

From: todd chambers [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, December 10, 2022 11:44 AM
To: Nelson, Chris; Fiegen, Kristie; Hanson, Gary (PUC)
Cc: Van Gerpen, Patty; PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] Xcel docket EL22-017

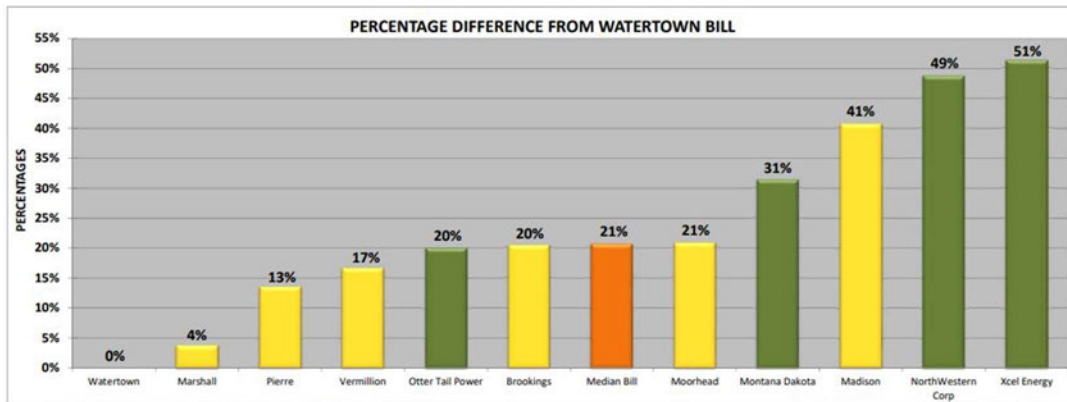
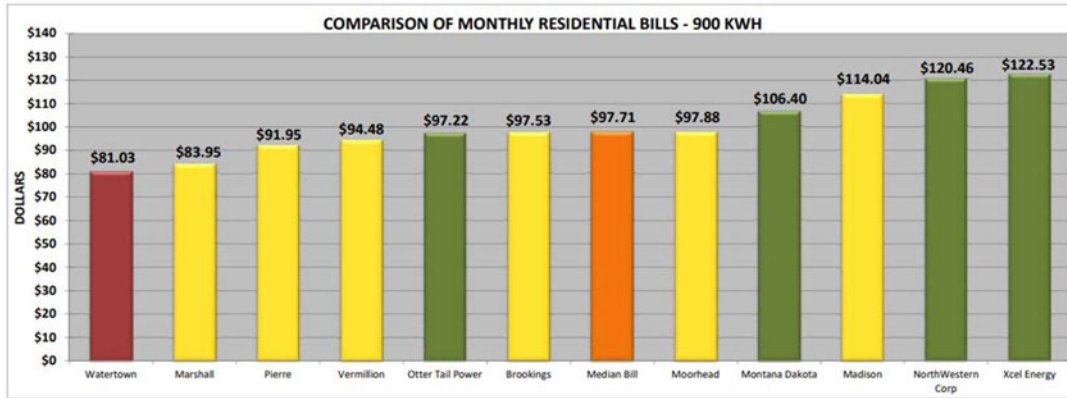
Dear PUC Commissioners

I am writing in concern and opposition to the proposed Xcel Energy rate increase. First of all I have only been an Xcel customer for 3 years, in those 3 years I have been astounded by the cost of electricity provided to my home from Xcel. Previous to becoming an Xcel customer here in Sioux Falls I was a customer of Watertown Municipal Utilities in Northeast South Dakota for 11 years and prior to that I was a customer of Pierre Municipal Utilities for 21 years.

So with that in mind you understand that I have had great electric rates in the past and very reliable service as a standard where customer revenues were kept locally to improve the community and delivery of electricity. When I lived in Watertown my electric bill came combined with gas, water, sewer and garbage charges and was less but nearly equal to what I pay for just electricity from Xcel. My house here is smaller with the same type of equipment I had in both other locations.

Not only have the rates been high for the past 3 years but reliability has been dismal. A most recent outage exceeded 5 hours in duration and since I have been here I would say we have experienced at least 3 outages per year. I live in a new development in the Northwest part of Sioux Falls just off Marion Road. All the lines into the subdivision are new within the last 10 years or so. It's hard to understand these excessive outages and durations.

I have been involved in the electrical industry here in South Dakota for over 30 years and have been deeply involved in setting rates and every other aspect of providing reliable electrical energy and more to customers and can't see any justifiable reason they need to increase their rates. I am also including a recent study of rates among other utilities in South Dakota to better support my stance. It is both below and attached. If Xcel Energy can't provide reliable and efficient service and energy to customers at rates that are already the highest in the state they are doing something wrong that a rate increase will not fix!



September 2022 - Comparison based on current rates, subject to change.

Provided by Missouri River Energy Services

Sincerely,
 Todd R Chambers
 [Redacted]
 Sioux Falls, SD 57107
 [Redacted]