

BEFORE THE SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. d/b/a BLACK)
HILLS ENERGY’S APPLICATION FOR)
APPROVAL TO EXTEND THE FILING) **Docket EL16-_____**
DATE OF ITS VEGETATION MANAMENT)
ANNUAL REPORT

**Black Hills Power, Inc. D/B/A Black Hills Energy’s Application for Approval to Extend the
Filing Date of Its Vegetation Management Annual Report**

Black Hills Power, Inc. d/b/a Black Hills Energy (“Black Hills Power” or the “Company”), a South Dakota corporation, respectfully requests approval from the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (the “Commission”) for an extension until April 30, 2017, for filing its annual report demonstrating the actual vegetation management costs incurred and the Company’s updated forecast for the remaining years based upon actual progress to date.

The Commission approved the establishment of the Vegetation Management Regulatory Asset (“VMRA”) for Black Hills Power in Docket EL12-061. Per the associated stipulation (“Stipulation”), Black Hills Power is required to provide an annual report to demonstrate the actual vegetation management cost incurred. The report will outline the progress made on the overall five year plan and update the forecast for the remaining years based on actual progress to date.

Black Hills has made significant progress towards completing the current trim cycle within the targeted 2017 timeframe laid out in last year’s forecast and believes that the Company can complete the trim cycle in early 2017. Due to an estimated 2017 trim cycle completion, the Company believes that it would be in the benefit of both the Company and the Commission to delay its December filing requirement, per the Stipulation, until April 30, 2017.

Copies of all notices, other correspondences and all inquiries concerning this Application should be sent to:

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WHEREFORE, Black Hills respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order approving an extension until April 30, 2017, to file its annual report demonstrating the actual vegetation management costs incurred and the Company's updated forecast for the remaining years based upon actual progress to date.

Dated this 12th day of December, 2016.

BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY

By: _____

Jason S. Keil
Manager - Regulatory

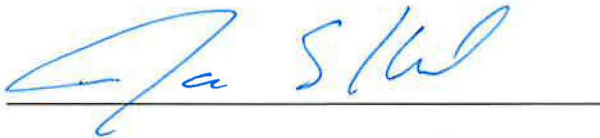
BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF SOUTH DAKOTA

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)

SS:

COUNTY OF PENNINGTON)

I, Jason S. Keil, being duly sworn, do hereby depose and say that I am Manager - Regulatory for Black Hills Power, Inc. d/b/a Black Hills Energy, that I have read such Application, and that the facts set forth therein are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.



Jason S. Keil, Manager - Regulatory

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 12th day of December, 2016.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 9/14/2021



