



## Public Utilities Commission

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## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release

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### **PUC TO TAKE PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEED FOR ADDITIONAL BLACK HILLS GENERATION UNIT**

DENVER – The Colorado Public Utilities Commission (PUC) will take public comment on Wednesday, Sept. 14, in Pueblo on a request by Black Hills Energy/Colorado Electric to construct an additional natural gas-fired unit at its Pueblo Airport Generating Station. The public hearing will start at 6 p.m. in the Pueblo County Conference Room, 1001 North Santa Fe Avenue.

Last December, the PUC approved Black Hills' plan under the Clean Air Clean Jobs Act to retire the company's two coal generation units in Canon City. However, the PUC deferred specific details of the replacement generation, including cost estimates and need for the full capacity of the third unit at the airport, to the current request for a Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (CPCN) for the project.

As part of its request, Black Hills also is seeking to retire two steam turbine units in Pueblo. The replacement gas unit, projected to be in service by the end of 2013, would provide an additional 88 megawatts of capacity for Black Hills.

Customers who wish to submit written comments about the proposal may send them to the PUC, 1560 Broadway, Suite 250, Denver, CO 80202, Attn: Docket No. 11A-226E; or file them on-line at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/puc/consumerassistance.htm>.

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