



**Media Contacts:**

Nebraska: Bob McKeon      402-943-9143  
Iowa: Janaan Harp          402-680-8928  
Black Hills Media Line      866-243-9002

**BLACK HILLS ENERGY NATURAL GAS FLOOD SAFETY ADVISORY  
FOR EASTERN NEBRASKA & WESTERN IOWA AREAS ALONG THE MISSOURI RIVER**

**PAPILLION, Neb., June 3, 2011** – As a safety precaution, Black Hills Energy is working with emergency officials in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa communities where it provides natural gas service that are near the Missouri River to monitor flooding threats and to temporarily shut off natural gas service to customers in Hamburg, Iowa, Plattsmouth, Neb., and Blair, Neb., who are immediately affected or threatened by flooding.

If no one is home or a 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.

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.

When floodwaters recede, 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 air conditioners and natural gas meters and appliances such as water heaters and furnaces. A Black Hills Energy technician ensures that the

natural gas metering equipment is working properly, and an appliance repair professional inspects natural gas appliances and equipment prior to service restoration.

Once customers are able to 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 24 hours a day, 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.

Black Hills Energy is prepared when there is weather-related service issues and outages, and the company's ability to respond quickly is the result of actions taken before flooding actually occurs, including coordinating efforts with local emergency officials when flooding threatens a community.

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 service.

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

Black Hills Energy serves 196,000 natural gas customers in 106 eastern Nebraska communities. Black Hills Energy is a subsidiary of Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH).

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

Black Hills Energy serves 151,000 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. (NYSE: BKH).

**Black Hills Corporation**

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 Papillion, Neb. The company serves 762,000 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' 2,100 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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