

From: PUC

Sent: Thursday, April 15, 2021 11:37 AM

To: rickbell1206@gmail.com

Subject: EL21-011

Mr. Bell,

As an intervenor or individual with party status in the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission's docket EL21-011, you must refrain from communicating directly with any one or more of the PUC commissioners while this docket is open and being processed. Here is a link to the commission's guidelines on rate dockets, <https://puc.sd.gov/commission/Publication/electricratecasehandout.pdf>. Note the excerpt below.

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.*

If you have questions, please communicate those to the PUC staff in the docket's Service List or via this PUC email address. Any further communications with one or more commissioner must take place via docket filings or during public commission meetings to avoid ex parte communication.

Your email to the commissioners and this response will be posted in the EL21-011 docket.

South Dakota Public Utilities Commission Staff

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