From: PUC

Sent: Thursday, March 6, 2025 2:40 PM

To: Peggy Hoogestraat **Subject:** HP24-001

Ms. Hoogestraat,

Your message sent to South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners Hanson, Nelson and Fiegen referencing the commission's siting authority is being posted under Comments and Responses in docket HP24-001. This Pipeline Siting Information Guide posted on the commission website home page explains the commission's processing of this type of docket, including proper communication with the commission on an open docket. See excerpts below.

Submit comments... These informal public comments are reviewed and considered by the PUC commissioners and staff. Comments should include the docket number or siting project name, commenter's full name, mailing address, e-mail address and phone number. These comments should be emailed to puc@state.sd.us...

Communicate on record. Verbal communication between a commissioner and a person with an interest in a matter before the commission that does not occur in a public forum or as part of the official record should be avoided. Those who communicate in writing with a commissioner about an open or imminent docket matter should understand that their comments will become part of the official record and subject to review by all parties and the public. Likewise, comments made at a PUC public proceeding or submitted to the commission relative to a docket matter become part of the record, open to review by all parties and the public. Because commissioners have a decision-making role in docket matters, any discussion with a commissioner about an open or imminent docket must take place in an open forum, such as a public meeting, with notice given to all parties.

You will also find a reference to proper communication with commissioners under the Contact PUC tab:

If you have a general inquiry for a commissioner or staff or wish to submit a comment on a PUC docket, send it to PUC@state.sd.us. Do not send docket-related comments directly to commissioners or staff.

As such, it is improper to email commissioners referencing an issue concerning an open docket. Informal public comments such as yours are posted under Comments and Responses in the publicly available docket referenced.

Thank you for your cooperation.

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff PUC.sd.gov