



## News Release

**Media Contacts:**

Janaan Harp 402-680-8928  
Black Hills Media Line 866-243-9002

### **BLACK HILLS ENERGY DONATES \$500 TO SUPPORT IONIA COMMUNITY PARK**

DECORAH, Iowa, Aug. 12, 2010 – Black Hills Energy has contributed \$500 to Ionia’s community park, which will go toward the purchase of an electronic scoreboard for the park’s baseball diamond.

“Black Hills Energy is proud to support Ionia’s community park,” said Sandy Koenig, Black Hills Energy operations supervisor. “Encouraging local youth to stay active and develop their skills helps set the stage for a successful future. We are pleased to provide financial support so the city can purchase a new electronic scoreboard for the park’s ball diamond.”

Ionia’s park is a focal location in the community and is used by many residents in the area. In addition, the recent increase in youth softball and baseball programs in surrounding communities has resulted in more children using the ball diamond and more visitors to Ionia’s park.

“We have seen more people from Ionia and surrounding communities come enjoy and utilize our park,” said Donna Geerts, Ionia city clerk. “As a result, we’ve made ongoing investments over the past several years to make the most of our public green space. Support from local businesses, such as Black Hills Energy, help make it possible for the City of Ionia to fulfill its commitment to keeping the park in top-notch condition for the betterment of the community.”

To learn more about Ionia’s community park, or to make a tax-free contribution to support its efforts, contact Donna Geerts at 319-239-0289.

**Black Hills/Iowa Gas Utility Company, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy**

Black Hills Energy serves 149,700 natural gas customers in 130 Iowa communities and is a recipient of the U.S. EPA 2010 ENERGY STAR® Leadership in Housing Award. Black Hills Energy is a subsidiary of Black Hills Corp. — 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. Black Hills Corp. serves 763,300 natural gas and electric utility customers in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming, and its non-regulated businesses generate wholesale electricity, produce natural gas, oil and coal, and market energy. Black Hills’ 2,200 employees partner to produce results that improve life with energy. More information is available at [www.blackhillscorp.com](http://www.blackhillscorp.com).

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