

BEFORE THE NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| In the Matter of Black Hills/ |) | Application No. NG-0061 |
| Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC, |) | |
| d/b/a Black Hills Energy, Omaha, |) | HEARING OFFICER ORDER |
| seeking a General Rate Increase |) | GRANTING MOTION TO EXTEND |
| for Black Hills Energy's Rate |) | DEADLINE, IN PART |
| Areas One, Two and Three |) | |
| (Consolidated). |) | |
| |) | Entered: July 7, 2010 |

BY THE HEARING OFFICER:

On December 1, 2009, Black Hills/Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC, d/b/a Black Hills Energy, Omaha (Black Hills), filed an application seeking approval of a general rate increase. The Public Advocate, Constellation New Energy Gas, NorthWestern Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy, SourceGas Distribution LLC, and the City of Lincoln, Nebraska, all formally intervened.

Pursuant to the Planning Conference Order in this matter, the report by the Commission's consultants was released on June 29, 2010. Comments by the Parties are currently due to the Commission on or before July 8, 2010. On July 6, 2010, Black Hills filed a "Motion to Extend Deadline for Filing Comments on Advisory Report and Advisory Report: Cost of Capital" requesting that the deadline for comments be extended to noon on July 12, 2010. Although unclear within the Motion, it further appears that Black Hills is requesting that the Commission's consultants prepare a revenue requirement schedule. Black Hills has indicated that the other Parties do not object to the Motion.

The Hearing Officer finds that the request for an extension should be granted and comments shall be filed no later than **noon on Monday, July 12, 2010.**

With respect to the request that a revenue requirement schedule be prepared, the report of the Commission's consultants does not contain firm recommendations regarding every contested issue. To prepare a revenue requirement schedule at this time would be premature as it could not reasonably account for the various alternatives proposed. Therefore, the Hearing Officer finds that the request for preparation of such revenue requirement schedule should be denied.

O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Hearing Officer that the request for an extension should be granted and comments shall be filed no later than **noon on Monday, July 12, 2010.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the request for preparation of a revenue requirement schedule is denied.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 7th day of July, 2010.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BY:

Hearing Officer

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O R D E R

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED by the Hearing Officer that the request for an extension should be granted and comments shall be filed no later than **noon on Monday, July 12, 2010.**

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the request for preparation of a revenue requirement schedule is denied.

MADE AND ENTERED at Lincoln, Nebraska this 7th day of July, 2010.

NEBRASKA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

BY: *Ann Sundis*
Hearing Officer