BLACK HILLS CORP /SD/ Form 10-Q November 09, 2009

### UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

	Form 10-Q						
x	QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT T SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934			THE			
OR o	For the quarterly period ended Septembe TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT T SECURITIES			ТНЕ			
	EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the transition period from	to					
	Commission File Number 001-31303						
Incorp	Black Hills (porated in South Dakota 625 Nint Rapid City, South	h Stree	IRS Identification Num t	ber 46-0458824			
	Registrant's telephone	number	(605) 721-1700				
	Former name, former address, and former NO.		year if changed since la	ast report			
the Se	ate by check mark whether the Registrant (ecurities Exchange Act of 1934 during the equired to file such reports), and (2) has be	precedi	ing 12 months (or for suc	ch shorter period that the Registrant			
	Yes x	No	o				
every	ate by check mark whether the Registrant h Interactive Data File required to be submi ding 12 months (or for such shorter period	tted and	d posted pursuant to Rul	e 405 of Regulation S-T during the			
	Yes o	No	o				
	ate by check mark whether the Registrant i maller reporting company (as defined in R	_					
	Large accelerated filer	X	Accelerated filer	0			
	Non-accelerated filer	)		0			

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes o No x

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class Outstanding at October 30, 2009

Common stock, \$1.00 par value 38,866,236 shares

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#### GLOSSARY OF TERMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

The following terms and abbreviations appear in the text of this report and have the definitions described below:

Acquisition Facility Our \$1.0 billion single-draw, senior unsecured facility from which

a

\$383 million draw was used to provide part of the funding for the

**Aquila Transaction** 

AFUDC Allowance for Funds Used During Construction
AOCI Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Aquila Aquila, Inc.

Aquila Transaction Our July 14, 2008 acquisition of Aquila's regulated electric utility

in

Colorado and its regulated gas utilities in Colorado, Kansas,

Nebraska and Iowa

Bbl Barrel

Bcf Billions cubic feet

Befe Billion cubic feet equivalents

BHCRPP Black Hills Corporation Risk Policies and Procedures
BHEP Black Hills Exploration and Production, Inc., a direct,

wholly-owned

subsidiary of Black Hills Non-regulated Holdings

Black Hills Electric Generation Black Hills Electric Generation, LLC, a direct, wholly-owned

subsidiary of Black Hills Non-regulated Holdings

Black Hills Energy The name used to conduct the business activities of Black Hills

Utility

Holdings, including the gas and electric utility properties acquired

from Aquila

Black Hills Non-regulated

**Holdings** 

Black Hills Non-regulated Holdings, LLC, a direct, wholly-owned

subsidiary of the Company that was formerly known as Black

Hills

Energy, Inc.

Black Hills Power, Inc., a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of the

Company

Black Hills Service Company Black Hills Service Company, a direct wholly-owned subsidiary

of

the Company

Black Hills Utility Holdings Black Hills Utility Holdings, Inc., a direct, wholly-owned

subsidiary of

the Company formed to acquire and own the utility properties acquired from Aquila, all which are now doing business as

Black Hills Energy

Black Hills Wyoming, LLC, a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of

Black

Hills Electric Generation

Btu British thermal unit

Cheyenne Light Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company, a direct,

wholly-owned

Cheyenne Light Pension Plan Colorado Electric subsidiary of the Company

The Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company Pension Plan Black Hills Colorado Electric Utility Company, LP, (doing

business as

Black Hills Energy), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Black Hills Utility Holdings, formed to hold the Colorado electric

utility properties acquired from Aquila

Colorado Gas Utility Company, LP, (doing business

as

Black Hills Energy), an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Black Hills Utility Holdings, formed to hold the Colorado gas

utility properties acquired from Aquila

Corporate Credit Facility Our unsecured \$525 million revolving line of credit

CPUC Colorado Public Utilities Commission

Dth Dekatherm. A unit of energy equal to 10 therms or one million

British thermal units (MMBtu)

Enserco Energy Inc., a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Black

Hills

Non-regulated Holdings

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

EPS Earnings per share

FERC Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
GAAP Generally Accepted Accounting Principles

GE Packaged Power, Inc.

GHG Greenhouse gases

GSRS Gas Safety and Reliability Surcharge
Hastings Hastings Funds Management Ltd

IIF BH Investment LLC, a subsidiary of an investment entity

advised by

JPMorgan Asset Management

Iowa Gas Black Hills Iowa Gas Utility Company, LLC, (doing business as

Black Hills Energy), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Black Hills Utility Holdings, formed to hold the Iowa gas

utility properties acquired from Aquila

IPP Independent Power Production

IPP Transaction Our July 11, 2008 sale of seven of our IPP plants to affiliates of

Hastings and IIF

IUB Iowa Utilities Board

Kansas Gas Utility Company, LLC, (doing business

as

Black Hills Energy), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Black Hills Utility Holdings, formed to hold the Kansas gas

utility properties acquired from Aquila

KCC Kansas Corporation Commission
LIBOR London Interbank Offered Rate
LOE Lease Operating Expense
Mcf One thousand cubic feet

Mcfe One thousand cubic feet equivalent MDU MDU Resources Group, Inc.

MEAN Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska MMBtu One million British thermal units

MW Megawatt MWh Megawatt-hour

Nebraska Gas Black Hills Nebraska Gas Utility Company, LLC, (doing business

Black Hills Energy), a direct, wholly-owned subsidiary of Black Hills Utility Holdings, formed to hold the Nebraska gas

utility properties acquired from Aquila

NPA Nebraska Public Advocate

**NPSC** Nebraska Public Service Commission **NYMEX** New York Mercantile Exchange **PGA** Purchase Gas Adjustment Power Purchase Agreement **PPA** 

**PSCo** Public Service Company of Colorado South Dakota Public Utilities Commission **SDPUC** 

**SEC** United States Securities and Exchange Commission Silver Sage

Silver Sage Windpower LLC, a subsidiary of Duke Energy

Corporation

Wyoming Public Service Commission **WPSC** 

Wyodak Resources Development Corp., a direct, wholly-owned **WRDC** 

subsidiary of Black Hills Non-regulated Holdings

#### ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

ASC Accounting Standards Codification

ASC 105 ASC 105, "FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the

Hierarchy

of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles – a replacement of

FASB Standard No. 162

ASC 260, "Earnings Per Share"

