

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE FILING BY BLACK)	ORDER APPROVING TARIFF
HILLS POWER AND LIGHT COMPANY FOR)	
APPROVAL OF NEW GENERAL SERVICE)	EL99-001
LARGE - OPTIONAL COMBINED ACCOUNT)	
BILLING RATE SCHEDULE)	

On January 14, 1999, Black Hills Power and Light Company (BHP&L), filed with the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) a new tariff described as:

Section No. 3, Original Sheet No. 33
Section No. 3, Original Sheet No. 34
Section No. 3, Original Sheet No. 35

On March 5, 1999, BHP&L filed a new sample contract described as:

Section No. 6, Original Sheet No. 27
Section No. 6, Original Sheet No. 28
Section No. 6, Original Sheet No. 29

and revisions to the table of contents described as :

Section No. 1, Fourth Revised Sheet No.4, replacing Third Revised Sheet No. 4
Section No. 6, replacing Section No. 6 which was effective May 21, 1997.

BHP&L proposed an optional combined account billing for its General Service Large - customers. The billing would be implemented by means of a contract between BHP&L and those qualifying customers and would allow for customers to combine billing for multiple sites to one monthly bill. As an additional option, customers would be able to subscribe to coincident demand and billing treatment.

This matter appeared on the Commission's January 14, 1999 through January 20, 1999, fax filing with an intervention deadline of February 5, 1999, being set. Commission staff further mailed notice of this matter and the intervention deadline to customers identified by BHP&L as being eligible for this tariff. No parties sought intervention.

At its regularly scheduled March 9, 1999, meeting, the Commission discussed final approval of the tariff. Commission Staff recommended a cautioned approval.

BHP&L agreed to file in the next general rate change filing, comparison class cost of service studies for the General Service Large class reflecting revenues before and after implementation of the above listed rate changes. BHP&L also agreed to allow the Commission to then choose which study to use for cost of service.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-34A, specifically 49-34A-4, 49-34A-6, 49-34A-8, 49-34A-10 and 49-34A-12. Further, the tariff is just and reasonable and shall be approved. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that BHP&L's aforementioned tariffs are approved and shall be effective as of the date of this Order; and it is further

ORDERED, that BHP&L shall file a class cost of service study showing a comparison of the General Service Large class before and after the implementation of this tariff change in any future general rate proceeding filed by BHP&L before the Commission, and shall allow this Commission to choose the study to be used for cost of service.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of March, 1999.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
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, by facsimile or by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.
By: <u> Dellaine Kalbs </u>
Date: <u> 3/15/99 </u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

 James A. Burg
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

 Pam Nelson
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

 Laska Schoenfelder
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner