| SEC Form 4 |  |
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#### FORM 4

## UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

|  | Check this box if no longer subject to<br>Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5<br>obligations may continue. See<br>Instruction 1(b). |
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### STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

| OMB APPROVAL           |           |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| OMB Number:            | 3235-0287 |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Estimated average bure | den       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| hours per response:    | 0.5       |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person* |         |           | 2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol<br>BLACK HILLS CORP /SD/ [ BKH ] | 5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer<br>(Check all applicable) |   |                       |  |  |
|--|---------|-----------|--|--|---|-----------------------|--|--|
| <u>HOWARD JOHN R</u>                     |         |           |  | X  | Director                                      | 10% Owner             |  |  |
| (Last) (First) (Middle)<br>PO BOX 1400   |         | (Middle)  | 3. Date of Earliest Transaction (Month/Day/Year)<br>02/27/2004               |  | Officer (give title below)                    | Other (specify below) |  |  |
| ·  |         |           | 4. If Amendment, Date of Original Filed (Month/Day/Year)                     | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing (Check Applicable                      |   |                       |  |  |
| (Street)<br>RAPID CITY                   | SD      | 577011400 |  | Line)  | Form filed by One Re<br>Form filed by More th |                       |  |  |
| (City)                                   | (State) | (Zip)     | -  |  | Person  |                       |  |  |

#### Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 3) | Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 2A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | Code ( | ction | 4. Securities Acquired (A) or<br>Disposed Of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and<br>5) |               |       | 5. Amount of<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned Following<br>Reported | (D) or Indirect | 7. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------|-------|---|---------------|-------|---|-----------------|---|
|                                 |                          |   | Code   | v     | Amount  | (A) or<br>(D) | Price | Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 3 and 4)  |                 | (11311.4)   |

Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

| 1. Title of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 3) | 2.<br>Conversion<br>or Exercise<br>Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security | 3. Transaction<br>Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 3A. Deemed<br>Execution Date,<br>if any<br>(Month/Day/Year) | 4.<br>Transa<br>Code (<br>8) |   | of    |     | 6. Date Exercisable and<br>Expiration Date<br>(Month/Day/Year) |                    | 7. Title and<br>Amount of<br>Securities<br>Underlying<br>Derivative Security<br>(Instr. 3 and 4) |  | 8. Price of<br>Derivative<br>Security<br>(Instr. 5) | 9. Number of<br>derivative<br>Securities<br>Beneficially<br>Owned<br>Following<br>Reported<br>Transaction(s)<br>(Instr. 4) | 10.<br>Ownership<br>Form:<br>Direct (D)<br>or Indirect<br>(I) (Instr. 4) | 11. Nature<br>of Indirect<br>Beneficial<br>Ownership<br>(Instr. 4) |
|---|---|--|---|------------------------------|---|-------|-----|--|--------------------|--|--|---|--|--|--|
|   |   |  |   | Code                         | v | (A)   | (D) | Date<br>Exercisable  | Expiration<br>Date | Title  | Amount<br>or<br>Number<br>of<br>Shares |   |  |  |  |
| Phantom<br>Stock Unit                               | \$0.00 <sup>(1)</sup>   | 02/27/2004                                 |   | A                            |   | 40.85 |     | (2)  | (3)                | Common<br>Stock  | 0.00                                   | \$30.6  | 7,015.32   | Ι  | By Trust   |
| Phantom<br>Stock Unit                               | \$0.00 <sup>(1)</sup>   | 03/01/2004                                 |   | Α                            |   | 71.49 |     | (2)  | (3)                | Common<br>Stock  | 0.00                                   | \$30.42   | 7,086.81   | I  | By Trust   |

Explanation of Responses:

1.1 for 1 Conversion Ratio

2. Derivative Security is exercisable upon retirement under terms of the agreement

3. Derivative Security expires upon retirement under terms of the agreement

# By: Roxann R. Basham, by power of attorney

03/02/2004

\*\* Signature of Reporting Person Date

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

 $\ast$  If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, see Instruction 4 (b)(v).

\*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations See 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, see Instruction 6 for procedure.

Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB Number.