ASC 715 ASC 715, "Compensation – Retirement Benefits"

ASC 805, "Business Combinations"

ASC 810 ASC 810, "Consolidations"

ASC 810-10-15 ASC 810-10-15, "Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities"

ASC 815 ASC 815, "Derivatives and Hedging"

ASC 820, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures"

ASC 825 ASC 825, "Financial Instruments" ASC 855 ASC 855, "Subsequent Events" ASC 940-325-S99 ASC 940-325-S99, "SEC Materials"

EITF Emerging Issues Task Force

FASB Financial Accounting Standards Board

FSP FASB Staff Position

FSP EITF 03-6-1 FSP EITF 03-6-1, "Determining Whether Instruments Granted in

Share-Based Payment Transactions are Participating Securities"

FSP FAS 107-1 FSP FAS 107-1, "Interim Disclosure About Fair Value of Financial

Instruments"

FSP FAS 132(R)-1 FSP FAS 132(R)-1, "Employer's Disclosures about Pensions and

Other

Postretirement Benefits" (Revised)

FSP FAS 157-4, "Determining Whether a Market is Not Active

and a

Transaction is Not Distressed"

SEC Release No. 33-8995 SEC Release No. 33-8995, "Modernization of Oil and Gas

Reporting"

SFAS Statement of Financial Accounting Standards
SFAS 141(R) SFAS 141(R), "Business Combinations"
SFAS 157 SFAS 157, "Fair Value Measurements"

SFAS 160 SFAS 160, "Non-controlling Interest in Consolidated Financial

Statements – an amendment of ARB No. 51"

SFAS 161 SFAS 161, "Disclosure about Derivative Instruments and Hedging

Activities – an amendment of FASB Statement No. 133"

SFAS 165 SFAS 165, "Subsequent Events"

SFAS 167 SFAS 167, "Amendment to FASB Interpretation No. 46(R)"
SFAS 168 SFAS 168, "FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the

Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles – a

replacement of FASB Standard No. 162"

# BLACK HILLS CORPORATION CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (unaudited)

	ree Months otember 30						Nine Mor September		ded		
	2009		,	2008	1		2009	. \		2008	
			(	in thousan	as, exce	ept po	er share am	iounts)			
Operating revenues	\$ 225,799		\$	291,892		\$	921,090		\$	598,015	
Operating expenses: Fuel and purchased power Operations and	94,120			131,300			467,309			230,643	
maintenance	35,431			34,477			115,226			80,762	
Gain on sale of assets							(25,971	)		_	
Administrative and general Depreciation, depletion and	38,344			40,993			117,817			90,273	
amortization Taxes, other than income	29,824			30,825			92,535			70,999	
taxes Impairment of long-lived	11,171			11,609			34,680			31,590	
assets	_			_			43,301				
	208,890			249,204			844,897			504,267	
Operating income	16,909			42,688			76,193			93,748	
Other income (expense): Interest expense Interest rate swap –	(20,691	)		(16,402	)		(62,930	)		(35,160	)
unrealized (loss) gain	(8,694	)		_			37,775				
Interest income Allowance for funds used during	327			628			1,184			1,427	
construction – equity	2,598			1,390			5,284			2,287	
Other income, net	2,142			171			3,779			573	
	(24,318	)		(14,213	)		(14,908	)		(30,873	)
(Loss) income from continuing operations before equity in earnings of unconsolidated subsidiaries and income											
taxes Equity in earnings of unconsolidated	(7,409	)		28,475			61,285			62,875	
subsidiaries	119 3,437			1,359 (10,312	)		1,368 (16,300	)		3,656 (21,989	)

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Income tax benefit
(expense)

(Loss) income from continuing operations Income from discontinued		(3,853	)		19,522		46,353		44,542	
operations, net of taxes		1,673			145,389		2,439		159,486	
Net (loss) income Net loss attributable to		(2,180	)		164,911		48,792		204,028	
non-controlling interest		_			_		_		(130	)
Net (loss) income available for										
common stock	\$	(2,180	)	\$	164,911	\$	48,792	\$	203,898	
Weighted average common shares outstanding:										
Basic Basic		38,643			38,307		38,584		38,145	
Diluted		38,643			38,425		38,646		38,430	
Earnings (loss) per share: Basic–										
Continuing operations	\$	(0.10	)	\$	0.51	\$	1.20	\$	1.16	
Discontinued operations		0.04	,		3.79		0.06		4.18	
Total	\$	(0.06	)	\$	4.30	\$	1.26	\$	5.34	
Diluted-										
Continuing operations	\$	(0.10)	)	\$	0.51	\$	1.20	\$	1.16	
Discontinued operations		0.04			3.78		0.06		4.15	
Total	\$	(0.06	)	\$	4.29	\$	1.26	\$	5.31	
Dividends declared per										
share of common stock	\$	0.355		\$	0.350	\$	1.065	\$	1.050	
The accompanying notes to	con	densed con	solidate	ed fi	nancial statement	s are	an integral part of	these	condensed	

The accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

# BLACK HILLS CORPORATION CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (unaudited)

	(unaudittu)			
		September 30, 2009	December 31, 2008	September 30, 2008
			ds, except shar	
ASSETS			, 1	,
Current assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents		\$137,681	\$168,491	\$152,457
Restricted cash		6	_	5,514
Short-term investments		_	_	6,310
Receivables, net		208,563	357,404	227,862
Materials, supplies and fuel		99,952	118,021	173,734
Derivative assets		56,951	73,068	84,758
Income tax receivable, net			20,269	
Deferred income taxes		13,221	10,244	
Regulatory assets		12,775	35,390	17,360
Other current assets		31,565	16,380	15,064
Assets of discontinued operations			246	322
		560,714	799,513	683,381
Investments		19,462	22,764	21,911
Property, plant and equipment		2,891,102	2,705,492	2,615,627
Less accumulated depreciation and depletion		(795,378)	(683,332)	(566,191)
		2,095,724	2,022,160	2,049,436
Other assets:				
Goodwill		353,734	359,290	400,959
Intangible assets, net		4,725	4,884	_
Derivative assets		5,438	9,799	1,500
Regulatory assets		120,677	143,705	51,122
Other		7,861	17,774	18,390
		492,435	535,452	471,971
		\$3,168,335	\$3,379,889	\$3,226,699
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS	' EQUITY			
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable		\$184,208	\$288,907	\$234,647
Accrued liabilities		150,042	134,940	140,981
Derivative liabilities		68,634	118,657	62,409
Deferred income taxes			_	592
Accrued income taxes, net		15,734	_	48,360
Regulatory liabilities		30,120	5,203	3,787
Notes payable		350,500	703,800	627,800
Current maturities of long-term debt		32,091	2,078	2,074
Liabilities of discontinued operations			88	124
		831,329	1,253,673	1,120,774
Long-term debt, net of current maturities		719,215	501,252	501,277

