# CHEYENNE LIGHT, FUEL AND POWER COMPANY BLOCKCHAIN INTERRUPTIBLE SERVICE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Issue date: August 24, 2021

Response deadline: September 7, 2021

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#### Introduction

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 1.3 million natural gas and electric utility customers in eight states: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, South Dakota and Wyoming. More information is available at www.blackhillscorp.com, www.blackhillscorp.com/corporateresponsibility and www.blackhillsenergy.com.

Black Hills Corporation through its wholly owned subsidiary Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company is soliciting proposals from potential Blockchain Interruptible Service ("BCIS") customers. Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company dba Black Hills Energy ("Cheyenne Light") serves over 43,000 electric customers in Cheyenne, Wyoming and the surrounding vicinity.

This document is the RFP and serves as written application to Cheyenne Light for service under its BCIS Tariff. This RFP is for respondents to propose pricing and terms related to taking service under a to be negotiated BCIS agreement. Cheyenne Light desires to enter into one or more BCIS agreement(s) as a result of this RFP. However, Cheyenne Light may require additional information, and Cheyenne Light and the applying customer may, at the sole discretion of either party, cease negotiation of rates and terms and conditions of service under the BCIS Tariff. If the parties agree through negotiations to electric service through the BCIS Tariff, an Agreement will be executed. The electric service under the BCIS Tariff is not applicable to temporary, standby, supplementary, emergency, resale, shared or incidental purposes.

The agreement for service under the BCIS tariff must include:

- 1. Electric service is for new interruptible load expected to be 10,000 kW or greater;
- 2. A term of at least two (2) years;
- 3. Specific pricing for all electricity purchased, with the pricing terms being subject to renegotiation at least every three (3) years;
- 4. Negotiated service interruption provisions (size of interruptible load, notice of planned interruption, duration of interruption, and maximum hours of interruption per year);
- 5. Other requirements as defined in the BCIS tariff (see appendix).

Cheyenne Light will give preference to bids with the highest price, accept high curtailment/interruptible hours and are in desirable locations. The Company will also factor in the bidder's credit quality and the ability for the bidder to transact quickly.

All system upgrade or system interconnection costs will be borne by the respondent. Cheyenne Light will endeavor to provide an estimate to the short-listed bidders of the expected costs to interconnect to its facilities during the screening process and the notice to the short-listed bidders.

All proposals received will be handled confidentially.

## **Bid Submittal**

#### **Proposal Submissions**

Proposals must be submitted in the complete name of the party expecting to execute any resulting BCIS Agreement with Cheyenne Light. The proposal must be executed by a person who is duly authorized to bind the respondent to a contract.

Bidders can submit alternate proposals for price, location, or curtailable hours. However, please submit a complete package for each alternative location proposed. If alternate pricing and/or curtailable hours are proposed from the same location, please submit a new Section 3-Pricing for each proposal.

All proposals submitted in response to this RFP must be received by Cheyenne Light no later than 5:00 pm MDT on the due date at BCIS\_RFP@blackhillscorp.com. To ensure receipt, please send e-mails from a United States service provider.

#### Schedule

Issue RFP	August 24, 2021
RFP Responses due	September 7, 2021
Screening of bids complete	September 30, 2021
Notice to short-listed bidders	September 30, 2021
<b>Execution of BCIS Agreement</b>	October 15, 2021

#### Questions

Cheyenne Light will accept questions via email to BCIS\_RFP@blackhillscorp.com. Cheyenne Light requests that all questions concerning this RFP be submitted in writing at the above address. Answers will be provided through email correspondence to and from this address only. Written questions will be accepted by Cheyenne Light through September 3rd.

#### **Required attachments:**

All bids must include the entity's certificate of good standing and most recent financial statements. If no financial statements exist, the bidder must detail its financial condition or show other means to fund the project. Additionally, please provide details regarding credit support and preference for form of credit support (e.g. letter of credit). Bids without any financial detail regarding the bidder's ability to fund the project or support credit requirements will not be considered.

