
**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 13, 2016

Commission
File Number

Registrant; State of Incorporation
Address; and Telephone Number

I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.

001-31303

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION

46-0458824

(A South Dakota Corporation)
625 Ninth Street
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):

- 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))
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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.

On December 13, 2016, Robert P. Otto accepted the Board of Directors appointment to serve as a Director effective January 1, 2017. He was appointed as a Class I Director whose term will be considered for re-election at the 2017 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. The Board of Directors also temporarily increased the size of the Board from 10 to 11 directors to allow a smooth transition for director retirements that are anticipated in the next few years.

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

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits

(d) Exhibits

99 Press release dated December 14, 2016.

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 14, 2016



Black Hills Corp. Names Robert P. Otto to Board of Directors

RAPID CITY, S.D. - Dec. 14, 2016 - Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH) today announced that U.S. Air Force Lt. Gen. Robert P. Otto has been appointed to its board of directors, effective Jan. 1, 2017. His appointment will temporarily increase the size of the board from 10 to 11 directors, to allow a smooth transition for director retirements that are anticipated in the next few years.

Otto has more than 20 years of experience in military leadership roles, most recently as the deputy chief of staff for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance for the Air Force. As the Air Force's senior-most intelligence officer, Otto was directly responsible for policy planning, evaluation, oversight and leadership of Air Force intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance capabilities.

In his previous role as Director of Air Force intelligence, Otto led a 27,000 person enterprise and guided the Air Force intelligence budget, effectively restructuring Air Force airborne intelligence capabilities and advancing intelligence analysis to support world-wide operations. Throughout the course of his distinguished career, Otto has served in several other key leadership roles, including as a squadron, group, wing and agency commander.

David R. Emery, chairman and CEO of Black Hills Corp., said, "We welcome Bob to the board. His vast experience in areas spanning strategic planning, operations, financial management, risk management, cyber security and leadership development will add significant value to Black Hills."

Otto was commissioned in 1982 after graduating from the Air Force Academy. He holds a bachelor's degree in international affairs and American politics, a master's degree in military art and science, and a master's degree in national security strategies. Otto's retirement from the Air Force will be effective Dec. 31, 2016.

Black Hills Corporation

Black Hills Corp. (NYSE: BKH) is a customer focused, growth-oriented utility company with a tradition of improving life with energy and a vision to be the energy partner of choice. Based in Rapid City, South Dakota, the company serves 1.2 million natural gas and electric utility customers in eight states: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. The company also generates wholesale electricity and produces natural gas, oil and coal. More information is available at www.blackhillscorp.com.

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