

EL00-010



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APR 10 2000

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC  
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April 7, 2000

\*ALSO LICENSED IN WYOMING  
\*ALSO LICENSED IN MINNESOTA  
\*ALSO CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTWilliam Bullard, Jr.  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

Dear Mr. Bullard:

On behalf of Black Hills Corporation, I am submitting to you the original and ten copies of the Application of Black Hills Corporation for Authority to Issue Common Stock and Preferred Stock Related to the Agreement and Plan of Merger By and Among Black Hills Corporation, Black Hills Energy Capital, Inc., Indeck Capital, Inc., Gerald R. Forsythe, Michelle R. Fawcett, Marsha Founier, Monica Breslow, Melissa S. Forsythe, and John W. Salyer. (the "Application") and the accompanying exhibits. This Application, and its accompanying exhibits, pertains to the proposed merger between Black Hills Corporation and Indeck Capital, Inc.

The Application and all supporting exhibits are contained in the accompanying binders. Also contained in the binders is a Request for Confidential Treatment made pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:39 through 20:10:01:45, inclusive. The binder cover sheets include the confidentiality notice required by ARSD 20:10:01:40. The Request for Confidential Treatment applies to the Application itself, certain portions of the Agreement and Plan of Merger, and all exhibits and attachments to the Agreement and Plan of Merger in their entirety. Each page for which Black Hills Corporation is requesting confidential treatment is marked with the heading "**CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT IS REQUESTED.**" As previously mentioned, only certain portions of the Agreement and Plan of Merger are considered to be confidential by Black Hills Corporation. Those confidential portions are shaded and the page contains the previously mentioned notation. I have also enclosed one copy of the Agreement and Plan of Merger with the portions for which confidential treatment is requested removed. Black Hills Corporation does not consider this redacted copy to be confidential.

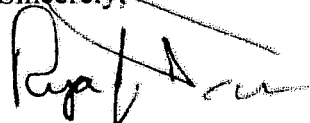
William Bullard, Jr.

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If you have any questions or comments relating to this Application or the Request for Confidential Treatment, please do not hesitate to call at (605) 348-7516. I look forward to hearing from you and the Commission.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan J. Taylor", written over a horizontal line.

Ryan J. Taylor

Enclosures

cc: Gary R. Fish  
Mark T. Thies  
Roxann R. Basham  
John K. Nooney, Esq.

CONFIDENTIAL

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