Deferred credits and other liabilities:			
Deferred income taxes	228,715	223,607	240,654
Derivative liabilities	27,824	22,025	6,792
Regulatory liabilities	40,168	38,456	37,824
Benefit plan liabilities	135,027	159,034	44,465
Other	123,527	131,306	125,552
	555,261	574,428	455,287
Stockholders' equity:			
Common stock equity –			
Common stock \$1 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized;			
Issued 38,872,925; 38,676,054 and 38,490,315 shares,			
respectively	38,873	38,676	38,490
Additional paid-in capital	588,556	584,582	580,601
Retained earnings	454,907	447,453	561,102
Treasury stock at cost – 7,605; 40,183 and 40,059			
shares, respectively	(197)	(1,392)	(1,419 )
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(19,609 )	(18,783)	(29,545)
Total common stockholders' equity	1,062,530	1,050,536	1,149,229
Non-controlling interest in subsidiaries	_	_	132
Total equity	1,062,530	1,050,536	1,149,361
	\$3,168,335	\$3,379,889	\$3,226,699

The accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

# BLACK HILLS CORPORATION CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2009 2009			
		hous	sands)	
Operating activities:	(111 t	ourids)		
Net income	\$48,792		\$204,028	
Income from discontinued operations, net of taxes	(2,439		(159,486	)
Income from continuing operations	46,353		44,542	
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations				
to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Depreciation, depletion and amortization	92,535		70,999	
Impairment of long-lived assets	43,301			
Derivative fair value adjustments	19,647		(26,853	)
Gain on sale of operating assets	(25,971	)		
Unrealized mark-to-market gain on interest rate swaps	(37,775	)		
Deferred income taxes	5,164		76,546	
Distributed (undistributed) earnings of associated companies	3,424		(1,988	)
Allowance for funds used during construction – equity	(5,284	)	(2,287	)
Other non-cash adjustments	(4,782	)	(4,295	)
Change in operating assets and liabilities:				
Materials, supplies and fuel, net of market adjustments	23,210		(47,382	)
Accounts receivable and other current assets	157,118		111,595	
Accounts payable and other current liabilities	(101,902	)	(118,369	)
Regulatory assets and liabilities	54,272		(30,204	)
Other operating activities	(939	)	(10,403	)
Net cash provided by operating activities of continuing operations	268,371		61,901	
Net cash provided by operating activities of discontinued operations	2,556		18,184	
Net cash provided by operating activities	270,927		80,085	
Investing activities:				
Property, plant and equipment additions	(245,114	)	(219,350	)
Proceeds from sale of business operations	_		835,316	
Proceeds from sale of ownership interest in plants	84,661		_	
Payment for acquisition of net assets, net of cash acquired	_		(937,606	)
Working capital adjustment of purchase price allocation on Aquila assets	7,098			
Purchase of short-term investments	_		(6,525	)
Other investing activities	1,933		(698	)
Net cash used in investing activities of continuing operations	(151,422	)	(328,863	)
Net cash used in investing activities of discontinued operations			(28,966	)
Net cash used in investing activities	(151,422	)	(357,829	)
Financing activities:				
Dividends paid	(41,338	)	(40,189	)
Common stock issued	2,338		2,611	
(Decrease) increase in short-term borrowings, net	(353,300	)	590,800	

Long-term debt – issuances Long-term debt – repayments Other financing activities Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities of continuing operations Net cash used in financing activities of discontinued operations Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	248,500 (2,024 (4,532 (150,356 — (150,356		— (130,276 (72 422,874 (73,928 348,946	) )
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(30,851	)	71,202	
Cash and cash equivalents: Beginning of period End of period	168,532 \$137,681	(a)	81,255 \$152,457	(b)
Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information: Non-cash investing and financing activities- Property, plant and equipment acquired with accrued liabilities Cash paid during the period for-	\$31,202		\$25,549	
Interest (net of amounts capitalized) Income taxes (refunded) paid	\$50,311 \$(23,311	)	\$29,748 \$2,984	

<sup>(</sup>a) Includes less than \$0.1 million of cash included in the assets of discontinued operations.

<sup>(</sup>b) Includes approximately \$4.4 million of cash included in the assets of discontinued operations. The accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements are an integral part of these condensed consolidated financial statements.

#### **BLACK HILLS CORPORATION**

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)
(Reference is made to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in the Company's 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K)

#### (1) MANAGEMENT'S STATEMENT

The condensed consolidated financial statements included herein have been prepared by Black Hills Corporation (the "Company," "us," "we," "our") without audit, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations; however, we believe that the footnotes adequately disclose the information presented. These condensed quarterly financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and the notes thereto, included in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC. These financial statements include consideration of events through November 6, 2009.

Accounting methods historically employed require certain estimates as of interim dates. The information furnished in the accompanying condensed quarterly financial statements reflects all adjustments which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of the September 30, 2009, December 31, 2008 and September 30, 2008 financial information and are of a normal recurring nature. Certain reclassifications have been made to prior period presentations to conform to the current year presentation but have no affect over the results of the prior period numbers. Certain industries in which we operate are highly seasonal and revenues from, and certain expenses for, such operations may fluctuate significantly among quarterly periods. Demand for electricity and natural gas is sensitive to seasonal cooling, heating and industrial load requirements, as well as changes in market price. In particular, the normal peak usage season for gas utilities is November through March and significant earnings variances can be expected between the Gas Utilities segment's peak and off-peak seasons. Due to this seasonal nature, our results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, and our financial condition as of September 30, 2009 and December 31, 2008, are not necessarily indicative of the results of operations and financial condition to be expected as of or for any other period. All earnings per share amounts discussed refer to diluted earnings per share unless otherwise noted.

