

From: dustain pritchard [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, February 20, 2026 4:09 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] DOCKET #EL 26-003

To whom it may concern,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Dustain Pritchard, and I live at 2108 Monte Vista Dr., Rapid City, SD 57702. I am writing to express my strong opposition to **DOCKET #EL 26-003, the** proposed 25% rate increase by Black Hills Power. As it stands, we are already bearing a significant share of the costs, and it is unfair to burden us with additional expenses. The justification for this increase, attributed to new "infrastructure," appears to be more about accommodating new data centers rather than genuinely improving the existing infrastructure for current customers.

Given the frequent power outages we experience each year, any rate increase should first be directed toward updating and improving the existing systems. The existing infrastructure must be brought up to standard before any funds are allocated to new projects.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I trust that our concerns will be taken into consideration. systems. The existing infrastructure must be brought up to standard before any funds are allocated to new projects.

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