With each proposal Cheyenne Light will require all parties to sign the Non-disclosure Agreement, contained in Appendix - Non-disclosure Agreement to this RFP. Cheyenne Light will sign and execute the Non-disclosure Agreement upon receipt from each Respondent. Cheyenne Light will use commercially reasonable efforts, in a manner consistent with the Non-disclosure Agreement, to protect any claimed proprietary and confidential information contained in a proposal.

See Bid Form - Section 1 - Bid Checklist

## Bid Form - Section 1 - Bid Checklist

Signed Bid Form - Section 2 - Contact/Company information
Bid Form - Section 3 - Project Specifics
Bid Form - Section 4 - Pricing Proposal
Attached certificate of good standing
Attached financial statements
Completed and Signed Non-Disclosure Agreement

## Bid Form - Section 2 - Company/Contact information

Contact name:
Full legal name of bidding entity:
State of incorporation:
Address:
Phone:
Email:
Signature:

## <u>Bid Form - Section 3 - Project Specifics</u>

Describe the project:
Desired interconnection substation: (please see appendix for list)
Project's physical address:
Project's latitude and longitude:
Project's facility description: (containers or building, etc.)
Froject's facility description. (containers of building, etc.)
Project's desired start date:
Due in all a support and an account to all all and and at about a should be financed as a supplier of the all all and and
Project's expected megawatts of demand at start, schedule of increase over time, and final demand at project completion:
p <b>,</b> p

Project's site preparation: (permitting requirements complete (if applicable), has land been acquired is a lease option preferred?)		
Does the bidding entity current megawatts?	tly have cryptocurrency mining operations? If yes, how many	
<u>Bid l</u>	Form - Section 4 - Pricing Proposal	
•	proposals for fixed price supply. In the tables below please provide the the bidder is willing to pay under a BCIS Agreement. Priority will be placed per of curtailment hours.	
As required in the tariff, the Bidder may propose pricing and	CIS Agreement requires a bid reopener after three years. However, the d terms beyond that time.	
Please complete the table belo be completed in cents per kilov	ow with the proposed bid (add rows or columns as necessary). It should watt hour.	
Term	Total Bid	
Example (Jan-Dec 2022)	\$.0XX/kwh	
Example (Jan-Dec 2023)		
	the project would be willing to be curtailed annually due to uneconomicine Light retains the right to curtail load for system safety and integrity low as necessary.	
XXX hours		
	emium during hours in which power supply cost exceeds the bid price to	

Is the bidder interested in off-peak only energy or tiered pricing during on-peak vs off-peak hours? If so please explain further.
Please indicate any other information related to bid pricing you wish to share with Cheyenne Light for your bid:
Project funding and credit support:
Cheyenne Light will assess the bidders' ability to fund the project and bidders' credit quality. At a minimum, the bidder can expect to post credit support equal to multiple months of the project's electric utility bill. Bidders with less credit history or without excellent credit can expect to provide more credit support.
Please detail proposed project funding: (Is funding secured or in process?)
Please detail your proposed credit support for this bid:

## <u>Appendix</u>

**Appendix - Cheyenne Light BCIS Tariff** 

Appendix - Cheyenne Light Substation Availability

**Appendix - Non-Disclosure Agreement** 

### Appendix - Blockchain Interruptible Service (BCIS) Tariff



Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company d/b/a Black Hills Energy

Wyo. P.S.C. Tariff No. 13

Blockchain Interruptible Service

First Revised Sheet No. 26 Cancels Original Sheet No. 26

## ELECTRIC RATES

#### BLOCKCHAIN INTERRUPTIBLE SERVICE ("BCIS")

#### **APPLICABILITY**

This tariff is applicable to new Customer interruptible load, interconnected with the Company's system, expected to be 10,000 kW or greater. Interruptions will be at the Company's discretion. Each new customer will have entered into a Blockchain Interruptible Service Agreement ("Agreement") with the Company.