On July 11, 2008, we completed the sale of seven of our IPP plants. Amounts associated with the IPP plants divested in the IPP Transaction have been reclassified as discontinued operations for the quarter ended September 30, 2008. See Note 19 for additional information.

On July 14, 2008, we completed the acquisition of a regulated electric utility in Colorado and regulated gas utilities in Colorado, Kansas, Nebraska and Iowa from Aquila. Effective as of that date, the assets and liabilities, results of operations, and cash flows of the acquired utilities are included in our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements. See Note 17 for additional information.

#### (2) RECENTLY ADOPTED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

FASB Accounting Standards Codification and the Hierarchy of Generally Accepted Accounting Principles – a replacement of FASB Standard No. 162, ASC 105 (SFAS 168)

On July 1, 2009, the FASB Accounting Standards CodificationTM became the source of authoritative GAAP recognized by the FASB to be applied by non-governmental entities. On the effective date of this Statement, the Codification superseded all then-existing non-SEC accounting and reporting standards. All other non-SEC accounting literature not included or grandfathered in the Codification became non-authoritative. This Statement is effective for financial statements issued for interim and annual periods ending after September 15, 2009.

Following this Statement, the FASB will not issue new standards in the form of Statements, FASB Staff Positions, or Emerging Task Force Abstracts. Instead, it will issue Accounting Standards Updates. The FASB will not consider Accounting Standards Updates as authoritative in their own right. Accounting Standards Updates will serve only to update the Codification, provide background information about the guidance, and provide the basis for conclusions on the change(s) in the Codification.

Business Combinations, ASC 805 (SFAS 141(R))

The ASC for Business Combinations requires an acquiring entity to recognize the assets acquired, the liabilities assumed and any non-controlling interests in the acquiree at the acquisition date be measured at their fair values as of the acquisition date, with limited exceptions. Acquisition-related costs will be expensed in the periods in which the costs are incurred or services are rendered. If income tax liabilities are settled for an amount other than as previously recorded, the adjustment of any remaining liability would affect goodwill. If such liabilities are adjusted subsequent to December 31, 2008, such adjustments will affect expense including income tax expense in the period of adjustment. Costs to issue debt or equity securities shall be accounted for under other applicable GAAP. These requirements apply prospectively to business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2008. Effective January 1, 2009, any impact a business combination will have on our consolidated financial statements will depend on the nature and magnitude of any future acquisitions we consummate and the resolution of certain tax contingencies.

Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures, ASC 820 (SFAS 157 and FSP FAS 157-4)

The ASC for Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures defines fair value, establish a framework for measuring fair value in GAAP and expand disclosures about fair value measurements. This does not expand the application of fair value accounting to any new circumstances, but applies the framework to other applicable GAAP that requires or permits fair value measurement. We apply fair value measurements to certain assets and liabilities, primarily commodity derivatives within our Energy Marketing and Oil and Gas segments, interest rate swap instruments, and other miscellaneous derivatives.

On January 1, 2008, we discontinued our use of a "liquidity reserve" in valuing the total forward positions within our energy marketing portfolio. This impact was accounted for prospectively as a change in accounting estimate and resulted in a \$1.2 million after-tax benefit that was recorded within our unrealized marketing margins. Unrealized margins are presented as a component of Operating revenues on the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Disclosures regarding the level of pricing observability associated with instruments carried at fair value are provided in Note 15.

Consolidation of Non-Controlling Interest, ASC 810 (SFAS 160)

The ASC for Consolidation of Non-Controlling Interest establishes accounting and reporting standards for ownership interests in subsidiaries held by parties other than the parent, the amount of consolidated net income attributable to the parent and to the non-controlling interest, changes in a parent's ownership interest, and the valuation of retained non-controlling equity investments when a subsidiary is deconsolidated. The ASC establishes disclosure requirements that clearly identify and distinguish between the interests of the parent and the interests of the non-controlling owners. These standards and disclosure requirements were effective January 1, 2009.

Non-controlling interest in the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income and Balance Sheets represents the non-affiliated equity investors' interest in Wygen Funding LP, a Variable Interest Entity as defined by ASC 810. In June 2008, we purchased the non-controlling share. Presentation of a non-controlling interest that we held until June 2008 was retrospectively applied as required, and had an immaterial overall effect.

Derivative and Hedging Disclosures, ASC 815 (SFAS 161)

The ASC for Derivative and Hedging Disclosures requires enhanced disclosures about derivative and hedging activities and their affect on an entity's financial position, financial performance and cash flows. ASC 815 encourages, but does not require, disclosures for earlier periods presented for comparative purposes at initial adoption. Required disclosures for periods subsequent to January 1, 2009 are provided in Note 13 and Note 14.

Subsequent Events, ASC 855 (SFAS 165)

The ASC for Subsequent Events establishes general standards of accounting for and disclosures of events that occur after the balance sheet date, but before financial statements are issued or are available to be issued. These standards and disclosures were applied to our financial statements issued after June 15, 2009.

Financial Instruments, ASC 825 (FSP FAS 107-1)

The ASC for Financial Instruments requires public companies to provide more frequent disclosures about the fair value of their financial instruments for interim and annual periods ending after June 15, 2009. These disclosures are included in Note 15.

Earnings Per Share, ASC 260 (FSP EITF 03-6-1)

The ASC for Earnings per share states that unvested share-based payment awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends are "participating securities" as defined and should be included in computing EPS using the two-class method. The two-class method is an earnings allocation method for computing EPS and determines EPS based on dividends declared on common stock and participating securities in any undistributed earnings. As of January 1, 2009, we prepared our current and prior period EPS computation in accordance with the guidance in ASC 260 and there was no impact on our EPS.

