

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

From: Kolbeck, Steve

Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 2:03 PM

To: 'Allan Rhian'; Johnson, Dustin (PUC); Hanson, Gary (PUC)

Cc:

Subject: RE: BHP&L RATE INCREASE

Allen,

Thank you for your comments. I can assure you no one in State Government has made up their mind. The process of this rate case will take up to six months to complete. I can also assure you the PUC is concerned about the increase to rate payers and the effects on the economy. The PUC will examine every possible way to make the outcome as fair as possible. I am not speaking for my fellow commissioners, but I know we all take our jobs very seriously when it comes to issues that affect any of our constituents. The commissioners have worked hard to be in a position to make these decisions, and will work hard to make sure the best possible solutions surface.

Again, thank you for taking the time to email the commission with your thoughts. Please contact the PUC's office anytime you feel it necessary. The office number is 1-800-332-1782. I agree with you that this is an un-sure time for all of us, but please be assured we have a very competent and experienced team of accountants, attorneys, and specialists looking out for you and your family's utility needs.

Thanks again,

Steve Kolbeck

Commissioner

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

500 E. Capitol Ave.

Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Ph. 605-773-3201

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

From: Allan Rhian

Sent: Monday, October 05, 2009 11:00 AM

To: Johnson, Dustin (PUC)

Cc: Kolbeck, Steve; Hanson, Gary

Subject: BHP&L RATE INCREASE

AS I AM SURE OTHERS ARE, I HAVE A CONCERN WITH THE RATE INCREASE THAT BHP&L IS ASKING. IN THESE ECONOMIC TIMES I CAN'T BELIEVE THAT THEY WOULD EVEN CONSIDER AN INCREASE, LET ALOE\NE THE AMOUNT THAT THEY ARE ASKING.

ANY INCREASE OVER TEN PER CENT WOULD BE TOO MUCH, FIVE BEING MORE ACCEPTABLE.

THE RAPID CITY JOURNAL HAD A STORY STATING THAT THE STATE SAYS THAT THIS IS NOT UNUSAL. THAT WOULD APPERR TO ME THAT SOUTH DKOTA GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY MADE UP THEIR MINDFTO ACCEPT THIS.

I URGE YOU TO VOTE AGAINST THIS.

ALLAN D RHIAN