



**BLACK HILLS CORP. ANNOUNCES 42nd CONSECUTIVE DIVIDEND INCREASE
AND SCHEDULES 2011 EARNINGS CONFERENCE CALL AND WEBCAST**

RAPID CITY, SD — Jan. 26, 2012 — Today, the board of directors of Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH) approved the 42nd consecutive annual increase in the company's dividend. The quarterly dividend was increased by \$0.005 per common share to \$0.37 per share, equivalent to an annual dividend rate of \$1.48 per share. Common shareholders of record at the close of business on Feb. 16, 2012, will receive \$0.37 cents per share, payable on March 1, 2012.

The company will issue a news release announcing 2011 full year and fourth quarter results after market close on Feb. 2, 2012, and host a live conference call and webcast at 11 a.m. EST on Feb. 3, 2012, to discuss the company's financial and operating performance.

To access the live webcast and download a copy of the investor presentation, go to the Black Hills website at www.blackhillscorp.com and click "Webcast" in the "Investor Relations" section. The presentation will be posted on the website before the webcast. Listeners should allow at least five minutes for registering and accessing the presentation. Those interested in asking a question during the live broadcast or those without internet access can call 866-783-2144 if calling from within the United States. International callers can call 857-350-1603. All callers need to enter the pass code 97273059 when prompted.

For those unable to listen to the live broadcast, a replay will be available on the company's website or by telephone through Feb. 17, 2012, at 888-286-8010 in the United States and at 617-801-6888 for international callers. The replay pass code is 19360028.

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.

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