



Media Contacts:
Media Relations 866-243-9002

Black Hills Power Receives Award For Wastewater Treatment System Operation and Maintenance Excellence

PIERRE, S.D. — The South Dakota Department of Environment and Natural Resources announced that Black Hills Power’s wastewater treatment systems for the Ben French Station as well as for the Lange Combustion Turbine Electrical Generating Facility north of Rapid City are the recipients of the 2009 Operation and Maintenance Excellence Award. The award recognizes outstanding wastewater system operation and environmental compliance with the state surface water discharge permit for the past year.

“Black Hills Power has a long-standing history of providing safe, reliable energy. It’s a priority for us to provide that energy while treating the environment with the utmost respect,” said Chuck Loomis, vice president of operations for Black Hills Power. “This award reflects the core values and commitment of our Black Hills Power employees in providing service throughout our communities.”

BHP’s Ben French Station and Lange facility were two of only 75 facilities to receive the award out of about 375 wastewater treatment facilities in the state. Qualifications for the award are based on a system’s compliance with the state’s environmental requirements, discharged water quality, monitoring reports, state inspections, and proper operation and maintenance of the wastewater treatment facility.

“The people who maintain and operate the systems that collect and treat our wastewater — 24 hours a day and seven days a week — are on the front lines of protecting public health and the environment each and every day,” said DENR Secretary Steve Pirner. “That is why

DENR is proud to recognize with this award those wastewater systems and operators who had outstanding operations, maintenance and environmental compliance during all of 2009.”

The award will be presented during the 2010 South Dakota Water and Wastewater Association Wastewater Operators seminar March 24-25 at the Ramkota Inn in Rapid City.

About Black Hills Power

Black Hills Power is the legacy utility business of Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH) and has been delivering energy for more than 125 years. The electric utility serves 66,900 customers in 25 communities in western South Dakota, northeastern Wyoming and southeastern Montana. Black Hills Corp. — 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 763,300 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.