

**From:** Heidi Jenkins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, February 20, 2026 3:22 PM  
**To:** PUC <[PUCPF@state.sd.us](mailto:PUCPF@state.sd.us)>  
**Subject:** Re: [EXT] #EL26-003

Docket # EL26-003  
Name of Company proposing increase: Black Hills Energy  
Commenter:  
Heidi Jenkins  
[REDACTED]  
Rapid City SD 57701  
[REDACTED]

Hello PUC,

My name is Heidi Jenkins and I am adamantly against Black Hills Energy raising our electricity rates by 25%. I have had the opportunity to be out of Rapid City for about three years and have returned this last month to the same house I left. I will tell you a few things have changed regarding my electric bill in that time. My highest electric bill 3 years ago was around \$200 in the summer. This was the highest because of my air conditioning. I do not have an electric water heater nor do I have an electric furnace.

My cheapest electric bills have always been in the winter. Because I don't use my air conditioner in the winter and my heat is gas, my electric use is mainly lights, fridge and computer.

This month, January, my electric bill was \$203. My actual electric usage was \$56. There was a \$116 "delivery fee" that was added on. I asked what that was for and was told it was to repair infrastructure damage caused by the wind storm and other natural disasters we've had recently.

I have NO idea how I am going to afford to cool my home in the summer this year. If my cheapest bill is going to be \$200 with minimal drain on the system, imagine what it is going to be when I turn on the air conditioner. I hope the summer will be cool for myself, my family, and everyone who has BHE as their utility provider.

I would like the record to state I am against BHE raising rates. I feel like with the delivery fee being twice what I use in electricity, plus the money they are making for their board and investors, 25% is too much of a rate increase for this area.

Thank you,  
Heidi Jenkins