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BLACK HILLS ENERGY TO SPONSOR FREE WORKSHOP FOR RESIDENTIAL WATER HEATER CONTRACTORS

Training is for contractors servicing Black Hills Energy natural gas customers in Iowa

WEST DES MOINES, Iowa, Feb. 17, 2010 – Black Hills Energy is sponsoring a free workshop for professional residential water heater contractors on Friday, Feb. 26, hosted by the Iowa Energy Center in Ankeny, Iowa. The comprehensive workshop is available for any water heater contractors servicing Black Hills Energy natural gas customers in Iowa, and will cover installation requirements for high-efficiency and tankless water heaters with a mixture of classroom discussion, practical examples and hands-on training. Continuing Education Units are available for attendees through the Des Moines Area Community College. In addition, an application has been submitted to allow contractors to use this workshop to satisfy continuous training requirements for their Mechanical License.

“The water heater contractors we work with to promote our energy efficiency programs are on the frontlines everyday helping consumers save on energy costs by providing customers with information on our energy efficiency rebate programs,” said Jim Dillon, energy efficiency program manager for Black Hills Energy. “This workshop provides contractors the opportunity to learn or re-learn the basics of energy-efficiency water heating systems, such as unit types and performance, pipe sizing and layout, and how to install a high performance water heating system to maximize the efficiency of the equipment,” continued Dillon.

Location, Schedule and Registration Information:

Where: Iowa Energy Center: Energy Resource Station
DMACC Ankeny Campus, Building 23
2006 S. Ankeny Blvd.
Ankeny, IA 50023

When: Friday, Feb. 26, 2010 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.
Lunch will be provided

Cost: Free

Registration: Call 785-832-3933 or e-mail pat.rice@blackhillscorp.com; registration deadline is Friday, Feb. 19.

“Providing ongoing educational opportunities for the contractors that we work with is important to the continued success of our energy efficiency programs,” said Dillon. “We appreciate the partnership and support of the contractors that help us educate customers about our energy efficiency programs, and we encourage the contractors to participate in this free training workshop.”

For more information about the energy efficiency programs available to Black Hills Energy’s residential, commercial and industrial natural gas customers in Iowa, visit www.BHEhowto.com or call 888-567-0799.

Black Hills Energy serves 149,500 natural gas customers in 130 Iowa communities, and is a proud recipient of the U.S. EPA 2009 Energy Star® Leadership in Housing Award. Black Hills Energy is part of Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH) — a diversified energy company with a tradition of exemplary service and a vision to be the energy partner of choice — is based in Rapid City, S.D., with corporate offices in Denver and Omaha, Neb. The company serves 759,000 natural gas and electric utility customers in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. The company’s non-regulated businesses generate wholesale electricity, produce natural gas, oil and coal, and market energy. Black Hills employees partner to produce results that improve life with energy. More information is available at www.blackhillscorp.com.

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