#### **ELIGIBILITY**

Customers requesting Blockchain Interruptible Service ("BCIS") will be considered upon written application to the Company. Upon receipt of the customer's written application and such additional information as the Company may require, the Company and the applying customer may, at the sole discretion of either party, commence negotiation of rates and terms and conditions of service under this BCIS tariff. If the parties agree through negotiations to electric service through this BCIS tariff, an Agreement will be executed. The electric service under this tariff is not applicable to temporary, standby, supplementary, emergency, resale, shared or incidental purposes.

#### CONTRACT

As a condition to be eligible for this tariff, the customer is required to enter into an Agreement for service under this tariff. The Agreement shall be filed, with a request for confidentiality protections, with the Public Service Commission of Wyoming ("Commission") prior to the customer being billed under the Agreement.

The Agreement shall be in accordance with the provisions of this BCIS tariff and at a minimum shall include:

- 1. Electric service is for new interruptible load expected to be 10,000 kW or greater;
- 2. A term of at least two (2) years;
- 3. Specific pricing for all electricity purchased, with the pricing terms being subject to renegotiation at least every three (3) years:
- 4. Identification of Customer and Company costs for any required new electric infrastructure;
- 5. Details specifying how service will be interrupted by the Company;
- 6. Negotiated service interruption provisions (size of interruptible load, notice of planned interruption, duration of interruption, and maximum hours of interruption per year);
- 7. BCIS customers that fail to interrupt service as required by the Agreement shall be responsible for all costs incurred by the Company due to such failure;
- 8. A release of liability of the Company for any losses or damages, including consequential damages, caused by or resulting from any interruption of service;

Date Issued: August 12, 2019 By: Jerrad Hammer Effective Date: June 1, 2019 Title: Director – Regulatory and Finance



# Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company d/b/a Black Hills Energy

Wyo. P.S.C. Tariff No. 13

Blockchain Interruptible Service First Revised Sheet No. 27
Cancels Original Sheet No. 27

#### BLOCKCHAIN INTERRUPTIBLE SERVICE ("BCIS") - CONTINUED

- Revenue expected to be received under the Agreement during its term must exceed the anticipated costs to the Company of its performance under the Agreement;
- 10. Terms and conditions of service shall be those contained in the Agreement; and
- Customer shall not be eligible for any discounts or service conditions except as provided for in the Agreement.

#### MONTHLY RATE

All charges for service under this tariff shall be in accordance with the Agreement entered into between the Company and the Customer.

#### POWER COST ADJUSTMENT

Customers receiving service under this tariff shall not participate in the Power Cost Adjustment (PCA) to the extent of service received under this tariff schedule.

#### **PAYMENT**

Net monthly bills are due and payable twenty days from the date of the bill, and after that date the account becomes delinquent. A late payment charge of 1.5% on the undisputed unpaid balance shall apply to delinquent accounts. Discontinuance of service can occur pursuant to the Rules and Regulations, Sheet No. R16.

Date Issued: August 12, 2019 By: Jerrad Hammer Effective Date: June 1, 2019 Title: Director – Regulatory and Finance



# Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company d/b/a Black Hills Energy

Wyo. P.S.C. Tariff No. 13

Blockchain Interruptible Service First Revised Sheet No. 28
Cancels Original Sheet No. 28

#### **BLOCKCHAIN INTERRUPTIBLE SERVICE ("BCIS") - CONTINUED**

#### **COST AND BENEFIT ASSIGNMENT**

The Company assumes all financial and operational risks associated with BCIS, and as such, the costs and benefits to the Company and its other retail customers shall be distributed as follows:

