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BLACK HILLS ENERGY INSTALLING AUTOMATED METER READING IN MONUMENT, COLO.

MONUMENT, Colo., May 2, 2011 – Black Hills Energy is expanding its automated meter reading system to its 17,400 natural gas customers in Monument beginning today. The project is scheduled for completion in September.

AMR technology allows the company to obtain customer usage data via a low-frequency radio signal transmitted from the meter to a passing company vehicle. The company installed the mobile, drive-by technology in Fountain and Woodland Park last year and installation in Castle Rock was completed April 22. When the Monument project is finished, approximately 65,000 Black Hills Energy natural gas meters in Colorado will be equipped with the technology. There is no direct charge to the customer for the AMR upgrade.

“We continue to make significant investments in our Colorado natural gas distribution systems to automate the meter reading process,” said Colorado Gas General Manager Susan Bailey. “This technology increases operational efficiencies and improves the service that we provide to our customers. With AMR, utility workers no longer need access to a customer’s property each month to read the meters. Locked gates or curious pets no longer inhibit acquisition of an accurate reading.”

Black Hills is notifying customers of the work via a postcard sent about two weeks before employees and contractors visit their neighborhood to install the system. Installation typically takes about 10-15 minutes. The company has hired third party contractor Kore Services to install the technology. Kore employees will wear a “BHE Contractor” safety vest and carry identification provided by Black Hills. Their vehicles will display “Contractor For Black Hills Energy” signs.

Customers with questions can call Black Hills Energy’s 24-hour Customer Service Center toll-free at 888-890-5554. Information also is available at www.blackhillsenergy.com/customers/amr.

Black Hills/Colorado Gas Utility Company, LP d/b/a Black Hills Energy

Black Hills Energy serves 71,000 natural gas customers in 31 Colorado communities. 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 764,000 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' 2,100 employees partner to produce results that improve life with energy. More information is available at www.blackhillscorp.com.

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