BLACK HILLS CORP /SD/ Form SC 13G February 11, 2011

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

SCHEDULE 13G

UNDER THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

ANNUAL FILING

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION
(NAME OF ISSUER)
COMMON STOCK
(TITLE CLASS OF SECURITIES)
092113109
(CUSIP NUMBER)
12/31/2010
(DATE OF EVENT WHICH REQUIRES FILING OF THIS STATEMENT)

CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX TO DESIGNATE THE RULE PURSUANT TO WHICH THIS SCHEDULE IS FILED:

- (X) RULE 13D-1(B) () RULE 13D-1(C) () RULE 13D-1(D)
- *THE REMAINDER OF THIS COVER PAGE SHALL BE FILLED OUT FOR A REPORTING PERSON'S INITIAL FILING ON THIS FORM WITH RESPECT TO THE SUBJECT CLASS OF SECURITIES, AND FOR ANY SUBSEQUENT AMENDMENT CONTAINING INFORMATION WHICH WOULD ALTER THE DISCLOSURES PROVIDED IN A PRIOR COVER PAGE.

THE INFORMATION REQUIRED IN THE REMAINDER OF THIS COVER PAGE SHALL NOT BE DEEMED TO BE "FILED" FOR THE PURPOSE OF SECTION 18 OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 ("ACT") OR OTHERWISE SUBJECT TO THE LIABILITIES OF THAT SECTION OF THE ACT BUT SHALL BE SUBJECT TO ALL OTHER PROVISIONS OF THE ACT (HOWEVER, SEE THE NOTES).

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- 1. NAME OF REPORTING PERSON: STATE STREET CORPORATION I.R.S. IDENTIFICATION NO. OF ABOVE PERSON: 04-2456637
- 2. CHECK THE APPROPRIATE BOX IF A MEMBER OF A GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE A ___

В ___

- 3. SEC USE ONLY
- 4. CITIZENSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION

BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

5. SOLE VOTING POWER

- 0 SHARES
- 6. SHARED VOTING POWER
 - 3,042,230 SHARES
- 7. SOLE DISPOSITIVE POWER
 - 0 SHARES
- 8. SHARED DISPOSITIVE POWER 3,042,230 SHARES
- 9. AGGREGATED AMOUNT BENEFICIALLY OWNED BY EACH REPORTING PERSON 3,042,230 SHARES
- 10. CHECK BOX IF THE AGGREGATE AMOUNT IN ROW (9) EXCLUDES CERTAIN SHARES

NOT APPLICABLE

11. PERCENT OF CLASS REPRESENTED BY AMOUNT IN ROW 9

7.8%

12. TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON

HС

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ITEM 1.

(A) NAME OF ISSUER

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION

(B) ADDRESS OF ISSUER'S PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES

625 9TH STREET P.O. BOX 1400 RAPID CITY SD 57709

ITEM 2.

(A) NAME OF PERSON FILING

> STATE STREET CORPORATION AND ANY OTHER REPORTING PERSON IDENTIFIED ON THE SECOND PART OF THE COVER PAGES HERETO

(B) ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL BUSINESS OFFICE OR, IF NONE, RESIDENCE

STATE STREET FINANCIAL CENTER ONE LINCOLN STREET BOSTON, MA 02111 (FOR ALL REPORTING PERSONS)

- (C) CITIZENSHIP: SEE ITEM 4 (CITIZENSSHIP OR PLACE OF ORGANIZATION) OF COVER PAGES
 - (D) TITLE OF CLASS OF SECURITIES

 COMMON STOCK, \$1.00 PAR VALUE PER SHARE
 - (E) CUSIP NUMBER:

092113109

ITEM 3. IF THIS STATEMENT IS FILED PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-1(B), OR 13D-2(B), OR (C), CHECK WHETHER THE PERSON FILING IS A:

SEE ITEM 12(TYPE OF REPORTING PERSON) OF THE COVER PAGE FOR EACH REPORTING PERSON AND THE TABLE BELOW, WHICH EXPLAINS THE MEANING OF THE TWO LETTER SYMBOLS APPEARING IN ITEM 12 OF THE COVER PAGES.

SYMBOL CATEGORY

BK	BANK AS DI	EFINED IN	SECTION	3(A)(6)	OF THE	ACT.
IC	INSURANCE	COMPANY A	AS DEFINE	D IN SE	CTION 3	(A) (19)
	OF THE ACT	т.				

