

From: PUC
Sent: Wednesday, April 29, 2026 8:46 AM
To: Larsen, Wayne [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Rate increase docket EL25-024

Mr. Larsen:

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns regarding Xcel Energy's proposed rate increase. The full docket, opened on June 30, 2025, is available on the PUC website: [EL25-024](#) - In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates. Your input is an important part of the public process.

To help explain how the PUC evaluates rate increase requests, I encourage you to review the [Electric Rate Increase Request Info Guide](#) on the PUC website. This guide outlines the steps and considerations involved in our review.

You referenced a settlement stipulation recently filed in the docket. This document and supporting material were submitted by the parties including Xcel Energy, PUC staff, and an intervenor, for the Commission's consideration. At an upcoming meeting, the Commission will publicly discuss the settlement stipulation, ask questions, and deliberate based on the evidence presented. Each Commissioner will then vote to approve, deny, or modify the rate increase proposed in the settlement stipulation.

This discussion will be publicly noticed on a Commission meeting agenda that will be posted on the PUC's website. A link to the meeting's live audio stream will be available from the PUC's homepage, [puc.sd.gov](#), the day of the meeting.

It's important to note that the Commission is legally obligated to base its decision on the facts and applicable law and cannot deny a rate increase request without fully vetting the record. We are required to arrive at a reasonable and legally enforceable decision.

Your comments and this response will be posted in the "Comments and Responses" section of the docket. We appreciate your engagement.

*Chris Nelson, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
[Puc.sd.gov](#)*