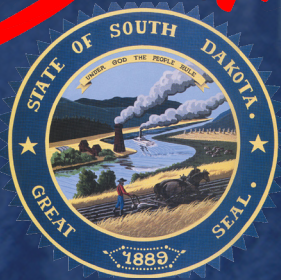


# ANNUAL REPORT

# 2024

*South Dakota*



PUBLIC UTILITIES  
COMMISSION

# Table of Contents

---

|                                       |    |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| ABOUT THE PUC                         | 1  |
| COMMISSIONERS                         | 2  |
| PUC STAFF                             | 5  |
| 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT                 | 7  |
| 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW                   | 8  |
| REGULATED UTILITY COMPANIES           | 26 |
| 2024 DOCKET STATUS REGISTER           | 36 |
| ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS                  | 37 |
| ELECTRIC                              | 37 |
| GAS AND ELECTRIC                      | 40 |
| GRAIN WAREHOUSE                       | 40 |
| HYDROCARBON & CARBON DIOXIDE PIPELINE | 40 |
| NATURAL GAS                           | 40 |
| TELECOMMUNICATIONS                    | 42 |
| REOPENED DOCKETS                      | 46 |

# About the PUC

South Dakota Public Utilities Commissioners are elected statewide to staggered, six-year terms. A dedicated staff of analysts, attorneys, consumer representatives, and other professionals work with the commissioners to carry out the duties of the PUC. The PUC's website, [puc.sd.gov](http://puc.sd.gov), contains a wealth of information including audio webcasts and recordings of meetings and hearings.



## REGULATION

The commission regulates investor-owned electric, natural gas, and telephone utilities. The PUC ensures utility companies in South Dakota provide safe and reliable service and that investor-owned companies do so with just and reasonable rates. The commission has a limited regulatory role with respect to telecommunications companies and cooperative, independent and municipal utilities.

The PUC has authority to issue permits for the construction of energy conversion, AC/DC conversion, wind energy, solar energy and electric transmission facilities, as well as certain pipelines, including those designed to transport coal, gas, liquid hydrocarbon products, carbon dioxide or hydrogen.



## SITING



## OUTREACH

The commission advocates for communications and energy policy at state and federal levels.

The PUC helps resolve disputes between customers and their utilities. The commission operates the South Dakota Do Not Call registry, natural gas pipeline safety program, and licenses and inspects public grain warehouses and grain buyers.



## OTHER DUTIES

## PUC Information Online

In addition to regulatory information, the PUC website carries content specifically designed to inform and assist consumers.

**Don't Know? Don't Answer!** Right from the PUC's homepage, folks can access a plethora of tips and hints about how to avoid falling victim to a phone scam. The best defense? If you don't know the number that's calling you, don't answer the phone! Check it out at [puc.sd.gov/scamcalls](http://puc.sd.gov/scamcalls).

**Life. Uninterrupted.** The site, [SDDoNotCall.com](http://SDDoNotCall.com), dispenses advice about how consumers can add their personal phone numbers to the national Do Not Call Registry to reduce the amount of telemarketing calls they receive. The site also describes how telemarketing companies doing business in South Dakota need to comply with applicable statutes and rules.



# CHAIRPERSON KRISTIE FIEGEN

## ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Kristie was appointed to the commission on Aug. 9, 2011, by Gov. Dennis Daugaard, to fill a vacancy. She was elected to her first, full six-year term in November 2012 and re-elected in November 2018 and 2024.

## COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

- Chairperson: 2017, 2018, 2023, 2024
- Vice Chairperson: 2012, 2015, 2016, 2021, 2022

## EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining the PUC, Kristie was the president of Junior Achievement of South Dakota for 17 years. Kristie's career also includes serving as the South Dakota area manager for the National Multiple Sclerosis Society for nine years and as a sales representative for the Monsanto Company.

Kristie's public service career includes four terms in the South Dakota House of Representatives from 1993 to 2001. While a legislator, she served as chairperson of the House Health and Human Services Committee.

## NATIONAL & REGIONAL ROLES

Kristie's current roles include:

- vice chairperson of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Gas
- member of the NARUC Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety
- member of Southwest Power Pool's Regional State Committee
- chairperson of SPP's Regional Allocation Review Task Force
- chairperson of SPP's Improved Resource Availability Task Force
- chairperson of SPP's Resource and Energy Assurance Leadership team
- member of SPP's RSC Nominating Committee
- member of SPP's Markets+ State Committee
- member of the SPP-RSC Liaison Committee
- chairperson of the Gas Technology Institute's Public Interest Advisory Committee

Past roles include:

- president of SPP's Regional State Committee

## NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Kristie was recognized as the top Junior Achievement USA President in 2008. Under her leadership, participation in Junior Achievement increased from 2,400 to more than 44,000 students annually and her team was named among the top eight franchises in the country nine times.

## EDUCATION

Following her graduation from Parker High School, Kristie attended South Dakota State University and earned a bachelor's degree in commercial economics and agricultural business. She went on to earn a master's degree in business administration from the University of South Dakota.

## LEARN MORE

For additional information about Kristie Fiegen, view her full biography at [puc.sd.gov/kristiefiegen](http://puc.sd.gov/kristiefiegen)



Commissioner Kristie Fiegen, along with Oklahoma Corporation Commissioner Bob Anthony, tours the GTI Research Lab facility in Chicago. The 18-acre facility is home to a combination of specialized labs and equipment for design, testing and analysis of advanced energy technologies.



# VICE CHAIRMAN GARY HANSON

## ELECTIONS

Gary was first elected to the PUC in 2002. South Dakota voters re-elected Gary to continue serving on the PUC in 2008, 2014 and 2020.

## COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

Chairman: 2005, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2019, 2020

Vice Chairman: 2003, 2004, 2007, 2011, 2017, 2018, 2023, 2024

## EXPERIENCE

Gary was twice elected mayor of Sioux Falls and oversaw multiple departmental operations. Prior to serving as mayor, Gary was Sioux Falls' utilities commissioner for six years and was responsible for the day-to-day activities for three municipal utilities. He owned several businesses before being elected to office. Gary served three terms in the South Dakota Senate, was chairman of the committees on Bonding and of Government Audit and Operations, and was vice chairman of the Taxation Committee.



## NATIONAL & REGIONAL ROLES

Gary's current roles include:

- member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Electricity
- member of the NARUC's Electric Vehicle Working Group
- member of the Advisory Council for New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities
- member of the national Low-Income Energy Forum

Past roles include:

- president of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference
- member of the Organization of MISO States' Board of Directors and Committee on Conflict of Interest
- executive committee member and treasurer of the Organization of MISO States
- NARUC representative on the steering committee of the National Wind Coordinating Collaborative
- chairman of the South Dakota Underground Pipeline Task Force
- chairman of the South Dakota Public Assurance Alliance
- member of Gov. Mike Rounds' Task Force on Wind Development
- member of South Dakota's Energy Task Force
- member of Gov. George S. Mickelson's Cumulative Environmental Evaluation of Black Hills Mining Task Force
- president and chairman of the Lewis and Clark Regional Water System
- president of the Sioux Falls Board of Realtors

## NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Gary co-founded the \$650 million Lewis and Clark Regional Water System. In Sioux Falls, he was instrumental in the founding of the Multicultural Center, transformation and revitalization of Falls Park, Community Drug Concerns Task Force, Great Plains Waicipi, and endowments for the Sioux Falls Pavilion and Great Plains Zoo. While Gary was mayor of Sioux Falls, the violent crime rate decreased every year except one for a total decrease of over 35%.

Awards and honors received by Gary include: Distinguished Alumnus of Northern State University, Sioux Falls' City Father of the Year, YMCA Tri-State Hall of Fame, International Lions Club Melvin Jones Fellow, Outstanding Young Citizen of South Dakota, Habitat for Humanity's Hats Off Award, Spirit of Downtown Sioux Falls Award, White Cane Safety Award, Multiple Sclerosis Society Chapter's Mayor of the Year, Children's Care Hospital Wings of Love Award, DAV's Outstanding Legislator Award, and Life Member of Lions Club Sight and Service Foundation.

## LEARN MORE

For additional information about Gary Hanson, view his full biography at [puc.sd.gov/garysbio](http://puc.sd.gov/garysbio)

# COMMISSIONER CHRIS NELSON

## ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

Chris was appointed to the commission by Gov. Dennis Daugaard on Jan. 8, 2011, to fill a vacancy. In November 2012, South Dakota voters elected Chris to continue his service for the remaining four years of the term to which he was appointed. He was re-elected to a full term in November 2016 and November 2022.

## COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

Chairman: 2012, 2015, 2016, 2021

Vice Chairman: 2011, 2013, 2014, 2019, 2020

## EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining the PUC, Chris was elected as South Dakota's secretary of state in the 2002 general election. He was unopposed for re-election in 2006, which was the first time the office was unopposed in the history of South Dakota.

Before serving as secretary of state, Chris held the position of state election supervisor in the secretary of state's office for 13 years and was uniform commercial code supervisor in the same office for two years.

## NATIONAL & REGIONAL ROLES

Chris' current roles include:

- member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' board of directors
- co-chairman of NARUC's Washington Action Program
- member of NARUC's Investment Committee
- chairman of the state members of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
- member of the Organization of MISO States' board of directors, also serving as OMS Treasurer
- member of the Electric Power Research Institute Advisory Council

Past roles include:

- chairman of NARUC's Committee on Telecommunications
- chairman of NARUC's Broadband Expansion Task Force

## NOTABLE ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Chris' re-election in 2016 earned him the honor of garnering the highest electoral percentage ever for a contested statewide race.

As secretary of state, Chris received the 2010 Excellent Service to South Dakota County Officials award from the South Dakota County Officials Association, the 2004 Hazeltine/Taylor award from South Dakota Kids Voting and the 2003 Excellence in South Dakota Municipal Government award from the South Dakota Municipal League.

Under Chris' leadership, the secretary of state's office was awarded the Election Center's 2009 Professional Practices Program State Award. This annual award is given as recognition for the most outstanding election administration professional practice in the nation. The award recognized the 2008 development and implementation of a new central election reporting system for the state.

## EDUCATION

Following graduation from White Lake High School, Chris earned a bachelor's degree in animal science, with highest honors, from South Dakota State University in 1987.

## LEARN MORE

For additional information about Chris Nelson, view his full biography at [puc.sd.gov/chrisnelsonbio](http://puc.sd.gov/chrisnelsonbio)



# ABOUT THE PUC STAFF

*The PUC's staff members perform a variety of duties on behalf of the citizens of South Dakota in support of the commission*

As **executive director, Patricia Van Gerpen** is responsible for the overall management of the PUC staff and day-to-day operations of the agency. She makes docket and project assignments and is the liaison between the commissioners and staff on all issues. Patricia also works directly on a number of legislative, strategic planning and policy initiatives.

**Leah Mohr, deputy executive director**, schedules hearings and various meetings for the commission. She oversees the PUC's websites, outreach materials and news releases, handles media inquiries and coordinates logistics for informational and educational meetings. She supervises the commission's administrative support staff and functions.

**Cindy Kemnitz, finance manager**, is responsible for the commission's fiscal activities including administrative functions related to the gross receipts tax, the regulatory assessment fee fund and the telephone solicitor registry. She prepares and monitors budgets and handles accounting, payroll and purchasing duties. She also prepares the commission's meeting agendas.

**Brittany Olson** serves as the **communications specialist**. She is responsible for the development of educational materials and news releases, and assists with meeting and event coordination, and website management.

**Administrative staff** members perform a variety of support services including handling incoming phone calls and mail, greeting guests, providing support during commission meetings and hearings, and maintaining the docket management system. **Joy Lashley**, records specialist, has primary responsibility for maintaining the PUC electronic docket system as well as each of the websites the commission operates. **Janeth Merriman**, administrative specialist, is on the front line in the front office, assists with commission orders, meeting agendas, minutes, and weekly filing reports and provides backup for online content maintenance.

Advising the commissioners are **Kristen Edwards** as **commission attorney** and **Greg Rislov** as **commission advisor**. Kristen also serves as the PUC's lead legislative liaison, hearing examiner and represents the commission in federal courts and before federal regulatory agencies. Greg provides policy and technical consultation and research support regarding major regulatory issues. He also has a key role in the commission's participation in regional transmission organizations.

**Staff analysts** are responsible for investigating, analyzing, evaluating and presenting testimony regarding issues and policies related to electric, natural gas and telecommunications industries as regulated by the commission. Their educational and professional backgrounds include expertise in math, accounting, economics, and research as well as intensive training in regulatory issues.

**Brittany Mehlhaff, Eric Paulson, Joseph Rezac**, and **Patrick Steffensen** use these skills to focus on quality of service, financial and rate matters as they work to understand and evaluate complex rate structures, earning requirements, and technical issues of various utility organizations. **Darren Kearney** and **Jon Thurber** primarily concentrate on siting dockets, emerging technologies, energy efficiency efforts and regional transmission organization activities. They also engage in outreach activities to consumers, industry representatives and students, and provide other docket analysis as assigned.



**Amanda Reiss, Jennie Fuerst** and **Logan Schaeffbauer** are **staff attorneys** with practical experience in administrative law, trial procedure, and business management principles. They review filings by utilities and represent the staff in proceedings before the commission. They work closely with staff analysts to develop recommendations for policy, rate, siting and enforcement matters. They coordinate the presentation of the staff's case and cross-examine other parties who submit testimony. Jennie also took on the additional role of serving as commission counsel for docket HP24-001, Summit Carbon Solutions' application for a permit to construct a carbon dioxide transmission pipeline.

The **Pipeline Safety Program** is staffed by engineers **Mary Zanter** and **Boice Hillmer** with Mary handling additional duties as program manager. The PUC administers the program on behalf of the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration. Mary and Boice inspect and investigate intrastate natural gas pipelines to ensure the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. They also analyze utility dockets as assigned.

**Cody Chambliss** is the manager of the **Grain Warehouse Program** that works to protect the property of and safeguard payments to grain producers. **Justin Blais, Paul Kenefick-Aschoff** and **Sarah McIntosh** conduct grain warehouse and grain buyer inspections and investigations, and review financial documents. Paul also assists with issuance of warehouse and grain buyer licenses. The warehouse staff also performs check-off audits for various grain commissions and councils.

The **Consumer Affairs Program** works with consumers to answer questions and resolve complaints about the rates and services of regulated utilities. Manager **Deb Gregg** and representatives **Vicky Burns** and **Jason Schuchard** act as liaisons between consumers and utility companies in resolving these issues. This program's staff also coordinates the PUC's presence at home shows and the State Fair and makes group presentations as requested.



Records specialist Joy Lashley and pipeline safety inspector Boice Hillmer were recognized by the commission for their long-time service to the State of South Dakota. Each received a lapel pin marking their 15th year work anniversary with the state. More than 82 percent of the PUC staff have 10 or more years of experience with the agency. The PUC values longevity and institutional knowledge as a significant asset as the agency works to protect South Dakotans.

# 2024 FINANCIAL REPORT

*For the fiscal year ending June 30, 2024*

|                       | BUDGET      | GENERAL FUNDS | FEDERAL FUNDS | OTHER FUNDS | ENCUMBRANCE | BUDGET NOT EXPENDED |
|-----------------------|-------------|---------------|---------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------|
| <b>ADMINISTRATION</b> |             |               |               |             |             |                     |
| PERSONAL SERVICES     | \$1,505,283 | \$428,998     | \$33,683      | \$963,982   | \$0         | \$78,620            |
| OPERATING EXPENSES    | \$215,653   | \$0           | \$0           | \$198,629   | \$0         | \$17,024            |
| TOTAL PROGRAM         | \$1,720,936 | \$428,998     | \$33,683      | \$1,162,611 | \$0         | \$95,644            |

## GRAIN WAREHOUSE

|                    |           |           |     |          |     |          |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----|----------|-----|----------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES  | \$348,832 | \$235,791 | \$0 | \$91,384 | \$0 | \$21,657 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | \$93,887  | \$60,796  | \$0 | \$1,345  | \$0 | \$31,746 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM      | \$442,719 | \$296,587 | \$0 | \$92,729 | \$0 | \$53,403 |

## FIXED UTILITY (INFORMATIONAL BUDGET)

|                    |             |     |       |             |     |           |
|--------------------|-------------|-----|-------|-------------|-----|-----------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES  | \$1,723,017 | \$0 | \$580 | \$1,425,184 | \$0 | \$297,253 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | \$982,473   | \$0 | \$0   | \$699,930   | \$0 | \$282,543 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM      | \$2,705,490 | \$0 | \$580 | \$2,125,114 | \$0 | \$579,796 |

## PIPELINE SAFETY (INFORMATIONAL BUDGET)

|                    |           |     |           |           |     |           |
|--------------------|-----------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----|-----------|
| PERSONAL SERVICES  | \$344,181 | \$0 | \$150,033 | \$103,140 | \$0 | \$91,007  |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | \$104,640 | \$0 | \$28,728  | \$18,757  | \$0 | \$57,155  |
| TOTAL PROGRAM      | \$448,821 | \$0 | \$178,761 | \$121,897 | \$0 | \$148,162 |

## DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

|                    |          |     |     |          |     |     |
|--------------------|----------|-----|-----|----------|-----|-----|
| PERSONAL SERVICES  | \$0      | \$0 | \$0 | \$0      | \$0 | \$0 |
| OPERATING EXPENSES | \$10,111 | \$0 | \$0 | \$10,111 | \$0 | \$0 |
| TOTAL PROGRAM      | \$10,111 | \$0 | \$0 | \$10,111 | \$0 | \$0 |

## GROSS RECEIPTS TAX FUND REVENUES & FEES

|                             |           |                     |             |
|-----------------------------|-----------|---------------------|-------------|
| GRAIN & WAREHOUSE LICENSES* | \$105,947 | GROSS RECEIPTS TAX* | \$1,951,693 |
| CHECK-OFF AUDITS            | \$16,900  | APPLICATION FEES    | \$750       |
| INTEREST EARNED             | \$6,438   | INTEREST EARNED     | \$56,328    |
| TOTAL REVENUE               | \$129,285 | TOTAL REVENUE       | \$2,008,771 |

*\*Includes fines/penalties*


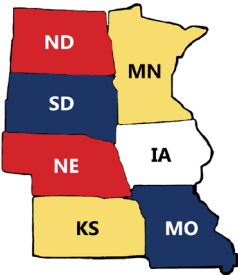

# 2024 YEAR IN REVIEW

*A look back highlighting actions taken by the PUC during the 2024 calendar year.*

## ELECTRIC & NATURAL GAS

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission looks after the interests of South Dakotans as related to electric and natural gas issues. Actions taken and decisions made by the commission strive to ensure reliable service and reasonable rates from investor-owned utilities as well as legal and accurate service territory boundaries for all utilities. The commission follows guidelines prescribed by South Dakota law when siting energy conversion and electric transmission facilities. The components of this priority affect South Dakotans in terms of reliability and cost of their electric and natural gas services.

The PUC uses several measures to gauge the agency's effectiveness at handling these issues. Here is a look at the PUC's electric and natural gas work in 2024.

| AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL<br>UTILITY RATES   | ELECTRIC<br>measurement per kWh |         | NATURAL GAS<br>measurement per thousand cubic feet |  |
|--|---------------------------------|---------|--|--|
|  | 2024                            | 2023*   | 2024   |  |
|  SD South Dakota                          | 13.03 cents                     | \$10.41 | \$9.26   |  |
|  ND MN SD NE IA KS MO West Central Region | 13.52 cents                     | \$13.47 | \$12.28  |  |
|  USA United States                        | 16.48 cents                     | \$15.39 | \$14.59  |  |

\*2023 natural gas data was not available for the 2023 annual report, thus is shown here.

