

STAFF REPORT  
April 23, 2009

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**No. 09SR026 - SDCL 11-6-19 Review to expand a utility substation      ITEM 19**

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GENERAL INFORMATION:

APPLICANT	Black Hills Power
AGENT	Steven Dunn
PROPERTY OWNER	Kevin and Lori Lewis/ Black Hills Power
REQUEST	<b>No. 09SR026 - SDCL 11-6-19 Review to expand a utility substation</b>
EXISTING LEGAL DESCRIPTION	Lots 23 thru 26 with ten foot wide of an adjacent vacated alley of South Boulevard Addition, located in the NW1/4 of Section 12, T1N, R7E, BHM, Rapid City, Pennington County, South Dakota
PARCEL ACREAGE	Approximately 0.636 acres
LOCATION	East side of Fifth Street between Cleveland and Oakland Street
EXISTING ZONING	Low Density Residential District
SURROUNDING ZONING	
North:	Low Density Residential District
South:	Low Density Residential District
East:	Low Density Residential District
West:	Low Density Residential District
PUBLIC UTILITIES	City water and sewer
DATE OF APPLICATION	3/26/2009
REVIEWED BY	Travis Tegethoff / Ted Johnson

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the SDCL 11-6-19 Review to expand a utility substation be continued to the May 7, 2009 Planning Commission meeting.

GENERAL COMMENTS:

The applicant has submitted a SDCL 11-6-19 Review to expand a utility substation located on the east side of Fifth Street between Cleveland Street and Oakland Street. The property is currently zoned Low Density Residential District and a utility substation and single-family residence is currently located on the property.

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South Dakota Codified Law 11-6-19 states that "...whenever any such municipal council has adopted a comprehensive plan, then no street, park, or other public way, ground, place, space, no public building or structure, no public utility, whether publicly or privately owned, if covered by the comprehensive plan or any adopted part thereof, shall be constructed or authorized in the municipality or within its subdivision jurisdiction until and unless the location and extent thereof shall have been submitted to and approved by the Planning Commission". As previously indicated the proposed construction is a public utility requiring that the Planning Commission review and approve the proposed construction.

**STAFF REVIEW:**

Staff has reviewed the South Dakota Codified Law 11-6-19 review and noted the following considerations:

**BUILDING PERMITS:** Staff noted that a building permit must be obtained prior to any construction and a certificate of occupancy obtained prior to occupancy.

**SETBACKS:** The applicant has requested to reduce the front yard setback along 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Cleveland Street from 35 feet to 30 feet to allow proper separation of the utility equipment. Staff noted that the existing and proposed equipment will be buffered from adjacent properties with the proposed landscaping and separated from surrounding residential uses by the 5<sup>th</sup> Street and Cleveland Street right-of-way. As such, staff recommends that an exception be granted to reduce the front yard setback from 35 feet to 30 feet.

**PARKING:**

The applicant has submitted a site plan as part of this application showing four parking spaces, including two van accessible handicap spaces. The minimum standard for this property is two parking spaces, including one handicap space. The submitted site plan meets the minimum requirements of Section 17.50.270 of the Rapid City Municipal Code.

**LANDSCAPING:** The applicant has submitted a landscaping plan showing 32,530 landscape points as part of this application. A minimum of 27,231 landscape points is required. The submitted landscaping plan meets the requirements of Section 17.50.300 of the Rapid City Municipal Code.

**FENCING:**

The applicant is proposing a 7 foot high chain link fence in the front, side and rear yards of the property. As per Section 15.40.040 of the Rapid City Municipal Code, fences and walls may be four feet in height in the front yard and six feet in height in the side and rear yards in the Low Density Residential Zoning District. As such, staff recommends that this item be continued to allow the applicant to obtain a fence height exception or submit a revised plan in compliance with Section 15.40.040 of the Rapid City Municipal Code.

**FIRE PROTECTION:**

Staff recommends that all applicable codes of the International Fire Code be continually met.

**REDLINE COMMENTS:**

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Staff is recommending that prior to Planning Commission approval, all redline comments made on the construction plans must be addressed and resubmitted for review and approval. In addition, the red lined drawings must be returned to the Growth Management Department.