- All BCIS power supply costs and any associated revenues shall be separately identified in the books and
  records of the Company and shall be solely the responsibility of the Company. These costs and
  revenues will be removed from the Company's Power Cost Adjustment ("PCA") calculation. All directly
  assigned power costs and related kWh shall be excluded when determining the annual PCA rate;
- All third party transmission charges attributable to the BCIS customer's electric requirements shall be the
  responsibility of the Company. These costs will be recorded on the Company's books in FERC Account
  565 and removed from the Company's PCA calculation;
- When the BCIS customer is served through use of the Company's local transmission system (115 kV and above) customers will receive a benefit per megawatt hour of energy served under Agreements entered into pursuant to this tariff through the BCIS Transmission Credit component of the BCIS Customer Credit Adjustment Tariff ("BCCA").;
- The Company shall be responsible for corporate overhead expense as is allocated to BCIS customers
  utilizing the then current Cost Allocation Manuals (CAM). These identified expenses will be removed from
  any annual earnings reports and the retail cost of service in any Company rate proceedings. A portion of
  these expenses will be included in the BCIS Corporate Overhead Credit component of the BCCA; and
- In addition, retail electric customers shall receive a customer benefit per megawatt hour of energy served under Agreements entered into pursuant to this tariff through the BCIS Customer Benefit Credit component of the BCCA..

The customer benefits outlined herein and in the BCCA Tariff shall be the exclusive benefits provided to other retail customers as a result of the Company providing BCIS service. Any revenues and expenses associated with BCIS service shall be removed from the Company's normalized earnings reports, rate of return calculations, and the retail cost of service in any Company rate proceedings. Any profits or losses resulting from BCIS service shall inure to and be the responsibility of the Company.

Date Issued: August 12, 2019 By: Jerrad Hammer Effective Date: June 1, 2019 Title: Director – Regulatory and Finance



# Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company d/b/a Black Hills Energy

Wyo. P.S.C. Tariff No. 13

Blockchain Interruptible Service First Revised Sheet No. 29
Cancels Original Sheet No. 29

#### **BLOCKCHAIN INTERRUPTIBLE SERVICE ("BCIS") - CONTINUED**

#### **DEMAND SIDE MANAGEMENT**

Demand Side Management (DSM) Surcharge shall not be applicable to Blockchain Interruptible Service Customers.

#### **RULES AND REGULATIONS**

Service supplied under this schedule is subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the Company's Rules and Regulations on file with the Public Service Commission of Wyoming unless modified by the Agreement.

#### **CREDIT SUPPORT**

The Company may require from the BCIS customer a deposit or other credit support as outlined in the Agreement. The credit support shall not be considered as an advance payment of bills for service to be rendered, but shall be held as security for payment of obligations incurred on behalf of the customer.

## Appendix - Cheyenne Light Substation Availability

Substation	Total Capacity	Reservation for Native Growth	Available BCIS Capacity	Distribution Voltage
Happy Jack	28 MW	5 MW	10 MW	24.9 kV
North Range*	100 MW	83 MW	0 MW	24.9 kV
Hilltop	96 MW	6 MW	30 MW	13.2 kV
Skyline	96 MW	9 MW	35 MW	13.2 kV
Crow Creek	96 MW	8 MW	15 MW	13.2 kV
East Business Park	50 MW	7 MW	30 MW	13.2 kV

<sup>\*</sup>BCIS capacity at North Range could be considered however would require additional analysis.

Note: Capacity listing is the result of arithmetic summation of transformer capacities and does not constitute the results of detailed system analysis. Upgrades such as feeder improvements, service line extensions, multiple metering points, or transmission improvements may be necessary before connecting some or all of this capacity. Prior to connecting any new customer, Black Hills would perform its usual due diligence to identify any system impacts associated with a new customer.

## Appendix - Non-Disclosure Agreement

#### **NON-DISCLOSURE AGREEMENT**

This Non-Disclosure Agreement ("Agreement") is effective as of the	day of	, 2021
("Effective Date"), by and between [INSERT LEGAL NAME OF ENTITY], a [INSERT EN	ITITY TYPE], org	anized under
the laws of the state of [INSERT STATE OF ORGANIZATION] having a place of busing	ess at	("
"), and Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company, a company having a place of be	usiness at 7001	Mt. Rushmore
Rd., Rapid City, SD 57702, and its affiliates and subsidiaries ("Black Hills"). Black Hi	ills and	shall
collectively be referred to as the "Parties".		

#### **RECITALS**

- A. The Parties have expressed a desire to engage in discussions regarding a Blockchain Interruptible Service Agreement (the "Transaction").
- B. In order to explore this relationship, it will be necessary for the Parties to disclose certain Confidential Information (as hereinafter defined) to each other.