Source: U.S. Energy Information Administration (EIA)



## RATE CHANGES & ADJUSTMENTS

The commission processed several **transmission cost recovery** tariff requests in 2024 with these results:

- In February, the PUC signed off on **Otter Tail Power Co.**'s updated TCR rider rate. The updated rate allows for recovery of nearly \$2.5 million related to five previously approved projects, one new transmission project, the transmission adjustment from rate case EL18-021, and expenses and revenues associated with regional transmission organization schedules. The revenue requirement represents a decrease of approximately \$419,000 compared to the prior period forecasted revenue requirement. The decrease is largely due to the over-collection true-up balance and increased MISO revenues. Otter Tail estimates a residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month will see a monthly bill decrease of approximately \$1.56, or approximately 1.54%. See docket EL23-033.
- In March, the PUC approved **MidAmerican Energy**'s updated TCR rider rate. The updated rates are based on true-ups to the actual over/under recovery in 2023, 2024 forecasted MISO transmission expense and the forecasted over/under recovery from January through March of 2024. The new rate, which went into effect April 1, 2024, resulted in a typical residential customer using 700 kWh per month seeing a \$0.56 per month increase in their monthly bill. See docket EL24-005.
- In April, the commission approved **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.**'s annual update to its TCR rider. As part of MDU's rate case approved in August, the company proposed to move five previously approved projects to base rate recovery beginning March 1, 2024, and did not propose to add any new projects to the rider. As a result, a typical residential customer using 853 kWh per month saw a decrease in their bill of \$5.00 per month compared with the interim rate that was in effect. Compared to the rate approved last year in docket EL23-005, the proposed rate would translate to an approximate decrease of \$15.76 per month. See docket EL24-007.
- In November, the commission approved an updated TCR rider rate for **Xcel Energy**. The updated rate included costs associated with 31 transmission projects, including six new projects, and MISO Schedule 26 revenues and expenses. The approved \$991,151 revenue requirement translates to a monthly bill increase of approximately \$0.18 for a typical residential customer using 750 kWh per month. See docket EL24-030.

In July, the commission approved an annual update to **Xcel Energy**'s infrastructure rider rate. The update approved a revised Infrastructure Rider Adjustment Factor of \$0.002504 per kWh. The order denied, without prejudice, recovery of payments to the Prairie Island Indian Community from the 2024 infrastructure rider and allowed deferral accounting for the Prairie Island Indian Community payments until a future rate case. As a result of this change, a residential customer using 750 kWh will see a revised infrastructure rider monthly bill impact of \$1.88, an increase of \$3.26 compared to the previously effective infrastructure rider. See docket EL23-025.

In December, the commission signed off on an update to **Xcel Energy**'s 2025 Infrastructure Rider Adjustment Factor. The decision allowed the company to recover the cost of 74 previously approved projects, nine new projects, production tax credits, production tax credit floor calculation, the Sherco 1 Land Sale, and operations and maintenance expenses associated with wind energy investments. As a result of this change, a residential customer using 750 kWh will see a revised infrastructure rider charge of \$1.02 per month, a decrease of \$0.86 per month compared to the average residential bill impact of the 2024 Infrastructure Rider of \$1.88 per month. See docket EL24-029.

The PUC approved **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.**'s annual update to its infrastructure rider rate in April. The update allowed for a 2024 Infrastructure Rider revenue requirement of \$559,737 associated with previously approved projects. As a result of MDU's update, a typical residential customer using 853 kWh per month saw a bill increase of approximately \$1.03 per month compared with the interim rate that was in effect. Compared to the rate approved last year in docket EL23-006, the proposed rate would translate to an approximate decrease of \$1.10 per month. See docket EL24-008.

## RATE CHANGES & ADJUSTMENTS CONTINUED...

In August, the PUC approved an update to **Otter Tail Power Co.**'s phase-in rider rate with a revised "percent of bill" phase-in rider factor of 10.502%, revised per meter charges, and a total revenue requirement of \$3,216,072. The updated rate allows the company to recover costs associated with the Merricourt, Astoria, and Ashtabula III projects, the revenue credit due to the new load growth in Lake Norden, net savings associated with the retirement of Hoot Lake Plant, Advanced Grid Infrastructure projects, and four new wind repowering projects at Langdon, Ashtabula I, Luverne, and Ashtabula III. As a result, a residential customer with one residential meter who uses 1,000 kWh a month will see a monthly bill increase of \$4.14. See docket EL24-020.

Commissioners voted to approve a settlement stipulation allowing **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.** to raise natural gas rates in August. Commission staff negotiated with MDU to reach an agreement to increase annual revenues recovered by approximately \$5.37 million annually, resulting in an average increase of approximately \$4.45 per month for a typical natural gas customer using 5.53 dekatherms per month. The amount approved by the PUC is just over half the \$8.70 per month increase requested in MDU's application, which was filed with the commission in August 2023. MDU serves approximately 64,600 natural gas customers in South Dakota and saw their last base rate increase in June of 2016. See docket NG23-014.

In August, the commission signed off on a significantly reduced rate increase request for South Dakota electric customers served by **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.** The approved rate allowed for an overall revenue increase of \$1.29 million annually. As a result, a typical residential electric customer using 900 kWh per month saw an average bill increase of \$8.26 per month, less than half the estimated \$20.00 per month from the company's original request. MDU's last electric rate increase was approved by the commission in June of 2016. See docket EL23-020.

In January, the commission approved a settlement stipulation, offered jointly by PUC staff and **NorthWestern Energy**, to allow the company an annual increase in base rates to recover an overall revenue deficiency of \$21,520,114, approximately \$9.4 million less than the original request. The proposed change, which will affect approximately 64,680 customers, resulted in a monthly bill increase of \$13.67 for a typical residential customer using 750 kWh per month. NorthWestern's last base rate increase was approved by the PUC in November of 2015. See docket EL23-016.

In December, the PUC approved a reduced rate increase for **NorthWestern Energy's** natural gas customers. The company filed an application in June requesting a 9.1% total bill increase. The rate approved, authorizing a total bill increase of 7.0%, was presented in a settlement stipulation offered jointly by NorthWestern Energy and PUC staff. The accepted agreement allowed the utility to raise revenues by just under \$4.6 million and represented the company's first natural gas rate increase in 13 years. As a result of the decision, a typical residential customer using an average of 10 dekatherms per month will see an increase of \$6.47 in their monthly bill. See docket NG24-005.

## ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The commission approved updates to energy efficiency and conservation programs. In 2024, the estimated energy savings for investor-owned utilities with energy efficiency programs were 21,429 megawatt hours of electricity and 562 dekatherms of natural gas.

- The commission approved a revised conservation tracking adjustment rate of \$0.014 per dk for **Montana- Dakota Utilities Co.** in February, which is a decrease of \$0.001 per dk from the previous rate. As a result, the estimated annual decrease for a residential customer using 70 dk annually is \$0.07. MDU's conservation program provides incentives to residential customers for using high-efficiency heating equipment and programmable thermostats. The natural gas program also offers rebate options for commercial customers. See docket NG24-002.
- **Offer Tail Power Co.** continued its energy efficiency plan in 2024. In June, the commission approved the 2023 financial incentive, 2023 energy efficiency plan status report and updated the energy efficiency adjustment factor. The company's residential and commercial programs incentivize customers to use efficient lighting, heat pumps and smart thermostats among other energy-saving measures. As a result of the revised energy efficiency adjustment factor, an average residential customer using 927 kWh per month should see a decrease in their monthly bill of \$0.24. See docket EL24-017.
- In November, **Xcel Energy's** 2025 demand side management plan, 2025 cost adjustment factor, 2023 DSM status report, 2023 DSM tracker account, and the performance incentive earned in 2023 were approved by the commission. The 2025 DSM plan includes changes to the business lighting efficiency program, expanded list of qualifying thermostats for AC Rewards, removal of the Horticulture LED lighting program, and removal of the residential heat pump water heater program. An average residential customer using 750 kWh per month will see a monthly bill decrease of \$0.03. See docket EL24-016.

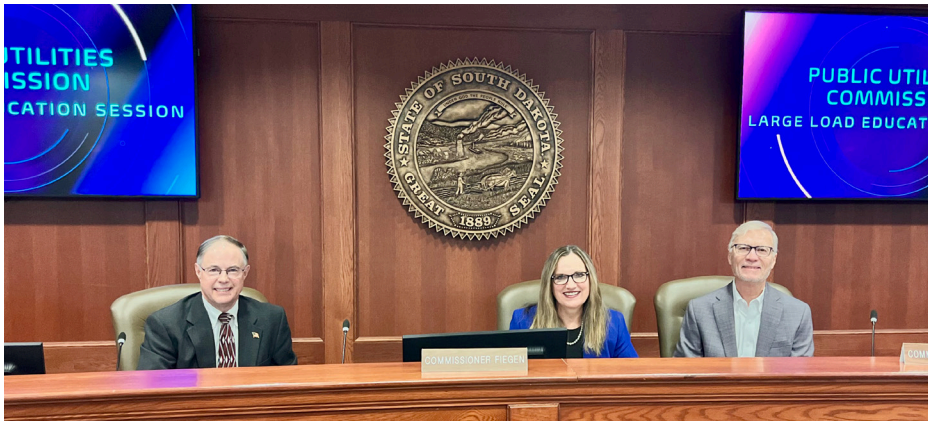


Commissioner Kristie Fiegen moderated the "Future of Gas" panel at the Mid-America Regulatory Conference annual meeting in Minneapolis in June. Discussion covered topics including innovative technologies, rate design, carbon impact and planning for equity. Michigan Commissioner Alessandra Carreon, Citizens Energy Group's Korlon Kilpatrick, Center for Energy and the Environment's Audrey Partridge, and Heather Dziedzic from the American Biogas Council also participated in the panel.



## LARGE LOAD EDUCATION SESSION

The South Dakota PUC hosted a **large electric load education session** in November at the State Capitol in Pierre. The session featured discussion among the commission and representatives of investor-owned utilities, cooperative and municipal utility organizations, regional transmission organizations and data centers. Presenters talked about data centers, crypto mining facilities, and other large loads both in and out of South Dakota and insight into the quantity of possible load, firm versus interruptible nature, certainty, and timeframes. They also described the practices and policies that guide the process when receiving a request from a potential large load. The event attracted a full house of interested folks from a wide range of industries as well as a significant online audience tuning into the audio livestream.



Commissioners invited representatives from utility companies, transmission organizations and data centers to join them at the South Dakota State Capitol to share information about the process of planning and developing large load demanding facilities both in and outside of South Dakota. Among the many representatives in attendance were Otter Tail Power Co.'s Tim Rogelstad and Stuart Tommerdahl, shown top right; Applied Digital's Nick Phillips, shown bottom right; and Otter Tail's Chris Waltz and East River Electric Power Cooperative's Bob Sahr, shown bottom left. Representatives from Black Hills Power, Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., MidAmerican Energy Co., NorthWestern Energy, Xcel Energy, Basin Electric Power Cooperative, Rushmore Electric Power Cooperative, Heartland Energy, Missouri River Energy Services, Midcontinent Independent System Operator, and Southwest Power Pool were also on hand for the event.

