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Xcel Energy Data Request No. 2-2
 Docket No.: EL24-016
 Response To: South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
 Requestor: Eric Paulson
 Date Received: September 17, 2024

Question:

Refer to the response to DR1-8, other than new staff training as mentioned in part b, what other administrative activities caused the administrative spending to increase?

Response:

The Regulatory Affairs budget covers non-direct labor (or non-specific program administration) for such things as onserts and regulatory requirements. No other administrative activities caused the administrative spending to increase. Table 1 below shows the five-year administrative spending for the Regulatory Affairs budget.

Table 1: Regulatory Affairs Budget

Year	Forecast	Actual	% of Spend
2019	\$13,000	\$5,614	43%
2020	\$14,000	\$7,017	50%
2021	\$10,000	\$10,434	104%
2022	\$10,000	\$5,366	54%
2023	\$10,000	\$12,335	123%
AVERAGE	\$11,400	\$8,153	N/A

While spending was higher in 2023 than the average, we see it as an incremental increase from 2021. Spending in 2022 is not a good comparison as it is significantly below the average as a result of staffing deficiencies that were resolved in 2023.

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