

**From:** Mickey Higgins [REDACTED]

**Sent:** Wednesday, April 8, 2026 2:13 PM

**To:** PUC-PUC <[PUC@state.sd.us](mailto:PUC@state.sd.us)>

**Subject:** [EXT] EL26-003 Rate increase of 25% projected for Black Hills Energy (or what their new name

I am writing reference the rate increase of 25% for BHE. I'm aware that they have been purchased by another company (not sure of the new name). My concern with a 25% increase with no explanation of the increase. Plus, my wages have not increased that much over the year. Since there is no other provider for electrical service, I feel my hands are tied.

I have heard rumors reference the new company that we will be paying additional fees for data centers, that have not been approved by our state.

Thank you for reviewing my request. Please advise the outcome of this issue.

Sincerely,

Michaelette Higgins

[REDACTED]  
Piedmont, SD 57769

[REDACTED]