## NATIONAL LINEMAN APPRECIATION DAY

The commission encouraged South Dakotans to show appreciation for linemen and the work they do to ensure the safe, reliable delivery of electricity year-round on April 18 for **National Lineman Appreciation Day**.



# ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

In March, the commission adopted **administrative rules** that included repealing a rule for which the law implemented had been repealed; removing citations to statutes that had been repealed; changing the fiscal requirements for grain buyer licensees; removing certain master meter notice and filing requirements; amending a deadline for annual telecommunications filings; updating references to federal regulations for pipeline safety, and updating documentation required of transmission pipeline operators. The Legislature's Interim Rules Review Committee approved the rules in April. See docket RM23-001.

Commissioner Chris Nelson attended the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Summer Policy Summit in July. The convention attracted more than 1,000 attendees including regulatory commissioners from each state where educational sessions addressed such issues as state and federal energy policy, workforce trends, telecommunications infrastructure and grid reliability.

*Photo by Commissioner Floyd McKissick Jr., North Carolina Utilities Commission.*



Ryan Long, president of Xcel Energy Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota, considered a question posed by Commissioner Gary Hanson at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Summer Policy Summit in July. The two were part of a panel discussing balancing new resource investments, grid modernization, reliability and reasonable rates.

*Photo by Commissioner Floyd McKissick Jr., North Carolina Utilities Commission.*

# SITING

The PUC has authority to issue permits for the construction of energy conversion, AC/DC conversion, wind energy, solar energy, and electric transmission facilities as well as certain pipelines, including those designed to transport coal, gas, liquid hydrocarbon products, carbon dioxide or hydrogen.

## NEW SITING APPLICATIONS

In April, **Otter Tail Power Co.** and **Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency** filed an application for a permit to construct a 345-kV transmission facility and associated facilities in Grant County. The proposed Big Stone South to Alexandria Transmission Line Project plans to begin at Otter Tail Power Co.'s existing Big Stone South Substation two miles west of Big Stone City, South Dakota, and connect to a substation near Alexandria, Minnesota. The South Dakota portion of the project will consist of approximately 3.5 miles of transmission line. In May, a public input meeting was held in Big Stone City. Daniel and Tamra Jurgens were granted party status in the docket, but entered into a settlement agreement with the Applicants and withdrew from the docket. *PUC staff and the applicants entered into a settlement stipulation agreeing Applicants met the requirements for a permit, with the adoption of 34 proposed conditions. The Commission approved the Settlement Stipulation in January 2025, and granted a permit to construct the transmission facility, incorporating 34 conditions to the permit.* See docket EL24-015.

In June, the PUC received an application from **Deuel Harvest Wind Energy South LLC** for a permit to construct and operate a wind energy facility with a nameplate capacity 260 megawatts and up to 68 wind turbines, and a permit to construct a transmission facility for a six-mile 345-kilovolt generator tie line in Deuel County. A public input meeting was held in Clear Lake in August. Party status was granted to five intervenors. *The commission held an evidentiary hearing on the matter on January 21, 2025. In February 2025, the commission voted to grant permits to construct the proposed wind energy and transmission facilities, with more than 50 conditions.* See docket EL24-023.

In September, the commission accepted a settlement stipulation brought by PUC staff and East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. and granted a permit to construct the **WAPA North Bend to Pratt 230kV Transmission Line** project. The project will include approximately 500 feet of 230-kilovolt transmission line and associated facilities in Hyde County. The project will connect the North Bend Substation, owned by the Western Area Power Administration, with the Pratt Substation, owned by East River, and will be located on land owned by WAPA or East River, except for the crossing of the public road right-of-way for County Road 649. East River filed its application with the commission on March 22, 2024. A public input hearing was held in Pierre in May. See docket EL24-011.

In November, the PUC received and began processing **SCS Carbon Transport LLC's** application for a permit to construct and operate a carbon dioxide transmission pipeline. The proposed project consists of approximately 2,500 miles of pipelines for the transportation of CO<sub>2</sub> from ethanol plants across five states including 15 ethanol plants in South Dakota. Approximately 698 miles of pipeline would be placed in the state, crossing Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Clark, Codington, Davison, Edmunds, Grant, Hamlin, Hand, Hyde, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, McCook, McPherson, Minnehaha, Miner, Sanborn, Spink, Sully, Turner, and Union counties. *The commission held public input meetings in Mitchell, Sioux Falls, De Smet, Watertown, Aberdeen and Redfield in January 2025.* See docket HP24-001.



## POTENTIAL FUTURE SITING PROJECTS

In June, the commission received a filing from **Missouri River Energy Services**, acting as an agent for **Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency**, with a notice of intent to submit an application for a permit for an energy conversion facility in the near future. WMPMA proposes to construct, own and operate an energy conversion facility consisting of seven or eight reciprocating internal combustion engines, a concrete engine hall building, diesel fuel truck unloading facilities, and other associated facilities. The expected generation is approximately 145 megawatts of power during periods of high energy demand. Associated facilities will include natural gas piping anticipated to be less than 450 feet and a 345-kilovolt generation-tie to connect with the Astoria 345 kV substation. The energy conversion facility, referred to as Toronto Power Plant, is proposed to be located approximately three miles north of Toronto. See docket EL24-021.



Commissioner Kristie Fiegen joined regulatory utility commissioners from around the U.S. to tour coal and energy facilities in Wyoming in June. The group visited Cordero Rojo (top left), one of the largest coal mines in the country, that ships more than 18 million tons of coal annually. Fiegen and North Dakota Public Service Commissioner Randy Christmann (top right) toured the control room at Dry Fork Station, a 385 MW coal plant owned by Basin Electric Power Cooperative, near Gillette, Wyoming.

Bottom: Also in June, Commissioner Kristie Fiegen joined members of the Southwest Power Pool's Supply Adequacy Working Group for discussions, planning and prioritizing resource adequacy policies. The meeting was hosted at Basin Electric Power Cooperative's headquarters in Bismarck, North Dakota.

# CONSUMER AFFAIRS

The PUC provides a number of services for consumers. The agency's consumer affairs staff is trained to assist consumers with issues related to their electric, natural gas and telecommunications service, including wireless. They provide educational information about energy efficiency, consumer protection and making wise utility choices. They offer guidance and referrals for consumers who may have difficulty paying their utility bills. The commission also administers the South Dakota Do Not Call Registry, registering telephone solicitors, helping to enroll consumers on the registry, and investigating violations against consumers who are on the registry.

The commission examines the following areas to evaluate its performance in this field:

## CONSUMER COMPLAINTS & ASSISTANCE

The PUC assisted consumers on more than 1,350 occasions with issues and complaints related to electric, natural gas, telecommunications (including wireless), pipeline siting, energy efficiency, and other utility-related topics.

### Complaints Resolved Within a Month

The PUC strives to quickly and fully investigate each incident by analyzing both sides of the complaint and working with the affected parties to informally reach a resolution. The number of complaints resolved within a month reveals the commission's effectiveness in responding to consumers. The goal is 90% resolved within a month.

*Measurement, 2024*

Complaints resolved within a month: 98%

### Formal Consumer Complaints

When a consumer and utility cannot reach a resolution through the informal process, one of the parties may file a formal complaint. A formal complaint is entered into a docket and, unless settled, may result in a hearing before the commission. The commission endeavors to affect complaint resolutions informally and therefore strives for a low number of formal complaints. This measurement is also an assessment of the PUC staff's negotiation and mediation skills.

*Measurement, 2024*

Formal Consumer Complaints: 0

## DO NOT CALL REGISTRY

The commission continually uses outreach efforts to educate South Dakotans about enrolling their personal telephone number on the Do Not Call Registry to reduce the number of telemarketing calls they receive. In addition to advocacy, the PUC takes an active role and, at the request of a consumer, will enroll their number on the registry. The PUC tracks the number of South Dakota telephone numbers on the registry, noting the amount of growth each year, which is an indication of the success of education efforts.

*Measurement, 2024*

South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call Registry: 718,230 (0.84% increase)

## DON'T KNOW? DON'T ANSWER! INFORMATIONAL CAMPAIGN

The commission continued educating consumers about scam calls with the "Don't Know? Don't Answer!" informational campaign. The campaign informs consumers about scam calls, the tricks scam callers use to gain access to sensitive information or resources and provides tips on how to report scams and protect against their tactics.



## PUBLIC OUTREACH

The PUC visited with more than 2,750 consumers about the purpose and services of the PUC at spring home shows in Sioux Falls and Rapid City and at the South Dakota State Fair.



*Top:* Commissioners Chris Nelson and Kristie Fiegen and consumer affairs program manager Deb Gregg answered questions and visited with consumers at the South Dakota State Fair in Huron.

*Left:* Commissioner Kristie Fiegen visited with attendees of the Sioux Empire Home Show with staff analyst Darren Kearney in Sioux Falls.

*Bottom left:* Commissioner Kristie Fiegen and PUC staff members Jason Schuchard and Jon Thurber encouraged consumers to help stop scam calls at the Black Hills Home Show in Rapid City.

*Bottom right:* Commissioner Chris Nelson conversed with fellow South Dakotans at the South Dakota State Fair. In addition to educating consumers on how to help stop scam calls, the annual state fair provides the PUC with an opportunity to facilitate conversations with farmers about grain regulation in the state.





# GRAIN WAREHOUSE

The Public Utilities Commission is responsible for monitoring the South Dakota grain industry. To reduce producer risk, the PUC's Grain Warehouse Program licenses and inspects state-licensed grain storage warehouses and federally-licensed grain storage warehouses holding state grain buyer licenses. All grain buyers licensed in South Dakota are inspected annually.

The PUC uses three main categories — inspections, licenses and license revocations — to measure its effectiveness in monitoring the grain industry. See these results plus other major happenings in the PUC's grain program in 2024.

## INSPECTIONS

Inspections ensure compliance with statutes and rules related to the licensing and bonding requirements for grain warehouses and grain buyers. The number of inspections describes the penetration of the program's review process. State law requires that each licensed facility receive one inspection each year.

*Measurement, 2024*

Inspections: 482 (370 required)

## LICENSES

The PUC issues licenses for grain buyers and grain warehouses doing business in the state. Each licensed entity is required to apply for renewal annually. As part of the licensing and renewal process, the commission reviews financial statements and analyzes grain buyers' ability to pay grain producers and suppliers. The number of licenses handled by the PUC depicts the wide scope of the commission's monitoring of the industry.