#### **AGREEMENT**

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the recitals, the mutual promises and covenants made herein, with the intent to be legally bound hereby, the Parties agree as follows:

1. <u>Confidential Information</u>. As used in this Agreement, the term "Confidential Information" includes all written information, data, correspondence or other tangible materials, and information disclosed orally, electronically or in any other intangible form by one party to the other. Confidential Information shall include all information as described herein, whether or not it is marked Confidential or Proprietary.

Each party shall have the right to determine, in its sole judgment, what information it will provide to the other. Confidential Information shall not include the following:

information which at the time of disclosure by a Party (the "Disclosing Party") is already public
or becomes available to the public through no act or omission of the Party receiving such
information (the "Receiving Party");

- (b) information which was in the Receiving Party's possession prior to receipt from the Disclosing Party;
- (c) information which is lawfully received independently from a third party who, to the Receiving Party's knowledge, is free to disclose such information to the Receiving Party; or
- (d) information which is independently developed by or on behalf of Receiving Party without use of any Confidential Information.

Without the other party's prior written consent, the Parties and their directors, officers, employees, consultants and advisors shall not disclose to any person or entity either the fact that discussions or negotiations are taking place concerning the Transaction between the Parties or any of the terms, conditions or other facts with respect to any such Transaction, including the status thereof.

- 2. <u>Disclosure and Use of Confidential Information</u>. For a period of three (3) years from the Effective Date of this Agreement, the Parties agree:
  - (a) to hold in confidence and not to disclose to any third party the Confidential Information, employing the same degree of care to keep such Confidential Information confidential as it employs with respect to its own information of like importance, but in no event less than reasonable care.
  - (b) not to use the Confidential Information for any purpose other than in connection with the Transaction. The Parties may disclose Confidential Information on a need to know basis to their consultants and advisors and employees who have a need to know such information for purposes of such evaluation, provided that such disclosures are made under confidentiality requirements consistent with those set forth in this Agreement.
  - (c) With respect to Confidential Information jointly generated by the Parties, each Party shall be deemed to be the Receiving Party for purposes of this Section 2.
- 3. Required Disclosure. If compelled by a requirement of a government agency, a court, or by law or discovery to disclose any of the Confidential Information, the party ordered to disclose the information shall make reasonable efforts to resist disclosure and shall notify the other party in writing prior to making any disclosure in order to provide the party whose information may be disclosed a reasonable

opportunity to either waive any objection to such disclosure or request a remedy from the appropriate authority. The Parties will reasonably cooperate with each other in efforts to obtain such a remedy. If the party whose information may be disclosed waives its objections or is unsuccessful in its request for a remedy or fails to make such a request, the party compelled to disclose information will furnish only that portion of the Confidential Information that is legally required.

- 4. Return of Documents. The Parties may elect at any time to terminate further access to Confidential Information. The party in possession of Confidential information agrees to return, or destroy if so requested, any and all Confidential Information as well as any other information disclosed upon request, including all originals, copies or any other form of said material, without retaining any copy or duplicate thereof, and shall promptly destroy any and all translations, notes and other written, printed, computer based or readable or other material or information derived from the Confidential Information, without retaining any copy or duplicate thereof. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the party in possession of Confidential Information will not have an obligation to return or destroy Confidential Information stored in electronic backup systems, provided that such systems are not used to access such Confidential Information and the terms of this Agreement will continue to apply to such Confidential Information stored in electronic backup systems.
- 5. <u>No Further Obligations</u>. Nothing herein shall obligate either party to disclose to or receive from the other party any particular information. Neither of the Parties has an obligation under this Agreement to purchase any service or item from the other party. The Parties shall not be obligated to compensate each other for the use of any information disclosed under this Agreement. acknowledges that Black Hills may explore opportunities similar to the

Transaction with other companies that may be competitors of

- 6. Remedies. The Parties acknowledge that remedies at law may be inadequate to protect against any actual or threatened breach of this Agreement, and, without prejudice to any other rights and remedies otherwise available, the Parties agree to the granting of injunctive relief without proof of actual damages. In the event of litigation relating to this Agreement, if a court of competent jurisdiction determines that this Agreement has been breached, then the party at fault will reimburse the other party for its costs and expenses (including, without limitation, attorneys' fees and expenses) incurred in connection with all such litigation.
- 7. <u>No Other Rights or License.</u> Disclosure of any information under this Agreement shall not be construed as granting, directly or by implication, any license under any United States or foreign patent, patent application or copyright, or any other intellectual proprietary rights; nor shall this Agreement be construed as creating any agency or partnership relationship between the Parties.

