

From: EUGENE A RUFF [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, October 6, 2026 12:05 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] Black Hills Energy Cases EL26-003, EL26-024

Hello SD PUC Commission:

I am writing in opposition of Black Hills Energy's EL26-003 and EL26-024 rate increase requests.

Regarding EL26-003:

Black Hills Energy has enjoyed very handsome profits in the last 10-year period.

Below is net income attributable to common shareholders (after all expenses, including taxes)

for Black Hills Corporation for the last 10 years, in **USD millions**

Year	Net Income (USD \$M)
2025	291.6
2024	273.1
2023	262.2
2022	258.4
2021	236.7
2020	228.0
2019	199.0
2018	258.0
2017	177.0
2016	73.0

To request a rate increase when enjoying these kinds of profits seems unwarranted.

Regarding EL26-024:

While the cost of the Lange II Generating Station is \$280 million, the life expectancy of the plant is 20 years. Black Hills Energy is a very profitable corporation, and I believe it is well suited to finance and pay for this project over its lifetime functionality without putting the financial burden of this project on its customers.

I ask the PUC to deny both of these rate increase requests.

Sincerely yours,

Euene Ruff

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Nemo SD 57759

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