From: James Preston [redacted]
Sent: Thursday, November 5, 2026 2:31 PM
To: PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>
Subject: [EXT] Re: Docket EL26-008.

Dear PUC,

Re: docket EL26-008, I formally object to business dealings behind closed doors. When BHE decides to negotiate favorable rates to an out-of-state company at the same time they are requesting rate increases in South Dakota, something doesn't sit right with me. There are no coincidences in life. Please do right by your constituents and deny these shady deals. Good business does not need to be hiding in the dark. We need full transparency across the board for the public's trust when our rates could be potentially subsidizing or offsetting the preferred rates negotiated between BHE and this NV corporation or, at the least, affected by the consumption this business is requesting (hence, the 300 hrs of annual shutoff...). In effect, BHE is acting like a business broker on a limited resource (energy), that is subject to everyone in the Black Hills as a regulated industry. We cannot allow South Dakotans, particularly those of us in the Black Hills, to be constantly shook down for a private company's profits (specifically, BHE and NV corp). This is an egregious abuse of the laws allowing for regulated monopolies and these deals must not be allowed. And, lastly, it is well documented and reported that cryptocurrency is a giant ponzi scheme. Please read Ben McKenzie's book "Easy Money" or watch his documentary "Everyone is Lying to You for Money" for further excellent analysis of the entire boom/bust market. Do not create more future (unwitting) victims in the Black Hills of a fraud industry.

Sincerely,

James Preston
[redacted] Rapid City, SD 57702[redacted]