



Chris Nelson, Chairman
Kristie Fiegen, Vice Chairperson
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South Dakota

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

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March 3, 2026

Sandra Ovitt

[REDACTED]
Rapid City, SD 57703

Dear Ms. Ovitt:

This is in response to your comments submitted to the Public Utilities Commission. The PUC is currently reviewing rate increase requests from Otter Tail Power Company, Xcel Energy and Black Hills Energy. These dockets can be found on the PUC's website, puc.sd.gov:

- EL25-022 - In the Matter of the Application of Otter Tail Power Company for Authority to Increase Its Electric Rates in South Dakota, was opened on June 4, 2025.
- EL25-024 - In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Authority to Increase its Electric Rates, was opened on June 30, 2025.
- 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, was opened on February 19, 2026.

To help you better understand how the PUC evaluates rate increase requests, I encourage you to review the enclosed 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 dockets EL25-022, EL25-024 and EL26-003. We appreciate your engagement and encourage you to follow the dockets they progress.

Sincerely,

Chris Nelson
Chairman

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