

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF	)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO
BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA BLACK	)	AMEND PROCEDURAL
HILLS ENERGY FOR AUTHORITY TO	)	SCHEDULE
INCREASE RATES FOR ITS UTILITY	)	
SERVICE IN SOUTH DAKOTA	)	
	)	
	)	EL26-003
	)	

On February 19, 2026, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application by Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy (BHP) for approval to increase rates for electric service to customers in its South Dakota service territory by approximately \$50.6 million annually or approximately 25.1% based on BHP's test year ending September 30, 2025. The Company states a typical residential electric customer using 650 kWh per month would see an increase of \$25.13 per month. The proposed changes may potentially affect approximately 75,000 customers in BHP's South Dakota service territory.

On February 26, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of April 17, 2026, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filing electronic listserv. On April 8, 2026, the Commission granted intervention to John D. McKee Sr. On May 13, 2026, the Commission granted intervention to Dakota Panel, Fischer Furniture, Inc., Forest Products Distributors, Inc., GCC Dacotah, Inc., Monument Health Rapid City Hospital, Inc., Pete Lien & Sons, Inc., the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority, and Spearfish Forest Products Inc (South Dakota Large Customer Group). On May 21, 2026, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion for Approval of Procedural Schedule. On June 8, 2026, Intervenor John D. McKee Sr. (Mr. McKee) filed a Motion to Adopt Protective Order. On June 16, 2026, BHP filed a Letter regarding Response to McKee's Motion to Adopt Protective Order and on June 17, 2026, Mr. McKee filed a Reply. On June 22, 2026, Staff filed a Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 30, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. Staff requested the Commission grant the Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule. Neither BHP, Mr. McKee, nor South Dakota Large Customer Group objected to the Staff's Motion. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule filed on June 22, 2026. Commissioner Hanson made a motion to Issue Protective Order to adopt the BHP Agreement and deny Mr. McKee's request for Protective Order. Commissioner Nelson moved to amend the motion requiring BHP to craft language regarding the allowance of closed loop AI. The Commission voted 1-2, Commissioners Fiegen and Hanson dissenting, on Commissioner Nelson's motion. Commissioner Hanson moved to defer his original motion to the next meeting. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Motion to Amend Procedural Schedule is granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the procedural schedule is Amended as follows:

Evidentiary Hearing.....December 7-9, 2026

It is further

ORDERED, that responses to discovery are due ten business days after service of discovery unless a different period is agreed upon by the requesting Party and responding Party. It is further

ORDERED, that further consideration of a protective order is deferred to the July 14, 2026, Commission meeting.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 8th day of July 2026.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.

By: Kristie Fiegen

Date: 8 July 2026

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner