

From: PUC
Sent: Monday, September 14, 2026 8:02 AM
To: greg wescott [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: [EXT] Midamerican proposal of increase

Mr. Wescott:

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission received your comments related to docket [NG26-006](#) - In the Matter of the Application of MidAmerican Energy Company for Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates. This docket was opened on Aug. 19, 2026.

Commission staff analysts and legal counsel are currently conducting a comprehensive review of the company's financial data, operational needs, and the potential impact on customers. This includes multiple rounds of discovery, where staff and expert witnesses request and analyze detailed information from the utility.

Once this comprehensive review is complete, the Commission will publicly discuss the case, ask further questions, and deliberate based on the evidence presented. Each commissioner will then vote to approve, deny, or modify the requested rate increase. The decision will be based on the facts. Commissioners act as administrative law judges. Their decision must be supported by evidence and grounded in principles established by statute and case law. The Commission is obligated by law to review all the documents and justification provided by a utility for such a docket to ensure the rates charged are just and reasonable to all parties, ratepayers, and the utility. The Commission must provide the utility with sufficient revenues it needs to furnish adequate, efficient, and reasonable service. Because PUC decisions can be appealed to state circuit court and then to the state supreme court, commissioners take great care to ensure their rulings are accurate and fair. This decision will be made during a public commission meeting, which will be properly noticed and open to all.

To help you better understand how the PUC evaluates rate increase requests, I encourage you to review the [Natural Gas Rate Increase Request Info Guide](#) on the PUC website. This guide outlines the steps and considerations involved in our review.

Your message and this response will be posted under Comments and Responses in the docket. Given your interest, we encourage you to follow along as more information is received and posted in the docket.

*Chris Nelson, Chairman
Public Utilities Commission
Puc.sd.gov*