#### (3) RECENTLY ISSUED ACCOUNTING STANDARDS

SEC Release No. 33-8995

On December 29, 2008, the SEC issued Release No. 33-8995, amending the existing Regulation S-K and Regulation S-X requirements for reporting the quantity and value of oil and gas reserves to align with current industry practices and technology advances. Key revisions include the ability to include non-traditional resources in reserves, the use of new technology for determining reserves, permitting disclosure of probable and possible reserves, and changes to the pricing used to determine reserves. Companies must use a 12-month average price. The average is calculated using unweighted average of the first-day-of-the-month price for each of the 12 months that make up the reporting period. The amendment is effective for annual reporting periods ending on December 31, 2009, and early adoption is prohibited. We are currently assessing the impact that the adoption will have on our disclosures, operating results, financial position and cash flows.

Consolidation of Variable Interest Entities, ASC 810-10-15 (SFAS 167)

In June 2009, the FASB issued a revision regarding consolidations. The amendment requires a Company to consider whether an entity that is insufficiently capitalized or is not controlled through voting should be consolidated. It will require additional disclosures about the involvement with variable interest entities and any significant changes in risk exposure due to that involvement. This standard is effective for annual periods that begin after November 15, 2009. We are currently assessing the impact that the adoption of this standard will have on our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows.

Compensation – Retirement Benefits, ASC 715 (FSP FAS 132(R)-1)

The ASC for Compensation – Retirement Benefits provides guidance on an employer's disclosures about plan assets in a defined benefit pension or other postretirement plan to provide users of financial statements with an understanding of:

- · How investment allocation decisions are made, including the factors that are pertinent to an understanding of investment policies and strategies;
- · The major categories of plan assets;
- The input and valuation techniques used to measure the fair value of plan assets;
- · The effect of fair value measurements using significant unobservable inputs on changes in plan assets for the period; and
- · Significant concentrations of risk within plan assets.

These disclosures are effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2009.

#### (4) MATERIALS, SUPPLIES AND FUEL

The amounts of materials, supplies and fuel included on the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets, by major classification, are provided as follows (in thousands):

	September 30,	December 31,	September 30,
Major Classification	2009	2008	2008
Materials and supplies	\$31,650	\$32,580	\$32,565
Fuel – Electric Utilities	7,234	10,058	11,497
Natural gas in storage – Gas Utilities Gas and oil held by Energy	29,943	59,529	74,407
Marketing*	31,125	15,854	55,265
Total materials, supplies and fuel	\$99,952	\$118,021	\$173,734

<sup>\*</sup> As of September 30, 2009, December 31, 2008 and September 30, 2008, market adjustments related to natural gas held by Energy Marketing and recorded in inventory were \$(1.3) million, \$(9.4) million and \$(15.1) million, respectively (see Note 13 for further discussion of Energy Marketing trading activities).

Gas and oil inventory held by Energy Marketing primarily consists of gas held in storage. Such gas is being held in inventory to capture the price differential between the time at which it was purchased and a subsequent sales date in the future. Natural gas volumes held as of September 30, 2009, December 31, 2008 and September 30, 2008 include 8.2 Bcf, 3.6 Bcf, and 7.9 Bcf. Crude oil volumes held as of September 30, 2009, December 31, 2008 and September 30, 2008 include 71,000 Bbl, 54,000 Bbl, and 64,000 Bbl, respectively.

Natural gas in storage at our Gas Utilities represents primarily gas purchased for use by our customers. The natural gas in storage fluctuates with the seasonality of our business and the commodity price of natural gas. Although volumes held in storage by us have varied due to season, there has been a notable price decrease during 2009 and 2008. Volumes held as of September 30, 2009, December 31, 2008 and September 30, 2009 include 8.6 Bcf, 7.3 Bcf and 8.6 Bcf, respectively.

#### (5) ALLOWANCE FOR DOUBTFUL ACCOUNTS

Our Accounts receivable represents primarily customer trade accounts at our Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities and counterparty trade accounts at our Energy Marketing segment. This balance fluctuates due to the seasonality of our regulated Gas Utilities and volumes and commodity prices at our Energy Marketing segment. We maintain an allowance for doubtful accounts which reflects our best estimate of potentially uncollectible trade receivables. We regularly review our trade receivables allowances by considering such factors as historical experience, credit-worthiness, the age of the receivable balances and current economic conditions that may affect the ability to pay.

Following is a summary of receivables (in thousands):

September	December	September
30,	31,	30,
2009	2008	2008

Accounts receivable	\$214,065	\$364,155	\$233,939
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	5,502	6,751	6,077
Net accounts receivable	\$208,563	\$357,404	\$227,862

#### (6) NOTES PAYABLE AND LONG-TERM DEBT

#### **Debt Offering**

On May 14, 2009, we issued a \$250 million aggregate principal amount of senior unsecured notes due in 2014 pursuant to a public offering. The notes were priced at par and carry a fixed interest rate of 9%. We received proceeds of \$248.5 million, net of underwriting fees. Proceeds were used to pay down the Acquisition Facility. Deferred financing costs related to the offering of \$2.3 million were capitalized and will be amortized over the life of the debt. Amortization of these deferred financing costs is included in interest expense and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 was approximately \$0.1 million and \$0.2 million, respectively.

#### **Acquisition Facility**

In May 2007, we entered into a senior unsecured \$1 billion Acquisition Facility with ABN AMRO Bank N.V., as administrative agent, and other banks to fund the Aquila Transaction. On July 14, 2008, in conjunction with the completion of the purchase of the Aquila properties, we executed a single draw of \$382.8 million under the Acquisition Facility. The loan was originally scheduled to mature on February 5, 2009. However, on December 18, 2008, we amended the facility to extend the maturity date to December 29, 2009. The Acquisition Facility was repaid in the second quarter of 2009 using: (1) net proceeds from the sale of a 25% ownership interest in the Wygen III plant of \$30.2 million; (2) net proceeds from the \$250 million public debt offering; and (3) \$104.6 million from borrowings under the Corporate Credit Facility. Approximately \$3.6 million of unamortized deferred financing costs were fully expensed in the second quarter of 2009 in conjunction with the repayment of this facility. Therefore, amortization of the deferred financing costs associated with this facility is included in Interest expense on the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income and for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was \$4.8 million.

