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**BLACK HILLS ENERGY TECHNICIANS WORKING
TO RESTORE NATURAL GAS SERVICE
TO MOST NORFOLK, NEB., CUSTOMERS SHUT OFF DUE TO FLOODING**

NORFOLK, Neb., June 16, 2010 – Working with Norfolk, Neb., emergency officials, Black Hills Energy has begun restoring natural gas service this morning to most of the Norfolk customers whose natural gas the company shut off Tuesday as a result of flooding in the city.

Technicians from Black Hills Energy, provider of natural gas service in Norfolk, worked with local emergency officials to shut off approximately 50-75 of the city's nearly 8,500 natural gas meters. Natural gas service to the remainder of Norfolk is unaffected and operating as normal.

The services being restored this morning are to customers in an area bounded by Washington and Jackson avenues and South First and South Fourth streets that were shut off as a safety precaution when floodwaters threatened but ended up not reaching their location. At locations where no one is home or the business is closed, a tag will be left on the door notifying the customer that the natural gas has been shut off and to call the company for it to be turned back on.

Black Hills Energy turns off the natural gas at locations affected by flooding as a safety measure to avoid the risk of natural gas leaks that may occur when equipment or appliances are submerged and pilot lights are extinguished.

Black Hills Energy employees will conduct safety checks to restore natural gas service to affected homes and businesses and relight pilot lights. Natural gas meters and appliances that have been submerged in floodwaters must be inspected by a technician before service is restored.

“Floodwaters carry silt and other contaminants that damage natural gas meters and appliances such as water heaters, furnaces and air conditioners,” said Scott Zaruba, Black Hills Energy North Region operations manager. “A Black Hills Energy technician ensures the natural gas metering equipment is working properly, and an appliance repair professional inspects natural gas appliances and equipment prior to service restoration.”

As customers return home and are ready for natural gas service to be restored, Black Hills Energy is asking them to call Black Hills so that technicians can perform the free safety inspection and restore service. Black Hills Energy’s customer service number is 888-890-5554. Black Hills customer service associates are available around the clock, seven days a week. Customers will need to work with their homeowner’s insurance carrier to discuss appliance and equipment repairs that may be required.

As a reminder, if any customer smells natural gas, they should leave the home or business immediately and call Black Hills Energy on a cell phone outside the building or use a neighbor’s phone. Do not use the phone in the location where the smell of natural gas was detected, nor turn off any lights when exiting. If there is a natural gas leak, a spark could ignite it. Black Hills Energy’s 24-hour emergency number is 800-694-8989.

Black Hills Energy serves approximately 196,000 natural gas customers in 107 eastern Nebraska communities. 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 — which is based in Rapid City, S.D., and has 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.

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