

From: PUC
Sent: Monday, February 23, 2026 12:50 PM
To: 'Kim Payne' [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXT] DOCKET #EL 26-003

Ms. Payne:

Thank you for taking the time to share your concerns regarding Black Hills Energy's proposed rate increase. You'll find the full docket, which was opened on February 19, 2026, on the PUC website: [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. Your input is an important part of the public process.

The PUC has just begun processing this docket. Black Hills Energy's application will undergo a thorough review, including an analysis of expenses related to and benefiting South Dakota customers.

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

Your comments 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.

*Chris Nelson, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
Puc.sd.gov*