#### Corporate Credit Facility

Our consolidated net worth was \$1,062.5 million at September 30, 2009, which was approximately \$254.0 million in excess of the net worth we are required to maintain under the Corporate Credit Facility. At September 30, 2009, our long-term debt ratio was 40.4%, our total debt coverage leverage ratio (long-term debt and short-term debt) was 50.9%, and our recourse leverage ratio was approximately 55.2%. Our interest expense coverage ratio for the twelve month period ended September 30, 2009 was 3.7 to 1.0. We were in compliance with our covenants as of September 30, 2009.

#### Enserco Credit Facility

On May 8, 2009, Enserco entered into an agreement for a \$240 million committed credit facility. Societe Generale, Fortis Capital Corp., and BNP Paribas were co-lead arranger banks. On May 27, 2009, Enserco entered into an agreement for an additional \$60 million of commitments under the credit facility with three new participating banks: Calyon, Rabobank and RZB Finance. This credit facility expires on May 7, 2010 and is a borrowing base line of credit, which allows for the issuance of letters of credit and for borrowings. Maximum borrowings under the facility are subject to a sublimit of \$50 million. Borrowings under this facility are available under a base rate option or a Eurodollar option. The base rate option borrowing rate is 2.75% plus the higher of: (i) 0.5% above the Federal Funds Rate, or (ii) the prime rate established by Fortis Bank S.A./N.V. The Eurodollar option borrowing rate is 2.75% plus the higher of the Eurodollar Rate or the reference bank cost of funds.

At September 30, 2009, \$71.7 million of letters of credit were issued and outstanding under this facility and there were no cash borrowings outstanding. Deferred financing costs of \$1.9 million were capitalized and are amortized over the life of the facility. Amortization of these deferred financing costs is included in interest expense and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009 was approximately \$0.1 million and \$0.9 million, respectively.

#### **Industrial Development Revenue Bonds**

Cheyenne Light completed a \$17 million weekly variable rate refunding bond issuance on September 3, 2009. The new issue replaces existing debt and the bond credit support structure from an AMBAC Financial Group insurance policy to a direct-pay letter of credit issued by Wells Fargo Bank. Laramie County, Wyoming was the tax-exempt conduit issuer for this transaction. The bonds were issued in two series: a \$10.0 million series maturing March 1, 2027 and a \$7.0 million series maturing September 1, 2021. The principal amounts and maturity dates did not change from the original financing. The initial variable weekly rate was set at 0.4%. Excluding the letter of credit fees and other issuance costs, the current all-in rate is approximately 2.65%.

#### (7) GUARANTEES

#### Guarantees to GE

We issued two guarantees for up to \$37.9 million each to GE for payment obligations arising from a contract to purchase two LMS100 natural gas turbine generators by Colorado Electric, which will be used in meeting a portion of the capacity and energy needs of our Colorado Electric customers. These are continuing guarantees which terminate upon payment in full of the purchase price to GE. Payments are scheduled based upon estimated construction milestone dates with the final payment due October 27, 2010.

#### Surety Bonds Issued to MEAN

On January 20, 2009, we issued a surety bond for \$9.2 million to MEAN to secure operating performance obligations related to the Wygen I ownership agreement. Black Hills Wyoming and MEAN entered into the ownership agreement when MEAN acquired a 23.5% ownership interest in the Wygen I plant. The surety bond and guarantees expire on December 31, 2009.

#### Enserco

We have guaranteed up to \$7.0 million of the obligations of Enserco under an agency agreement whereby Enserco provides services to structure certain transactions involving the buying, selling, transportation and storage of natural gas on behalf of another energy company. The guarantee expires in July 2010.

#### (8) EARNINGS PER SHARE

Basic earnings per share from continuing operations is computed by dividing income from continuing operations by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations are computed by using all dilutive common shares potentially outstanding during a period. A reconciliation of "Income from continuing operations" and basic and diluted share amounts is as follows (in thousands):

Period ended September 30, 2009	Three Months			Nine Months		
	_		Average	_	Average	
	Income		Shares	Income	Shares	
(Loss) income from continuing						
operations	\$(3,853	)		\$46,353		
Basic earnings Dilutive effect of:	(3,853	)	38,643	46,353	38,584	
Restricted stock	_				60	
Other			_	_	2	
Diluted earnings	\$(3,853	)	38,643	\$46,353	38,646	
Davis day day Cantanahan 20, 2000	Thus	- 1/	a 41a a	NT: 1	\	
Period ended September 30, 2008	Thre	e M	onths Average	Nine I	Months Average	
Period ended September 30, 2008	Thre	e M	onths Average Shares	Nine I	Months Average Shares	
Period ended September 30, 2008  Income from continuing operations		e M	Average		Average	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings	Income	ee M	Average	Income	Average	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings Dilutive effect of:	Income \$19,522	ee M	Average Shares	Income \$44,542	Average Shares	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings Dilutive effect of: Stock options	Income \$19,522	ee Me	Average Shares	Income \$44,542	Average Shares	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings Dilutive effect of: Stock options Estimated contingent shares issuable	Income \$19,522	ee M	Average Shares	Income \$44,542	Average Shares	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings Dilutive effect of: Stock options Estimated contingent shares issuable for prior acquisition	Income \$19,522	ee M	Average Shares  38,307  42	Income \$44,542	Average Shares  38,145  62  132	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings Dilutive effect of: Stock options Estimated contingent shares issuable for prior acquisition Restricted stock	Income \$19,522	ee M	Average Shares  38,307  42  — 72	Income \$44,542	Average Shares  38,145  62  132 70	
Income from continuing operations  Basic earnings Dilutive effect of: Stock options Estimated contingent shares issuable for prior acquisition	Income \$19,522	ee M	Average Shares  38,307  42	Income \$44,542	Average Shares  38,145  62  132	

The following outstanding securities were not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share as their effect would have been anti-dilutive (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2009	2008	2009	2008	
Options to purchase common stock	374	151	484	99	

# (9) OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The following table presents the components of our other comprehensive (loss) income (in thousands):

