

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION
BLACK HILLS POWER, INC. DBA BLACK)	FOR APPROVAL OF
HILLS ENERGY FOR AUTHORITY TO)	PROCEDURAL 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, John D. McKee Sr. was granted intervention. On May 13, 2026, 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., collectively referred to as the South Dakota Large Customer Group, were each granted intervention. On May 11, 2026, Staff filed a Motion for Approval of Procedural Schedule. On May 18, 2026, BHP filed a Response to Staff’s Motion for Procedural Schedule supporting Staff’s proposed schedule conditioned on a request that a BHP witness be permitted to participate and provide testimony virtually. On May 19, 2026, Mr. John D. McKee Sr. filed an Objection to BHP’s Conditional Acceptance of the Procedural Schedule.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-34A and ARSD Chapter 20:10:13.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 19, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. Staff requested the Commission grant the Motion for Approval of Procedural Schedule. Neither BHP or South Dakota Large Customer Group objected to the Staff’s Procedural Schedule, although BHP noted that BHP did not object, conditioned upon the Commission allowing one of its witnesses to appear remotely at the evidentiary hearing. Intervenor John D. McKee Sr. did not appear. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the Motion for Approval of Procedural Schedule filed on May 11, 2026. The Commission did not act on BHP’s request for a witness to participate and provide testimony virtually as the request was not timely filed pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:02.05. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Motion for Approval of Procedural Schedule is granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the procedural schedule is established as follows:

Staff/Intervenor Testimony Due.....October 19, 2026

All Parties' Rebuttal Testimony Due.....November 16, 2026
File Exhibits and Witness List.....December 1, 2026
Prehearing Conference.....December 3, 2026
Evidentiary Hearing.....December 8-10, 2026

It is further

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

ORDERED, that prefiled testimony is prerequisite to the offering of testimony at the evidentiary hearing and all exhibit and witness lists be prefiled in accordance with the procedural schedule.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 21st day of May 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: <u><i>Kristie Fiegen</i></u>
Date: <u>21 May 2026</u>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner