

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, October 15, 2025 5:11 PM
To: PUC <PUCPF@state.sd.us>
Subject: Re: [EXT] Docket EL25-024

Dear Commissioners,

As a Sioux Falls resident and Xcel Energy customer, I'm writing because I'm concerned about the proposed rate increase in Docket EL25-024.

Over the past few years, Xcel has already raised rates multiple times in South Dakota. Each increase chips away at household budgets. Add in inflation, rising costs for groceries, housing, gas - many people here are already stretched thin, and a large increase now feels especially hard to absorb.

I understand that utilities need to maintain and upgrade infrastructure. But I believe the burden shouldn't rest mostly on customers. And if data centers and other industries are driving up the demand for energy and in turn costs, they should pay their fair share.

What makes this more frustrating is that Xcel customers in other states such as Minnesota have access to a number of energy-saving rebates and efficiency programs that can help offset rising costs. Without similar opportunities in SD, we're already paying more without these options to lower our bills through conservation or appliance/home upgrades.

I ask the PUC to:

- Require Xcel to show clearly how much of this increase is for essential service reliability.
- Verify that all cost-saving options within the company have been explored and used.
- Deny or substantially reduce the proposed rate increase.

Reliable electricity is essential and not optional, and it should remain as affordable as possible.

Thank you for your time and service, and for considering the impact of this decision on the people of our state.

Sincerely,

Megan Myers

[REDACTED]

Sioux Falls, SD 57103