	Three Mo Septer 2009		
Net (loss) income	\$(2,180	) \$164,911	
Other comprehensive income (loss),			
net of tax: Minimum pansion liability adjustments (not of			
Minimum pension liability adjustments (net of tax of \$(1,999))	3,671	_	
Fair value adjustment on derivatives designated as cash flow hedges			
(net of tax of \$5,670 and \$(14,030),			
respectively)	(10,311	) 25,824	
Reclassification adjustments on cash	(,	, _==,==:	
flow hedges settled and included in			
net income (net of tax of \$(1,948)			
and \$(1,539), respectively)	3,446	2,761	
Unrealized gain on available for sale			
securities (net of tax of \$17 in 2008)	_	(32)	
Comprehensive (loss) income attributable to Black Hills Corporation	\$(5,374	) \$193,464	

		fonths Ended ember 30, 2008	
Net income	\$48,792	\$204,028	
Other comprehensive income (loss),			
net of tax: Minimum pension liability adjustment			
Minimum pension liability adjustment (net of tax of \$(1,999))	3,671		
Fair value adjustment on derivatives	3,071		
designated as cash flow hedges			
(net of tax of \$8,598 and \$6,449,			
respectively)	(15,106	) (11,951	)
Reclassification adjustments on cash flow hedges settled and included in			
net income (net of tax of \$(6,008)			
and \$(3,952), respectively)	10,609	7,071	
Unrealized loss on available for sale			
securities (net of tax of \$58)		(157	)
Total comprehensive income	47,966	198,991	
•			
Comprehensive loss attributable to		(120	,
non-controlling interest	_	(130	)
Comprehensive income attributable to			
Black Hills Corporation	\$47,966	\$198,861	

Balances by classification included within Accumulated other comprehensive loss on the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets are as follows (in thousands):

	September 30, 2009	December 31, 2008	September 30, 2008
Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges Employee benefit plans Amount from equity-method investees Unrealized loss on available-for-sale	\$(9,037 )	\$(4,522	) \$(23,168 )
	(10,456 )	(14,127	) (6,115 )
	(116 )	) (134	) (122 )
securities Total	—	—	(140 )
	\$(19,609 )	) \$(18,783	) \$(29,545 )

#### (10) COMMON STOCK

Other than the following transactions, we had no material changes in our common stock, as reported in Note 10 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

#### **Equity Compensation Plans**

- · We granted 78,136 target performance shares to certain officers and business unit leaders for the January 1, 2009 through December 31, 2011 performance period. Actual shares are not issued until the end of the Performance Plan period (December 31, 2011). Performance shares are awarded based on our total stockholder return over the designated performance period as measured against a selected peer group and can range from 0 to 175% of target. In addition, our stock price must also increase during the performance period. The final value of the performance shares will vary according to the number of shares of common stock that are ultimately granted based upon the actual level of attainment of the performance criteria. The performance awards are paid 50% in the form of cash and 50% in shares of common stock. The grant date fair value was \$29.20 per share.
- · We issued 47,331 shares of common stock under the 2008 short-term incentive compensation plan during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Pre-tax compensation cost related to the award was approximately \$1.6 million, which was accrued for in 2008.
- · We granted 84,376 restricted common shares during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. The pre-tax compensation cost related to the awards of restricted stock and restricted stock units of approximately \$2.3 million will be recognized over the three-year vesting period.
- · 5,000 stock options were exercised during the nine months ended September 30, 2009 at a weighted-average exercise price of \$24.06 per share providing \$0.1 million of proceeds to the Company.

Total compensation expense recognized for all equity compensation plans for the three months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 was \$1.1 million and \$0.3 million, respectively, and for the nine months ended September 30, 2009 and 2008 was \$2.9 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

As of September 30, 2009, total unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested stock awards was \$5.8 million and is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.0 years.

#### Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan

We have a Dividend Reinvestment and Stock Purchase Plan under which stockholders may purchase additional shares of common stock through dividend reinvestment and/or optional cash payments at 100% of the recent average market price. We have the option of issuing new shares or purchasing the shares on the open market. We issued 111,753 new shares at a weighted-average price of \$20.91 during the nine months ended September 30, 2009. At September 30, 2009, 327,562 shares of unissued common stock were available for future offering under the Plan.

#### **Dividend Restrictions**

Due to our holding company structure, substantially all of our operating cash flows are provided by dividends paid or distributions made by our subsidiaries. The cash to pay dividends to our shareholders is derived from these cash flows. As a result, certain statutory limitations or regulatory or financing agreements could affect the levels of distributions allowed to be made by our subsidiaries.

Our utility subsidiaries are generally limited to the amount of dividends allowed by state regulatory authorities to be paid to us as a utility holding company and also may have further restrictions under the Federal Power Act. As of September 30, 2009, the restricted net assets at our Electric and Gas Utilities were approximately \$79.2 million.

In August 2009, one of the covenants to the Enserco Credit Facility was amended to temporarily increase the allowable rolling twelve month Net Cumulative Loss as calculated on a Non-GAAP basis and temporarily restrict all dividends or loans to the Company. In addition to the borrowing base structure which requires Enserco to maintain certain levels of tangible net worth and net working capital, 100% of Enserco's net assets are now restricted. The Company expects this to be the case through November 30, 2009. Therefore, upon review of these covenants at September 30, 2009, restricted net assets at Enserco total \$214.3 million for this stand-alone Enserco Credit Facility.

#### (11) EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS

We have three non-contributory defined benefit pension plans ("Plans") and three Postretirement Healthcare Plans ("Healthcare Plans"). One Plan covers employees of the following subsidiaries who meet certain eligibility requirements: Black Hills Service Company, Black Hills Power, WRDC and BHEP. The second Plan covers employees of our subsidiary, Cheyenne Light, who meet certain eligibility requirements. The third Plan covers employees of the Black Hills Energy utilities who meet certain eligibility requirements.

#### **Defined Benefit Pension Plans**

In July 2009, the Board of Directors approved a resolution to freeze two of our Defined Benefit Pension Plans to new participants and to transfer certain existing participants to an age and service based defined contribution plan, effective January 1, 2010. The first plan covers employees of Black Hills Service Company, Black Hills Power, WRDC and BHEP and the second plan covers employees of Black Hills Energy. Plan assets and obligations were revalued July 31, 2009 in conjunction with the curtailment of these plans and we recognized a pre-tax curtailment expense of approximately \$0.3 million in the three months ended September 30, 2009.

