

## **Public hearing and comment period**

### **Black Hills Energy seeks approval for EE programs, full decoupling, and performance incentives**

Black Hills Energy has filed an application with the Kansas Corporation Commission (Commission) for approval of energy-efficiency and education programs, establishment of a revenue-decoupling mechanism, and a performance incentive mechanism.

#### **Public Hearing**

The Commission has scheduled a public hearing concerning the proposal that Black Hills Energy has requested. This hearing will allow the Black Hills Energy customers to learn more about the proposal and provide an opportunity for customers to present testimony or comments for the Commission's review.

The public hearing will take place in two parts. First, during the question and answer period, representatives of Black Hills Energy, the KCC staff, and CURB will be available to answer customers' questions pertaining to the proposal. In the second part of the hearing, customers will be allowed to make formal statements to the three-member Commission.

#### **The KCC has scheduled three public hearings regarding Black Hills Energy's proposal:**

**Tuesday, July 6, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Dole Institute of Politics  
2350 Petefish Drive  
Lawrence, Kansas 66605

**Wednesday, July 7, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Century II Performing Arts &  
Conference Center, Room 101AB  
225 W. Douglas Avenue  
Wichita, Kansas 67202

**Thursday, July 8, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Dodge City Public Library  
1001 N. Second Avenue  
Dodge City, Kansas 67801

**In addition, the Commission will provide videoconferencing for the July 8 hearing, which will allow customers to participate in the hearing at the following satellite locations in Goodland, Garden City and Liberal:**

**Thursday, July 8, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
NW Kansas Technical College  
1315 Eustis  
Murray Center, Suite A  
Goodland, Kansas 67735

**Thursday, July 8, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Garden City Community College  
801 Campus Drive  
Penka Building. - Room 1003  
Garden City, Kansas 67846

**Thursday, July 8, 2010**  
**7:00 p.m.**  
Seward County Community College  
Hobble Academic Bldg., Room AA 137  
1801 N. Kansas Avenue  
Liberal, Kansas 67905

The Commission will accept written comments from Black Hills Energy customers through September 02, 2010. Comments regarding this case should reference Docket No.10-BHCG-639-TAR and should be sent to the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection, 1500 S.W. Arrowhead Road, Topeka, Kansas 66604-4027. Comments may also be submitted by e-mail to the Commission at [public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov](mailto:public.affairs@kcc.ks.gov).

A complete copy of Black Hills Energy's application and supporting testimony is available on the Commission's website at <http://kcc.ks.gov/docket/cal.cgi?docket=10-BHCG-639-TAR>. The KCC has until December 28, 2010 to make a decision on the proposed increase.

### **Black Hills Energy seeks approval for energy efficiency programs and request full decoupling of rates**

On March 31, 2010, Black Hills Energy filed an application seeking approval of a portfolio of energy-efficiency and education programs, program cost recovery, and establishment of a revenue-decoupling mechanism. Black Hills Energy estimates the first-year budget for its energy-efficiency programs will require \$2,492,129, a cost of \$1.08 per month for residential customers. Black Hills Energy estimates the total five-year energy-efficiency plan will require \$12.5 million.

Decoupling would ensure that Black Hills Energy will receive its allowed revenues that are established by the KCC, regardless of the level of sales. If Black Hills Energy customers make their homes more energy-efficient and succeed in decreasing their energy consumption, Black Hills will increase its rates to make up for the lost sales.

### **Additional Information Available**

For more information about the proposed programs, or the public hearing or technical hearing, contact the Kansas Corporation Commission Office of Public Affairs and Consumer Protection at 1-800-662-0027. Any person requiring special accommodations under the Americans with Disabilities Act needs to give notice to the Commission at least 10 days before the scheduled hearing date.

The Citizens' Utility Ratepayer Board (CURB) can also be contacted 785-271-3200 for further information.