

THE STATE OF WYOMING

GOVERNOR Matthew H. Mead

Public Service Commission

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COMMISSIONERS

William F. Russell, Chairman Kara Brighton Fornstrom, Deputy Chair Robin Sessions Cooley, Commissioner SECRETARY AND CHIEF COUNSEL
Christopher Petrie
COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR
Marci Norby

James Elliott Manager – Regulatory Black Hills Energy 1515 Wynkoop Street Denver, CO 80202

Re:

IN THE MATTER OF THE CONFIDENTIAL GAS PURCHASE CONTRACT FILING OF BLACK HILLS GAS DISTRIBUTION, LLC d/b/a BLACK HILLS ENERGY FOR ITS CHOICE GAS PROGRAM YEAR ENDING MAY 31, 2019 - Docket No. 30022-319-GK-18 (Record No. 15070)

LETTER ORDER (Issued December 19, 2018)

Dear Mr. Elliott:

On August 2, 2018, Black Hills Gas Distribution d/b/a Black Hills Energy (BHE or the Company) filed with the Wyoming Public Service Commission (Commission) five gas purchase contracts supporting the Company's Gas Supply Charge Adjustment year ending May 31, 2018, with attached Exhibits 1, 2, 3 and 4, pursuant to Commission Rule Chapter 3, Sections 26 and 31. BHE also filed its first *Petition for Confidential Treatment of Contracts* requesting confidential treatment of Exhibits 2, 3 and 4 to its contract filing.

On October 26, 2018, BHE supplemented the filing with confidential Exhibits, which contains two gas purchase contracts and five additional gas purchase contract transaction confirmations and a second *Petition for Confidential Treatment of Contracts* requesting confidential treatment of certain Exhibits to the supplemental contract filing.

BHE's contract filing and two *Petitions* came before the Commission pursuant to due notice at its Open Meeting on December 4, 2018. Commission Counsel recommended accepting

the contracts for filing and granting the *Petitions* pursuant to Chapter 2, Section 30 of the Commission's Rules.

The Commission's authorization to place the contracts in its files does not constitute the Commission's determination of any utility rate making issues whatsoever, which issues are expressly reserved for decision until they are presented regularly to the Commission in appropriate proceedings.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

- 1. Pursuant to Open Meeting action taken on December 4, 2018, Black Hills Gas Distribution, LLC d/b/a Black Hills Energy's contracts regarding its Choice Gas Program year ending May 31, 2019, are hereby accepted for filing.
- 2. Black Hills Energy's two *Petitions for Confidential Treatment of Contracts* is granted.

This *Letter Order* is effective immediately.

E and ENTERED at Cheyenne, Wyoming, on December 19, 2018.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

JOHN S. BURBRIDGE, Assistant Secretary

cc: WPSC Confidential Files