The following table sets forth the projected benefit obligation as of December 31, 2008 and July 31, 2009. The July 31, 2009 projected benefit obligation reflects the curtailment of the two plans and includes the Cheyenne Light pension plan projected benefit obligation as of its December 31, 2008 measurement date:

Defined
Benefit
Belletit
Pension
Plans
at July 31,
2009
(in
thousands)

#### Change in benefit obligation:

Projected benefit obligation at	
December 31, 2008	\$242,545
Service cost	4,743
Interest cost	8,713
Actuarial loss	453
Amendments	20
Benefits paid	(5,159)
Benefits curtailed	(8,033)
Change in discount rate	(1,613 )
Net increase (decrease)	(876)
Projected benefit obligation at	
July 31, 2009	\$241,669

The components of net periodic benefit cost for the three Plans are as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ende September 30,		
	2009	2008	2009	2008	
Service cost	\$1,877	\$1,547	\$5,736	\$3,055	
Interest cost	3,679	3,165	11,036	5,625	
Expected return on plan assets	(3,638	) (3,644	) (10,553	) (6,790	)
Prior service cost	25	41	108	123	
Net loss	637		2,140		
Curtailment expense	320	_	320	_	
Net periodic benefit cost	\$2,900	\$1,109	\$8,787	\$2,013	

We made a \$0.5 million contribution to the Plans in the first quarter of 2009, a \$3.9 million contribution to the Plans in the second quarter of 2009, and a \$12.5 million contribution to the Plans during the third quarter of 2009. There are no additional contributions anticipated to be made to the Plans for 2009. We anticipate additional contributions totaling approximately \$7.7 million in 2010.

Non-pension Defined Benefit Postretirement Healthcare Plans

Employees who are participants in our Healthcare Plans and who meet certain eligibility requirements are entitled to certain postretirement healthcare benefits.

The components of net periodic benefit cost for the Healthcare Plans are as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ende September 30,		
	2009	2008	2009	2008	
Service cost	\$260	\$226	\$780	\$476	
Interest cost	542	503	1,626	937	
Expected return on plan assets	(56	) (43	) (168	) (43	)
Prior service benefit	(22	) —	(66	) —	
Net transition obligation	15	15	45	45	
Net gain	(8	) (20	) (24	) (60	)
Net periodic benefit cost	\$731	\$681	\$2,193	\$1,355	

We anticipate that we will make aggregate contributions to the Healthcare Plans for the 2009 and 2010 fiscal years of approximately \$2.8 million and \$3.0 million, respectively. The contributions are expected to be made in the form of benefits payments.

It has been determined that our post-65 retiree prescription drug plans are actuarially equivalent and qualify for the Medicare Part D subsidy. The decrease in net periodic postretirement benefit cost due to the subsidy was approximately \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2009.

#### Supplemental Non-qualified Defined Benefit Plans

Additionally, we have various supplemental retirement plans for key executives ("Supplemental Plans"). The Supplemental Plans are non-qualified defined benefit plans.

The components of net periodic benefit cost for the Supplemental Plans are as follows (in thousands):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ende September 30,	
	2009	2008	2009	2008
Service cost	\$117	\$112	\$351	\$336
Interest cost	344	311	1,032	933
Prior service cost	1	3	3	9
Net loss	147	142	441	426
Net periodic benefit cost	\$609	\$568	\$1,827	\$1,704

We anticipate that we will make aggregate contributions to the Supplemental Plans for the 2009 fiscal year of approximately \$1.0 million. The contributions are expected to be made in the form of benefit payments.

# (12) SUMMARY OF INFORMATION RELATING TO SEGMENTS OF OUR BUSINESS

Our reportable segments are based on our method of internal reporting, which generally segregates the strategic business groups due to differences in products, services and regulation. As of September 30, 2009, substantially all of our operations and assets are located within the United States.

The Utilities Group includes two reportable segments: Electric Utilities and Gas Utilities. We manage our electric and gas utility businesses predominantly by state; however, because our electric utilities and our gas utilities have similar economic characteristics, we aggregate our electric (and combination) utility businesses in the Electric Utilities reporting segment and our gas utility businesses in the Gas Utilities reporting segment. Electric Utilities include the operating results of the regulated electric utility operations of Black Hills Power and Colorado Electric, and the regulated electric and natural gas utility operations of Cheyenne Light. The natural gas operations within our combination utility, Cheyenne Light, have historically provided relatively stable gross margins and overall financial results. Periodic variances are therefore rarely expected to significantly impact the operating results for the Electric Utilities segment. Presentation of prior periods has been adjusted to reflect the combination of Black Hills Power and Cheyenne Light within the Electric Utilities segment. Gas Utilities, acquired on July 14, 2008, consists of the operating results of the regulated natural gas utility operations of Colorado Gas, Iowa Gas, Kansas Gas, and Nebraska Gas.

We conduct our operations through the following six reportable segments:

#### Utilities Group -

- · Electric Utilities, which supplies electric utility service to areas in South Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado and Montana and natural gas utility service to Cheyenne, Wyoming and vicinity; and
- $\cdot$  Gas Utilities, which supplies natural gas utility service in Colorado, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska.

Non-regulated Energy Group -

- · Oil and Gas, which produces, explores and operates oil and natural gas interests located in the Rocky Mountain region and other states;
- · Power Generation, which produces and sells power and capacity to wholesale customers from power plants located in Wyoming and Idaho. Our Power Generation segment has also entered into a 20-year PPA to supply Colorado Electric with 200 MW of capacity and energy from power plants to be constructed in Colorado and which are expected to be placed into service by December 31, 2011;
- $\cdot$  Coal Mining, which engages in the mining and sale of coal from our mine near Gillette, Wyoming; and
- · Energy Marketing, which markets natural gas, crude oil and related services primarily in the western and central regions of the United States and Canada.

Segment information follows the same accounting policies as described in Note 1 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements in our 2008 Annual Report on Form 10-K. In accordance with accounting standards for regulated operations, intercompany fuel sales to the regulated utilities are not eliminated.

Segment information included in the accompanying Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income and Balance Sheets is as follows (in thousands):

Three Months Ended September 30,