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BLACK HILLS CORP /SD/ Form 8-K December 21, 2016

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

FORM 8-K

CURRENT REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) December 15, 2016

Commission Registrant; State of Incorporation I.R.S. Employer File Number Address; and Telephone Number Identification No.

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION

(A South Dakota Corporation)

001-31303 625 Ninth Street

46-0458824

Rapid City, South Dakota 57701 Telephone 605.721.1700

Check the appropriate box below if the Form 8-K filing is intended to simultaneously satisfy the filing obligation of the registrant under any of the following provisions (see General Instruction A.2. below):

- o Written communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)
- o Soliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))
- o Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

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Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

Black Hills Corporation (the "Company") regrets to report the death of one of its directors, Gary L. Pechota, who passed away unexpectedly on December 15, 2016. Mr. Pechota served on the Company's Board of Directors since 2007. He also served on the Audit Committee and the Governance Committee.

The press release is attached as Exhibit 99 to this Form 8-K.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

- (a) Exhibits
- 99 Press release dated December 15, 2016.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION, Registrant

By:/s/ Brian G. Iverson Brian G. Iverson Senior Vice President and General Counsel

Date:December 21, 2016

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