3% increase would be reasonable, but under no circumstances should it be more than 5%.

That is my opinion, the way I see it and I trust you will see justice prevails.

Sincerely,



John F. Wilkinson

[REDACTED]
Spearfish, SD 57783
[REDACTED]