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**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

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**FORM 8-K**

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

**Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) September 18, 2008**

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**BLACK HILLS CORPORATION**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

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**South Dakota**

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation)

**001-31303**

(Commission File Number)

**46-0458824**

(IRS Employer Identification No.)

**625 Ninth Street, PO Box 1400**

**Rapid City, South Dakota**

(Address of principal executive offices)

**57709-1400**

(Zip Code)

**605.721.1700**

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

**Not Applicable**

(Former name or former address, if changed since last report)

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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):

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

**Item 8.01 Other Events**

David R. Emery, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Black Hills Corporation, has submitted a Notice of Option Exercise to the Registrant. The Notice of Option Exercise indicates Mr. Emery has 8,000 options to purchase Black Hills Corporation common stock which expire on July 20, 2009 and 30,000 options that expire on April 25, 2010. The Notice of Option Exercise states that Mr. Emery will exercise the options based on the following criteria: 1) Market Price, then 2) Exercise Date (only if the Market Price is not reached before the Exercise Date) as follows:

| <b>Option Grant Date</b> | <b>Number of Shares to be Exercised</b> | <b>Option Exercise Price</b> | <b>Market Price</b> | <b>Exercise Date: Exercise Options No Later than the Date Indicated Even if the Market Price has not been Reached</b> |
|--------------------------|---|------------------------------|---------------------|---|
| 7/20/99                  | 8,000                                   | \$24.0625                    | \$43.00             | June 10, 2009   |
| 4/25/00                  | 7,500                                   | \$21.8750                    | \$44.00             | March 10, 2010  |
| 4/25/00                  | 7,500                                   | \$21.8750                    | \$45.00             | March 10, 2010  |
| 4/25/00                  | 7,500                                   | \$21.8750                    | \$46.00             | March 10, 2010  |
| 4/25/00                  | 7,500                                   | \$21.8750                    | \$47.00             | March 10, 2010  |

The Notice of Option Exercise indicates Mr. Emery will pay the exercise price by tendering previously acquired shares having an aggregate fair market value at the time of exercise equal to the option price. The proceeds from the exercise of the stock options, net of applicable payroll and income taxes, will be delivered in the form of Black Hills common stock. Consequently, Mr. Emery's current stock ownership of 77,344 shares will increase as a result of the stock option exercise and stock swap.

The actual option exercise will be reported to the Securities and Exchange Commission in accordance with applicable securities laws, rules and regulations. Except as may be required, Black Hills Corporation does not undertake any obligation to update or report any modification, termination, or other activity under Mr. Emery's Notice of Option Exercise or any other notice or plan that may be adopted by its other officers or directors.

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

By: /s/ Anthony S. Cleberg  
Anthony S. Cleberg  
Executive Vice President  
and Chief Financial Officer

Date: September 18, 2008