- 8. <u>LIMITATION OF LIABILITY</u>. NEITHER PARTY NOR ANY OF ITS RESPECTIVE AFFILIATES AND SUBSIDIARIES SHALL BE LIABLE TO THE OTHER OR ANY THIRD PARTY FOR ANY INDIRECT, INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, SPECIAL, PUNITIVE OR EXEMPLARY DAMAGES RELATED TO OR ARISING OUT OF THIS AGREEMENT EVEN IF THE PARTY HAS BEEN ADVISED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES AND REGARDLESS OF WHAT LEGAL OR EQUITABLE THEORY MAY BE ASSERTED, INCLUDING, WITHOUT LIMITATION, ANY CONTRACT, NEGLIGENCE, BREACH OF WARRANTY OR ANY OTHER LEGAL OR EQUITABLE THEORY.
- 9. <u>Termination</u>. This Agreement may be terminated by either party upon three days prior written notice to the other party; provided, however, that notwithstanding any termination hereof, the Parties obligations under this Agreement shall remain in full force and effect with respect to Confidential Information disclosed prior to such termination for three (3) years after the effective date of such termination.
- 10. Non-Solicitation. During the term of the Agreement, and for a period of two (2) years after the active business relationship ends or is terminated for any reason, each party agrees that it will not directly or indirectly, solicit, hire, or retain for employment or contract services, any current employee of the other party or any employee who has been employed by the other party at any time during the term of the Agreement, and who became known to the hiring party in connection with its consideration of the Transaction. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the hiring party shall not be precluded from hiring any such employee who: (a) initiates discussions regarding such employment without any direct or indirect solicitation by the hiring party; (b) is referred to the hiring party by search firms, employment agencies or other similar entities provided that such entities have not been specifically instructed by the hiring party to solicit the employees of the other party or its affiliates or (c) has been terminated by the other party prior to commencement of employment discussions between the hiring party and such employee.
- Miscellaneous. The Parties represent and warrant that they have the right to disclose the information 11. disclosed under this Agreement for the purpose set forth herein. The Parties shall not disclose any information that is confidential or otherwise restricted by reason of any oral, written or implied agreement or other understanding they have with any third party. This Agreement supersedes all prior agreements, understandings, representations and statements, whether oral or written, between the Parties relating to the subject matter of this Agreement. The terms of this Agreement may not be changed except by subsequent written agreement duly executed by an authorized representative of each of the Parties. This Agreement may not be assigned by either party without the prior written consent of the other party, shall be binding upon the Parties and their successors and permitted assigns, and shall inure to the benefit of and shall be enforceable by the Parties and their successors and permitted assigns. The invalidity in whole or in any part of this Agreement does not affect the validity of the remainder of the Agreement. Notices given under this Agreement shall be in writing and delivered by first class, certified mail to each signatory at the addresses identified herein, unless changed by written notice, with a copy to Black Hills' General Counsel. This Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the state of Wyoming without regard to its conflicts of laws principles. The

venue for any dispute arising hereunder shall be in state or federal courts located within the state of Wyoming. This Agreement may be executed by facsimile and in one or more counterparts, each of which will be deemed to be an original, and all of which when taken together, shall be deemed to constitute one and the same agreement.

The undersigned have caused this Agreement to be o	duly effective as of the date first set forth above.
Cheyenne Light, Fuel and Power Company	
(signature)	(signature)
(name printed)	(name printed)
(title)	(title)
(date)	(date)