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IC	INVESTMENT COMPANY REGISTE	
IA	AN INVESTMENT ADVISER IN A 13D-1(B)(1)(II)(E).	ACCORDANCE WITH RULE
EP	AN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLAN C ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 13D-1	
НС	A PARENT HOLDING COMPANY C ACCORDANCE WITH RULE 13D-1	
SA	A SAVINGS ASSOCIATIONS AS OF THE FEDERAL DEPOSIT INS 1813).	
СР	A CHURCH PLAN THAT IS EXCLOF AN INVESTMENT COMPANY UTHE INVESTMENT COMPANY ACT	UNDER SECTION 3(C)(14)OF

ITEM 4. OWNERSHIP

THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN ROWS 5 THROUGH 11 OF THE COVER PAGE HERETO FOR EACH OF THE REPORTING PERSONS IS INCORPORATED HEREIN BY REFERENCE. THE PERCENTAGE AMOUNT SET FORTH IN ROW 11 FOR ALL COVER PAGES FILED HEREWITH IS CALCULATED BASED UPON THE 39,248,927 SHARES OF COMMON STOCK ISSUED AND OUTSTANDING AS REPORTED BY BLACK HILLS CORPORATION IN ITS FORM 10-Q FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.

THIS REPORT IS NOT AN ADMISSION THAT ANY OF THE REPORTING PERSONS IS THE BENEFICIAL OWNER OF ANY SECURITIES COVERED BY THIS REPORT, AND THE REPORTING PERSONS EXPRESSLY DISCLAIM BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF ALL SHARES PURSUANT TO RULE 13D-4, EXCEPT IN THEIR FIDUCIARY CAPACITY UNDER ERISA.

ITEM 5. OWNERSHIP OF FIVE PERCENT OR LESS OF A CLASS

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 6. OWNERSHIP OF MORE THAN FIVE PERCENT ON BEHALF OF ANOTHER PERSON.

NOT APPLICABLE

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ITEM 7. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE SUBSIDIARY WHICH ACQUIRED THE SECURITY BEING REPORTED ON BY THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY OR CONTROL PERSON

SEE EXHIBIT 1 ATTACHED HERETO

ITEM 8. IDENTIFICATION AND CLASSIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF THE GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 9. NOTICE OF DISSOLUTION OF GROUP

NOT APPLICABLE

ITEM 10. CERTIFICATION

BY SIGNING BELOW I CERTIFY THAT, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, THE SECURITIES REFERRED TO ABOVE WERE ACQUIRED AND ARE HELD IN THE ORDINARY COURSE OF BUSINESS AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED AND ARE NOT HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OR WITH THE EFFECT OF CHANGING OR INFLUENCING THE CONTROL OF THE ISSUER OF THE SECURITIES AND WERE NOT ACQUIRED AND ARE NOT HELD IN CONNECTION WITH OR AS A PARTICIPANT IN ANY TRANSACTION HAVING THAT PURPOSE OR EFFECT.

SIGNATURES

AFTER REASONABLE INQUIRY AND TO THE BEST OF HIS KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, EACH OF THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT THE INFORMATION SET FORTH IN THIS STATEMENT IS TRUE, COMPLETE AND CORRECT.

10 FEBRUARY 2011 STATE STREET CORPORATION

> /s/ JAMES J. MALERBA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT, CORPORATE CONTROLLER

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EXHIBIT 1

THE FOLLOWING TABLE LISTS THE IDENTITY AND ITEM 3 CLASSIFICATION OF EACH SUBSIDIARY OF STATE STREET CORPORATION, THE PARENT HOLDING COMPANY, THAT BENEFICIALLY OWNS THE ISSUER'S COMMON STOCK. PLEASE REFER TO ITEM 3 OF THE ATTACHED SCHEDULE 13G FOR A DESCRIPTION OF EACH OF THE TWO-LETTER SYMBOLS REPRESENTING THE ITEM 3 CLASSIFICATION BELOW.

ITEM 3 CLASSIFICATION SUBSIDIARY STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST COMPANY BK SSGA FUNDS MANAGEMENT, INC. ΙA STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS LIMITED ΙA STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS LTD. ΙA STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS AUSTRALIA LIMITED ΙA STATE STREET GLOBAL ADVISORS ASIA LIMITED ΙA

NOTE: ALL OF THE LEGAL ENTITIES ABOVE ARE DIRECT OR INDIRECT SUBSIDIARIES OF STATE STREET CORPORATION.