

From: Jessi Nil [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, September 10, 2026 2:23 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] LIBICER - BH Energy Rate Increase Comment

Good afternoon,

My husband and I own a home in Butte Co., SD and receive electric services for our fully electric (no gas services) home via Black Hills Energy. I write to encourage you to vote down BH Energy's proposed rate increases.

In the majority of our recent bills with the sole exception of the coldest two winter months in the past year, we pay between 50-60% of our bill in base fees, *not* calculated electric charges. There is already a significant cost burden to their base charges and the rate increases would cause the burden of these charges to be even more acutely felt. We chose the location and cost of our home as the best financial option, despite a longer commute to work as a result. These rate changes, as cost of living and commuting has already skyrocketed since we purchased our home a year ago, would create undue hardship and further financial burdens on us. This is especially frustrating and BH Energy continues to report net-positive profits in recent years and appears to be shifting costs onto consumers to further protect their financial gains. As we have no other service providers to consider for our address, this leaves us in a position of being beaten like a pinata for their profits at a time where 60% of homes nation-wide are unable to afford basic necessities due to wildly increasing costs of living.

Please redact personal email, telephone, and address information below.

Thank you for your time,

Jessica Libicer
[REDACTED] Belle Fourche, SD 57717

DOCKET: EL26-003