



Media Contacts:

Janaan Harp 402-680-8928

Black Hills Media Line 866-243-9002

SPENCER, IOWA, NATURAL GAS SAFETY ADVISORY FROM BLACK HILLS ENERGY

SPENCER, Iowa, June 23, 2010 – Though no Black Hills Energy customers in the company's Spencer region are currently affected by flooding in Buena Vista, Clay, Dickinson, O'Brien, and Pocahontas counties, Black Hills is prepared when there are weather-related issues that could potentially disrupt service. The company's ability to respond quickly is the result of actions taken before the inclement weather actually occurs, including:

- Coordinating efforts with local emergency officials if a community is or anticipated to be impacted by flooding.
- Black Hills Energy's field resource center, responsible for dispatching Black Hills Energy service crews, operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, as does the company's customer service center, which receives customer calls.

For safety reasons, if flooding of customer homes or businesses were imminent, Black Hills Energy would temporarily shut off natural gas service to customers in the affected area and provide ongoing service restoration updates to affected customers.

"If necessary, we turn off the natural gas at locations affected by flooding as a safety measure to protect our customers," said Brian Kretz, Black Hills Energy Spencer region operations supervisor. "It is important to avoid the risk of natural gas leaks that may occur when equipment or appliances are submerged and pilot lights are extinguished."

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, or 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.

“Floodwaters carry silt and other contaminants that could damage natural gas meters and appliances such as water heaters, furnaces and air conditioners,” Kretz said. “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 before service restoration.”

Black Hills Energy - Iowa Gas

Black Hills Energy serves 149,700 natural gas customers in 130 Iowa communities, and is a proud recipient of the U.S. EPA 2010 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 — 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.

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