*Measurement, 2024*

- Class A+ Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that use voluntary credit sale contracts and exceed \$5,000,000 in annual purchases): 110 entities with 278 locations
- Class A Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that do not use voluntary credit sale contracts and exceed \$5,000,000 in annual purchases): 13 entities 20 locations
- Class B Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that do not use voluntary credit sale contracts and do not exceed \$5,000,000 in annual purchases): 67 entities with 72 locations
- State Warehouse Licenses (entities that store grain for hire): 40 entities with 60 locations
- Federal Warehouse Licenses (entities that are licensed by the USDA to store grain for hire): 30 entities with 148 locations

## LICENSE REVOCATIONS & RECEIVERSHIPS

If a licensed warehouse or grain buyer fails to meet its obligations to its producers, the PUC follows prescribed laws and administrative rules to investigate, audit or take necessary action to limit damage to the public. Options available to the commission include license revocation and receivership. Though the PUC works diligently to minimize producer risk, some license revocations and receiverships cannot be avoided. If a receivership is deemed necessary, the commission may apply to the circuit court to appoint a receiver. The determination of an appropriate receiver and the powers and duties given to that receiver are decided by the circuit court, not the PUC.

*Measurement, 2024*

License Revocations: 0 / Receiverships: 0

## ASK AN INSPECTOR PROMOTIONAL CAMPAIGN

The commission continued the "Ask an Inspector" promotional campaign at the South Dakota State Fair. The campaign encourages producers to contact the PUC's grain warehouse staff with any questions about South Dakota's grain industry and to report any concerns about the practices or financial solvency of grain businesses operating in South Dakota.

# PIPELINE SAFETY

The PUC has responsibility to regulate natural gas intrastate pipelines, which includes ensuring the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. The pipeline safety program has two full-time employees who are fully trained by the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration Training and Qualifications program. As part of its duties, commission staff inspects and investigates natural gas pipeline operators for compliance with federal and state statutes and administrative rules.

South Dakota natural gas distribution lines: 5,463 miles  
South Dakota natural gas intrastate transmission lines: 296 miles

## INSPECTIONS

PUC pipeline safety inspectors regularly inspect natural gas pipeline operators to determine compliance with state and federal regulations. Inspections occur in the areas of records, construction, drug and alcohol, public awareness, incident investigation, operator qualification, and integrity management. The number of inspection hours logged by the safety inspectors is an indicator of the agency's thoroughness in this area. The PUC's certification agreement to administer this program for PHMSA specifies a minimum number of inspection days required annually.

*Measurement, 2024*  
Inspections: 151 days (139 days required)

## FEDERAL EVALUATION

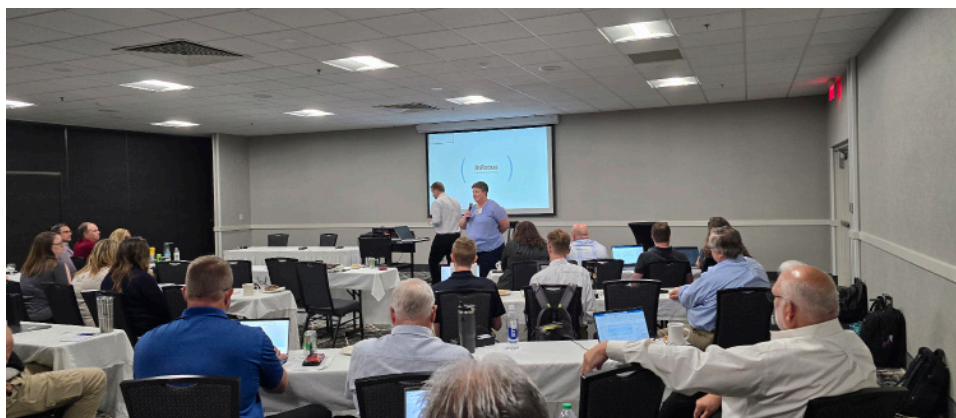
South Dakota's Pipeline Safety Program is field evaluated annually by PHMSA's Office of Pipeline Safety. The agency reviews inspections conducted and citations issued by the PUC and evaluates the commission's adherence to its pipeline safety procedures plan. The result of the federal review indicates the PUC's ability to carry out its obligations related to pipeline safety. PHMSA also reviews and scores South Dakota's annual certification document submittals.

*Measurement, 2024*  
Evaluations score: 100%



*Left:* Inspector Paul Kenefick-Aschoff and manager Cody Chambliss, from the PUC's grain warehouse program, perform an on-site inspection in Pierre.

*Below:* Pipeline safety program manager Mary Zanter welcomed attendees to the Central Regional National Association of Pipeline Safety Regulators meeting in Sioux Falls in July.





# LEGISLATION

The annual **PUC Briefing for Legislators** in January provided an opportunity for Commissioners Fiegen, Hanson and Nelson to share current information with lawmakers about PUC hot topics such as telecommunications, broadband, siting, energy regulation, regional transmission organizations, and grain warehouses. It also gave commissioners a chance to discuss the PUC's proposed legislation.

The PUC developed legislation, **Senate Bill 22**, to amend language regarding the licensing period for a grain buyer. The legislation, which aimed to create bookkeeping efficiencies for licensees and grain warehouse staff and clarify the timeframe in which Class B grain buyers must pay for grain purchases, was signed by the governor in March.

**Senate Bill 23**, the commission's legislation to amend 49-34-14 by providing a specific exemption from the overcharging statute for electric vehicle charging stations, was passed. This revision allows electric vehicle charging stations in compliance with 49-34A-116 to sell electricity at retail based on the fee structure of their choosing without rate regulation from the PUC.

The PUC's legislation, **House Bill 1034**, eliminated ambiguity in state law by declaring hydrogen is a product that would require a pipeline siting permit.

The commission shepherded legislation to increase the minimum filing fee for energy facility permit applications from \$8,000 to \$20,000.



*Clockwise from the top left:*

Commissioners Kristie Fiegen, Chris Nelson and Gary Hanson listen to Governor Kristi Noem's State of the State address to launch the 2024 Legislative Session. *Photo courtesy of CyberClimb.*

Commissioner Gary Hanson presents during the PUC's annual briefing for legislators.

Commissioners share a warm breakfast and conversation with legislators at the PUC's annual Open House in January.

Commissioner Kristie Fiegen and finance manager Cindy Kemnitz appear in front of the legislature's Joint Appropriations Committee for the PUC's budget hearing.





# TELECOMMUNICATIONS

The commission has varied regulatory authority over telecommunications providers and services in South Dakota. The PUC issues certificates of authority to certain providers; approves switched access rates for local exchange carriers; designates providers as eligible telecommunications carriers and certifies carriers as eligible to receive federal high-cost support; approves interconnection agreements between providers; and arbitrates disputes between providers. In addition, the commission serves as a resource on emerging issues.

The PUC uses several measures to gauge the agency's effectiveness at handling these issues. Here is a look at the commission's telecommunications work in 2024.

## UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

**Twenty-six telecommunications carriers** were deemed eligible to collectively receive millions of dollars in high-cost support from the federal Universal Service Fund for maintaining, upgrading and building out their voice and broadband networks in South Dakota. Each year, the commission must certify to the Federal Communications Commission that these carriers, designated as Eligible Telecommunications Carriers, are using funds for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which support is intended. Dollars invested reflect the strengthening and expansion of telecommunications infrastructure to enhance system reliability and enable more service options to more customers, particularly in rural areas. The Universal Service Administrative Co. distributed over \$125 million in High-Cost Support and over \$1 million in Lifeline and Link-Up monies to South Dakota companies.



Commissioner Chris Nelson (right), moderates a telecommunications panel at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Summer Policy Summit in July. Joining him onstage were Kara Semmler, South Dakota Telecommunications Association; Commissioner John Reynolds, California Public Utilities Commission; Lynn Follansbee, USTelecom; and Jessica Epley, Ziplly Fiber. The group discussed Carrier of Last Resort policies.

# LEADERSHIP

Commissioners hold a number of leadership roles with national and regional organizations. They also engage with South Dakota consumers, students, industry professionals and community leaders during many public gatherings each year.

## SOUTH DAKOTA PUC

---

Commissioners selected **Commissioner Kristie Fiegen** to serve as PUC chairperson and **Commissioner Gary Hanson** to serve as vice chairman.

## PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

---

**Commissioner Fiegen** regularly shared her passion for public service and dedication to education by engaging with students of all ages throughout the year. She spent time with Brandon residents and students from Tea, Parker, Sioux Falls Roosevelt and Freeman as well as legislative interns and pages, discussing the PUC, leadership, ethics and careers in government. Commissioner Fiegen kept various utility industry groups up to date about topics like electric reliability, the Southwest Power Pool regional transmission organization, broadband and general PUC happenings. These events included the Rushmore Electric Power Cooperative annual meeting, North Central Electric Association Executive Symposium and Santel Communications Cooperative's Annual Meeting. She moderated natural gas panel discussions at the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Winter Policy Summit and the Mid-America Regulatory Conference annual meeting. Educational site visits at grain elevators, power plants, a coal mine, coal and natural gas research facilities, and a Bakken oil field rounded out a very busy year for Fiegen.

**Commissioner Hanson**, a member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Electricity, led a discussion among utility CEOs at the NARUC Summer Policy Summit. The panelists answered questions about how they balance new resource investments and grid modernization while ensuring reliability and reasonable rates.

**Commissioner Nelson** shared his expertise as a speaker, panelist and moderator at symposia hosted by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, Center for Public Utilities, South Dakota Association of Towns and Townships, Pierre Rotary Club, South Dakota ABATE, South Dakota Association of Cooperatives, State Federation of Labor, South Dakota Rural Electric Association, South Dakota Corn Growers, South Dakota Corn Utilization Council and other South Dakota agriculture groups. Topics encompassed legislation, wind energy, carbon capture, grain warehouse issues, economics of telecommunications, broadband funding and deployment, universal service fund reform, and PUC processes, including siting and permitting. He connected with residents from Brandon and Mitchell as well as students from James Valley Christian, offering insight about the PUC's role and responsibilities. Nelson offered comments about the importance of renewable natural gas at North-Western Energy's RNG Valve Turning Ceremony near Brookings.





*Clockwise from top left:* Commissioner Kristie Fiegen celebrated Southwest Power Pool's Regional States Committee's 20th anniversary, a group that Fiegen is highly involved in.

