NORTHWESTERN CORP Form 425 November 25, 2005

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): November 23, 2005

BLACK HILLS CORPORATION

South Dakota001-31303(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation)(Commission File Number)

625 Ninth Street, PO Box 1400

 Rapid City, South Dakota

 (Address of principal executive offices)

 Registrant's telephone, including area code:

 605.721.1700

 Not Applicable

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

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):

XWritten communications pursuant to Rule 425 under the Securities Act (17 CFR 230.425)

XSoliciting material pursuant to Rule 14a-12 under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14a-12)

O Pre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 14d-2(b) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.14d-2(b))

OPre-commencement communications pursuant to Rule 13e-4(c) under the Exchange Act (17 CFR 240.13e-4(c))

46-0458824 (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

57709-1400 (Zip Code)

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Item 8.01 Other Events.

On November 23, 2005, Black Hills Corporation issued a press release announcing its proposal to combine with NorthWestern Corporation in a stock-for-stock merger. A copy of the press release is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits.

99.1 Press release dated November 23, 2005.

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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

Date: November 25, 2005

By: MARK T. THIES Name: Mark T. Thies

Title: Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

EXHIBIT INDEX

 Exhibit Number
 Document

 99.1
 Press release dated November 23, 2005.