



Chris Nelson, Chairman  
Kristie Fiegen, Vice Chairperson  
Gary Hanson, Commissioner

*South Dakota*

**PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION**

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March 24, 2026

Concerned Citizens of Whitewood

[REDACTED]  
Whitewood, SD 57793

Dear Concerned Citizens of Whitewood:

The PUC is in receipt of your petition filed pursuant to SDCL 49-34A-12 related to Black Hills Energy's rate increase request. You'll find the full docket, which was opened on February 19, 2026, on the PUC website: [puc.sd.gov](http://puc.sd.gov), Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2026 Electric Dockets, EL26-003 - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Authority to Increase Rates For its Utility Service in South Dakota.

On March 10, 2026, the Commission suspended the imposition of the new rate for 180 days. A public hearing and/or public meeting will be held prior to concluding this rate case.

To help you better understand how the PUC evaluates rate increase requests, I encourage you to review the enclosed Electric Rate Increase Request Info Guide, which is also available on the PUC website. This guide outlines the steps and considerations involved in our review.

Your comments and petition and this response will be posted in the "Comments and Responses" section of the docket. We appreciate your engagement and encourage you to follow the docket as it progresses.

Sincerely,

Chris Nelson  
Chairman

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