Commissioner Kristie Fiegen was the keynote speaker at the Santel Communications annual meeting in September.

Commissioners Kristie Fiegen and Chris Nelson stopped by Clay Union Electric Cooperative's open house for an opportunity to catch up with SDREA General Manager Steve Barnett and Clay Union General Manager Chris Larson.

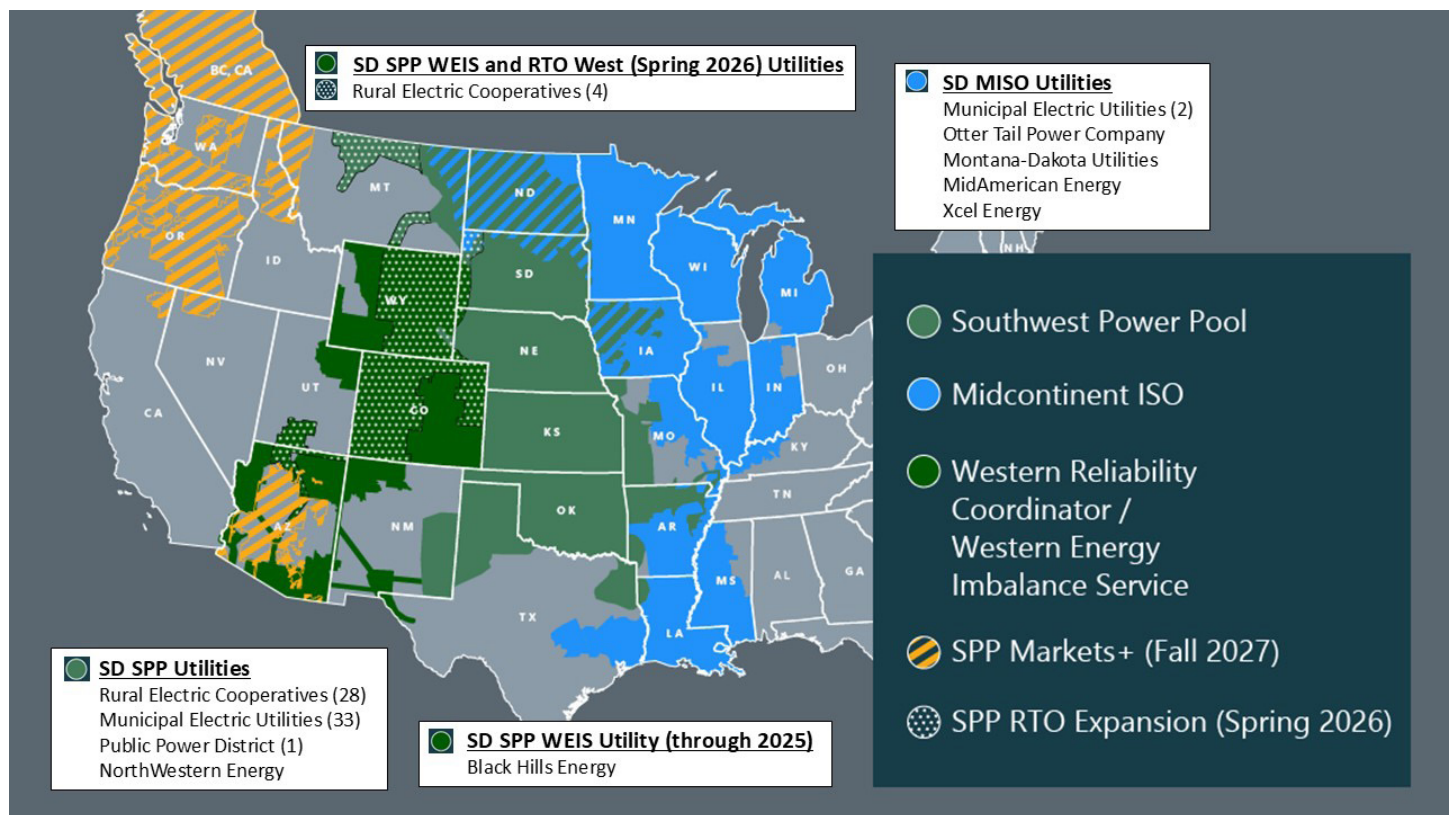
Commissioner Chris Nelson met with fellow NARUC Washington Action Program Committee members at a meeting in February. Pictured left to right, are NARUC staff member Chris Mele, Oklahoma Commissioner Bob Anthony, North Carolina's Floyd B. McKissick Jr., co-chair Nelson, and co-chair Douglas Scott of Illinois.





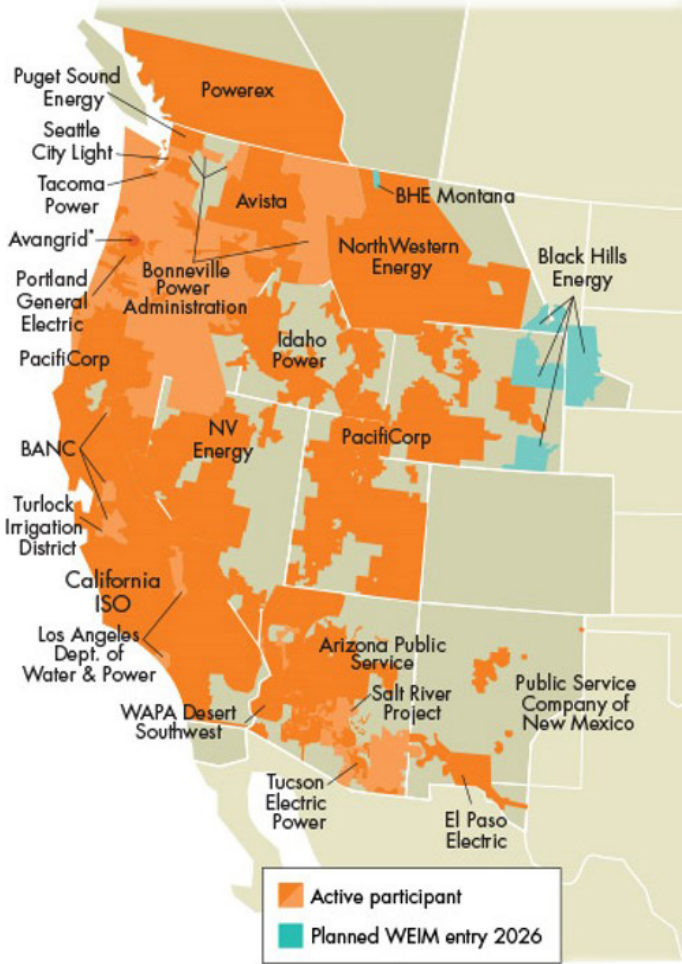
# REGIONAL TRANSMISSION ORGANIZATIONS

In the United States, a regional transmission organization is an electric power transmission system operator that coordinates, controls and monitors a multi-state electric grid. These non-profit corporations were voluntarily created, following a December 20, 1999, order by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) for the purpose of promoting economic efficiency, reliability, and non-discriminatory practices while reducing government oversight. The transfer of electricity among states is considered interstate commerce and electric grids spanning multiple states are therefore regulated by FERC. Regional Transmission Organizations (RTOs) and Independent System Operators (ISOs) also operate competitive wholesale electricity markets, where electricity generators bid their supply into the market and the lowest-cost bids are dispatched first. The maps provide a look at the regional transmission organizations and markets that affect South Dakota and the utility companies that participate in each.



RTOs and ISOs use a stakeholder process for decision making and policy setting, and state public utilities commissions have a crucial seat at the stakeholder table. The PUC actively participates in the SPP, MISO, and CAISO WEIM stakeholder processes to advocate on behalf of South Dakotans and the state's electric utilities as issues arise. This participation is time consuming, with commissioners and staff devoting many hours of their day to work on RTO issues. The following table demonstrates the PUC's involvement in the RTO stakeholder process.

Within the RTO and ISO stakeholder workgroups, maintaining reliability of the electric grid and regional transmission planning are critical issues. Driving this work is the transition of the electric generating resource mix from existing dispatchable resources to new intermittent resources as well as forecasted load growth (e.g., new data centers). Intermittent resources are generating resources that depend on the weather to produce energy (e.g., wind and solar) or may be energy limited (e.g., storage), whereas dispatchable resources can produce energy when called upon by the system operator to do so. Commissioners advocate for a cost-effective, orderly transition of the electric industry at RTO and ISO workgroup meetings, where regional transmission expansion plans, transmission cost allocation, resource accreditation, wholesale market reforms, and bulk power system reliability needs are a few of the hot topics.



| Regional Transmission Organization Involvement                         |                    |
|--|--------------------|
| Organization of MISO States (OMS) Board of Directors                   | Nelson - Treasurer |
| OMS Staff Workgroups (various)   | Staff              |
| MISO Committees/Workgroups (various)                                   | Nelson, Staff      |
| SPP Regional States Committee (RSC)                                    | Fiegen - Member    |
| SPP Cost Allocation Work Group (CAWG)                                  | Staff              |
| SPP RSC/OMS Seams Liaison Committee (SLC)                              | Fiegen - Member    |
| SPP Resource and Energy Adequacy Leadership Team (REAL)                | Fiegen - Chair     |
| SPP West Markets+ State Committee (MSC)                                | Fiegen - Member    |
| SPP West Markets+ Committees/Workgroups (various)                      | Staff              |
| Western Energy Imbalance Market (WEIM) Body of State Regulators (BOSR) | Hanson - Member    |
| WEIM BOSR Support  | Staff              |

# REGULATED UTILITY COMPANIES

*A listing of the companies regulated by the PUC in 2024.*

## 2024 REGULATED UTILITY COMPANIES

The commission has territory, complaint and quality of service authority over all natural gas, electric and telecommunications utilities operating within South Dakota. Certain utilities are exempt from the commission's rate regulation. Those include municipal, rural electric cooperatives and small, independent and cooperative telephone companies. The commission retains the switched access rate making authority for all telecommunications companies providing local service, including small, independent and cooperative companies.

### GROSS RECEIPTS TAX ASSESSMENT PAID BY REGULATED UTILITY

*The sum of these figures does not correspond with the Gross Receipts Tax Revenues reported on page 7 due to timing issues. Revenues are based on calendar year.*

|                                    |    |           |
|------------------------------------|----|-----------|
| Electric and Natural Gas Companies | \$ | 1,173,784 |
| Telecommunications Companies       | \$ | 475,002   |

### INVESTOR-OWNED ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS COMPANIES

Investor-owned electric and natural gas companies provide service to specific geographic areas in South Dakota and are regulated by the PUC. These companies are owned by their investors and are managed as private enterprises.

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| Black Hills Energy                        | NorthWestern Energy              |
| MidAmerican Energy Co.                    | Otter Tail Power Co.             |
| Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.              | South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline |
| Northern States Power Co. dba Xcel Energy |                                  |

### LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES

These long distance telephone providers are certified by the PUC to do business in South Dakota. These companies carry traffic between telephone exchanges.

#### #

800 Response Information Services LLC

#### A

Access One Inc.  
AccessLine Communications Corp. dba Voice  
Telco Services  
ACN Communication Services LLC  
Affinity Network Inc.  
Airespring Inc.  
Airus Inc.  
Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

Alliance Global Networks LLC  
AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba Affinity 4  
(canceled COA 09/24)  
ANPI LLC  
AT&T Corp.

#### B

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC  
Barr Tell USA Inc.  
BCN Telecom Inc.  
BEK Communications Cooperative



## LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES CONTINUED...

---

### B continued...

BIF IV Intrepid OpCo LLC  
Blackfoot Communications Inc.  
Boldyn Networks US LLC  
Broadband Dynamics LLC  
Broadsmart Global Inc.  
Broadview Networks Inc.  
Broadvox-CLEC LLC  
Broadwing Communications LLC

### C

CBTS Technology Solutions LLC  
Central Telecom Long Distance Inc.  
CenturyLink Communications LLC dba Lumen  
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority  
City of Faith Municipal Telephone Co.  
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Bluepeak Fiber  
Clear Rate Communications LLC  
Combined Public Communications LLC  
Comcast Phone of South Dakota LLC  
Communications Venture Corp. dba INdigital  
ComTech 21 LLC  
Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services LLC  
Consolidated Communications Networks Inc.  
Consumer Telcom Inc.  
Convergia Inc.  
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.  
Crown Castle Fiber LLC  
Custom Teleconnect Inc.

### D

DeltaCom LLC  
dishNET Wireline LLC

### E

EarthGrid PBC Corp.  
Easton Telecom Services LLC  
Education Networks of America Inc.  
Electric Lightwave LLC dba Allstream  
Enhanced Communications Group LLC dba ECG LLC  
EnTelegent Solutions Inc.  
Express Communications Inc.

### F

FiberComm LC dba ImOn Communications  
First Choice Technology Inc.  
First Communications LLC  
France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC  
Frontier Communications of America Inc.  
Fusion Cloud Services LLC  
Fusion LLC

### G

GC Pivotal LLC dba Global Capacity  
Global Crossing Telecommunications Inc.  
Global Tel\*Link Corp. dba ViaPath Technologies  
GoDaddy.com LLC  
Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative Inc. dba Golden West Telecommunications  
Granite Telecommunications LLC  
Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly Communications

### H

Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa  
Hypercube Networks LLC

### I

IDT America Corp.  
ImOn Communications LLC  
InContact Inc.  
Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions  
Intrado Safety Communications Inc.

### J

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co.  
Jefferson Telephone Co. LLC aka Long Lines Ltd.

### K

KDDI America Inc.

### L

Level 3 Communications LLC  
Level 3 Telecom Data Services LLC  
Lingo Telecom LLC dba Trinsic Communications dba VarTec Telecom dba Excel Telecommunications dba Impact Telecom dba Americatel dba Lingo dba Bullseye  
Long Lines Metro LLC  
LTS Telecommunications Services (USA) Inc.

## LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES CONTINUED...

### M

MagicJack SMB Inc.  
MCC Telephony of the Midwest LLC dba  
Mediacom  
MCI Communications Services LLC dba Verizon  
Business Services  
MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba  
Verizon Access Transmission Services  
McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC  
dba PAETEC Business Services  
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South  
Dakota LLC dba MetTel  
Midcontinent Communications  
Middle Mile Infrastructure LLC  
Midstate Communications Inc.  
Motorola Solutions Connectivity Inc.

### N

Native American Telecom LLC - Pine Ridge LLC  
Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications Inc.  
NebraskaLink Holdings LLC dba OPTK Networks  
Networks Network Services LLC  
Network Communications International Corp.  
dba NCIC Inmate Communications  
Network Innovations LLC  
NetworkIP LLC dba Elite Telecom  
Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC  
New Horizons Communications Corp.  
NextGen Communications Inc.  
NGA 911 LLC  
North Dakota Long Distance LLC  
Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co.  
Northern Valley Communications LLC  
NOS Communications Inc. dba International Plus  
dba 011 Communications dba Internet  
Business Association dba Ivantage Network  
Solutions dba Blueridge Telecom Systems  
NOSVA Limited Partnership

### O

Onvoy LLC

### P

PaeTec Communications LLC  
Pay Tel Communications Inc.  
Peerless Network of South Dakota LLC  
PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet  
Global Communications dba  
CrossConnect dba Thrive  
Premier Communications Inc. dba Premier  
Communications

### Q

Quantumshift Communications dba Inc. vCom  
Solutions  
Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

### R

RC Technologies  
Reliance Telephone Systems Inc.  
RingSquared Telecom LLC

### S

Santel Communications Cooperative Inc.  
SBC Long Distance LLC  
Securus Technologies LLC  
Simwood Inc.  
Spectrotel of the West LLC  
Standard Tandem LLC  
Stratus Networks Inc.

### T

TDS Long Distance Corp.  
Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer  
Telephone (*withdrew COA 05/24*)  
Televvergence Solutions Inc.  
Telrite Corp.  
Three River Telco dba Three River Long Distance  
Time Clock Solutions LLC  
Time Warner Cable Business LLC  
Toly Digital Networks Inc.  
TouchTone Communications Inc.

### U

Ubiquity South Dakota LLC  
Uniti National LLC  
U.S. Telecom Long Distance Inc.  
USA Digital Communications Inc.

### V

Valley Communications Inc. dba Valley FiberCom  
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative  
Association Inc.  
Value-Added Communications Inc. dba ViaPath  
Technologies  
Velocity, A Managed Services Company Inc.  
Venture Vision Inc.  
Verizon Long Distance LLC  
Verizon Select Services Inc.  
Voicecom Telecommunications LLC



## LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES CONTINUED...

### W

Wide Voice LLC  
WiTel Communications LLC  
WiMacTel Inc. dba Intellicall Operator Services  
Windstream Communications LLC  
Windstream KDL LLC  
Windstream New Edge LLC  
Windstream Norlight LLC  
Working Assets Funding Service Inc. dba Credo  
Long Distance

### X

XO Communications Services LLC

### Z

Zayo Group LLC  
ZP Better Together LLC

## OPERATOR SERVICE COMPANIES

An operator service provider is a telecommunications company that provides, by contract, a connection to long distance or local services from such places as hotels, motels, hospitals, correctional facilities and campuses. The following operator service providers are authorized to do business in South Dakota.

### C

Combined Public Communications LLC  
Custom Teleconnect Inc.

### G

Global Tel\*Link Corp. dba ViaPath

### I

Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions

### N

Network Communications International Corp. dba  
NCIC Inmate Communications

### P

PayTel Communications Inc.

### R

Reliance Telephone Systems Inc.

### S

Securus Technologies LLC

### V

Value-Added Communications Inc. dba ViaPath  
Technologies

### W

WiMacTel Inc. dba Intellicall Operator Services



Commissioner Gary Hanson helped facilitate conversation with panelists at NARUC's Summer Policy Summit. The session, "The Tightrope: Utility CEOs' Balancing Act" focused on how regulators and utilities balance new resource investments and modernization with ensuring reliability and reasonable rates for consumers, the decision-making processes surrounding new initiatives, and how to measure if communication and engagement levels are adequate.

## COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES

A CLEC is a local exchange carrier providing local telephone service in competition with the incumbent local exchange carriers (ILEC). Some companies can be both a CLEC and an ILEC (see page 34) in different service areas. The following CLECs are certified by the PUC to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota.

### #

321 Communications Inc.

### A

ACN Communication Services LLC  
Airespring Inc.  
Airus Inc.  
ANPI Business LLC  
ANPI LLC  
AT&T Corp.  
ATV Holdings LLC dba Mitchell Telecom

### B

Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC  
Barr Tell USA Inc.  
BCN Telecom Inc.  
BEK Communications Cooperative  
BIF IV Intrepid OpCo LLC  
Blackfoot Communications Inc.  
BlueBird Communications SD LLC  
Boldyn Networks US LLC  
Broadsmart Global Inc.  
Broadview Networks Inc.  
Broadvox-CLEC LLC

### C

CBTS Technology Solutions LLC  
Celerity Networks LLC  
CenturyLink Communications LLC dba Lumen  
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority  
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Bluepeak Fiber  
Clear Rate Communications LLC  
Communications Venture Corp. dba INdigital  
COMTECH 21 LLC  
Consolidated Communications Enterprise Services Inc.  
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.  
Crown Castle Fiber LLC

### D

dishNET Wireline LLC

### E

EarthGrid PBC Corp.  
Easton Telecom Services LLC  
Education Networks of America Inc.  
Electric Lightwave LLC dba Allstream  
eNetworks LLC  
EnTelegent Solutions Inc.  
ExteNet Systems Inc.

### F

FiberComm LC dba ImOn Communications  
France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC  
Fusion Cloud Services LLC

### G

GC Pivotal LLC dba Global Capacity  
Granite Telecommunications LLC  
Greenfly Networks Inc. dba Clearly Communications

### H

Hypercube Networks LLC

### I

IDT America Corp.  
ImOn Communications LLC  
InContact Inc. dba UCN Inc.  
Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc.  
Intrado Safety Communications Inc.

### L

Level 3 Communications LLC  
Level 3 Telecom Data Services LLC  
Lingo Telecom LLC dba Trinsic Communications dba VarTec Telecom dba Excel Telecommunications dba Impact Telecom dba Americatel dba Lingo dba Bullseye  
Long Lines Metro LLC

### M

MagicJack SMB Inc.  
MCC Telephony of the Midwest Inc. dba Mediacom  
MCImetro Access Transmission Services LLC dba Verizon Access Transmission Services  
McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC dba PAETEC Business Services  
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South Dakota LLC dba MetTel  
Midcontinent Communications  
Midstate Communications Inc.  
Motorola Solutions Connectivity Inc.



## COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES CONTINUED...

### N

Native American Telecom LLC - Pine Ridge  
Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications Inc.  
NetFortris Acquisition Co. Inc.  
Neutral Tandem-South Dakota LLC  
New Horizons Communications Corp.  
NextGen Communications Inc.  
NGA 911 LLC  
Northern Valley Communications LLC  
NOS Communications Inc.

### O

Onvoy LLC

### P

Peerless Network of South Dakota LLC

### Q

Quantumshift Communications dba Vcom  
Solutions

### R

RC Technologies

### S

Simwood Inc.  
South Dakota Network LLC dba SDN  
Communications  
Spectrotel of the West  
SQF LLC  
Standard Tandem LLC

### T

Teleport Communications America  
Time Clock Solutions LLC

### U

Ubiquity South Dakota, LLC  
Uniti National LLC

### V

Valley Communications Inc. dba Valley  
FiberCom  
Velocity, A Managed Services Company Inc.  
Venture Vision Inc.

### W

Wide Voice LLC  
Windstream KDL LLC  
Windstream New Edge LLC

### X

XO Communications Services LLC

### Y

Ymax Communications Corp.

### Z

Zayo Group LLC



Commissioner Kristie Fiegen showed Southwest Power Pool's Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Lanny Nickell around the State Capitol during a visit in January. Nickell made the trip to Pierre to present at the South Dakota Rural Electric Association's annual meeting and in front of the South Dakota Legislature's House of Representatives' Commerce and Energy Committee.

## WIRELESS COMPANIES

Known by the Public Utilities Commission to be doing business in South Dakota.

### #

1 GLOBAL Operations (US) Inc. fka TruPhone Inc.

### A

Affiniti Ventures, Inc. dba Noble Mobile  
AFNET LLC  
Air Voice Wireless LLC  
Airespring Inc.  
Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.  
Alltel Corp.  
American Messaging Services LLC  
AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba Lifeline  
Communications dba Affinity 4 (*withdrew*  
09/24)  
Approved Contact LLC  
Aquarius Sliver LLC  
Assurance Wireless USA LP  
Atlantic Mobile US LLC dba Angel Mobile

### B

Bark Technologies Inc.  
Best Buy Health Inc. dba GreatCall  
Boomerang Wireless LLC dba enTouch Wireless  
Brookings Municipal Telephone dba Swiftel  
Communications

### C

CALL CENTERS INDIA INCORPORATED  
dba Blueconnects  
Cintex Wireless LLC dba SFone Wireless  
Clear Mobile LLC dba Clear Wireless  
Cliq Communications LLC dba Cliq Mobile  
Comcast OTR1 LLC  
Comlink Total Solutions Corp.  
CommNet Cellular Inc.  
Consumer Cellular Inc.  
Cox Wireless LLC dba Cox Mobile  
Cricket Wireless LLC  
CSC Wireless dba Altice Mobile

### D

Daywalker Mobile Inc.  
DISH Wireless LLC (Boost Mobile brand)

### E

EarthLink LLC  
Easy Telephone Services Co. dba Easy Wireless  
Enhanced Communications Group LLC  
dba Boom Mobile  
Excellus Communications LLC  
Excess Telecom Inc.

### F

FiberComm LC  
FOXX DEVELOPMENT INC. dba Foxx Mobile

### G

Gabb Wireless Inc.  
Global Connection Inc. of America dba StandUp  
Wireless  
GloTell US Corp.  
Go Technology Management LLC  
Google North America Inc. dba Project Fi by  
Google  
Granite Telecommunications LLC

### H

Hello Mobile Telecom LLC  
Hoop Wireless LLC

### I

IDT Domestic Telecom Inc. (Brand name: Boss  
Wireless)  
IM Telecom LLC dba Infiniti Mobile  
i-wireless LLC  
Insight Mobile Inc

### J

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co.  
dba James Valley Telecommunications  
James Valley Wireless LLC

### K

Kajeet Inc.  
KDDI America Inc.

### L

Liberty Mobile Wireless LLC  
Liberty Wireless LLC  
Locus Telecommunications LLC  
Lux Mobile USA Inc.  
Lycamobile USA Inc.

### M

Marconi Wireless Holdings LLC dba Credo Mobile  
MAXSIP TEL LLC dba Maxsip Telecom  
Mediacom Wireless LLC  
MetroPCS of Michigan LLP dba Metro by T-Mobile  
Mint Mobile LLC  
Mobi Inc. (*withdrew* 09/24)  
MVNO Connect LLC

## WIRELESS COMPANIES CONTINUED...

---

### N

---

Native Wireless LLC  
Natwireless LLC dba NATIONAL WIRELESS  
New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC dba AT&T  
Mobility LLC  
NewPhone Wireless LLC (*withdrew 05/24*)  
Nextiva  
Nexus Communications Inc. dba Reachout  
Wireless  
North American Local LLC  
Nova Labs Inc.

### O

---

OnStar LLC (*withdrew 11/24*)  
Onvoy Spectrum LLC

### P

---

Panda Mobile LLC  
Pareteum Corp.  
Patriot Mobile LLC  
Peerless Network of South Dakota LLC  
Phreeli Co.  
Plintron Technologies USA LLC  
Plug Mobile LLC  
PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet  
Global Communication  
Prepaid Wireless Group LLC dba Prepaid Wireless  
Wholesale  
Presto Wireless Corp.  
Private Tech Inc. dba Cape  
Prosper Wireless LLC  
Puretalk Holdings Inc.

### Q

---

Q Link Wireless LLC

### R

---

Ready Wireless LLC  
Red Pocket Inc.  
Rocstar Wireless LLC  
Rocket Mobile LLC  
RSCU Mobile LLC  
Rural Cellular Corp.

### S

---

Sage Telecom Communications LLC dba  
TruConnect  
Sarver Corp.  
SelecTel Inc. dba SelecTel Wireless  
SmartLess Mobile LLC  
Soehl Electronics Inc. dba Vantek  
Communications  
Splash Cellular LLC  
Sprint Spectrum LP dba Sprint PCS (*canceled  
12/24*)

Square Mobile Inc.  
Standing Rock Telecom  
Stream Communications LLC  
STS Media Inc. dba FreedomPop  
STX Group LLC dba Twigby  
Surf Telecom LLC

### T

---

TDS Long Distance Corp.  
Telefonica USA Inc.  
Tempo Telecom LLC  
TerraCom Inc. dba Maxsip Tel  
The Light Phone Inc.  
Ting Inc.  
T-Mobile Central LLC dba T-Mobile USA Inc.  
TouchTone Communications Inc.  
TracFone Wireless Inc.  
Trek Cellular LLC  
Troomi Wireless Inc.  
TruConnect Communications Inc.  
Tube Incorporated dba Reach Mobile

### U

---

US Mobile LLC  
UVNV Inc.

### V

---

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative  
Association Inc.  
Via Wireless LLC  
Visible Service LLC  
Viva-US Telecommuniucations Inc.  
Vodafone US Inc. dba Vodapone Americas  
VOLT MOBILE INC.

### W

---

Welncentivize LLC dba ChosenWireless  
Western Communications Inc.  
Whoop Connect Inc.  
Whoop Mobile Inc.  
Wing Tel Inc.  
Wizie Mobile LLC  
Working Assets Funding Service Inc.  
dba Credo Long Distance  
Wrizzle Inc.

### Z

---

Zefcom LLC



## LOCAL TELEPHONE COMPANIES

Also known as Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers, the following companies were providing local services when the Telecommunications Act of 1996 was enacted. Some companies can be both an ILEC and a CLEC (see page 30) in different service areas.

### INDEPENDENT

#### C

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority  
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Bluepeak

#### F

Fort Randall Telephone Co.

#### J

Jefferson Telephone LLC dba Long Lines Ltd.

#### K

Kennebec Telephone Co.

#### Q

Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

### MUNICIPALS

#### B

Beresford Municipal Telephone Co.  
City of Brookings Municipal Telephone

#### F

City of Faith Telephone Co.

### COOPERATIVES

#### A

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.

#### G

Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative  
Inc. dba Golden West  
Telecommunications

#### I

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc.

#### J

James Valley Cooperative Telephone Co.

#### M

Midstate Communications Inc.

#### R

RC Technologies

#### S

Santel Communications Cooperative

#### T

TrioTel Communications Inc.

#### V

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative  
Association  
Venture Communications Cooperative

#### W

West River Cooperative Telephone Co.

### FOREIGN EXCHANGE

#### C

Citizens Telecommunications Company of  
Minnesota LLC  
Consolidated Telcom Inc.

#### D

Dickey Rural Telephone Cooperative

#### F

Farmers Mutual Telephone Co

#### G

Great Plains Communications LLC

#### H

Heartland Telecommunications Company of  
Iowa

#### N

Northeast Nebraska Telephone Co.

#### Q

Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

#### R

Red River Rural Telephone Association  
RT Communications Inc. dba Range

#### T

Three River Telco

#### V

Valley Telephone Co.

#### W

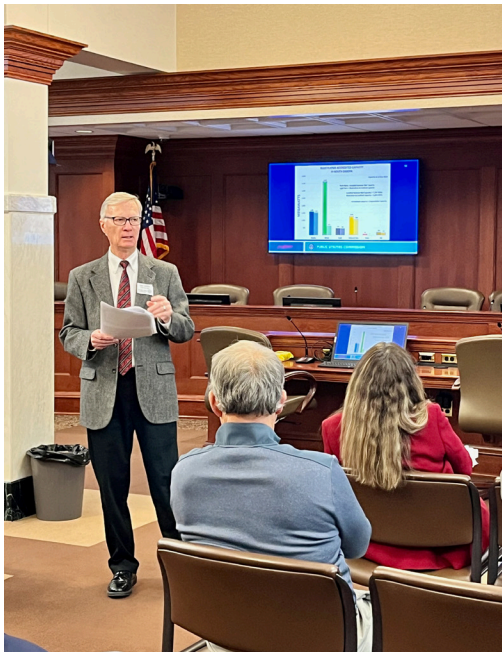
West River Telecommunications Cooperative

## OTHER TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANIES

Certified to provide telecommunications services in South Dakota by the Public Utilities Commission.

### S

South Dakota Network LLC dba SDN Communications



The PUC hosts annual events for legislators every legislative session.

At the 2024 PUC Briefing for Legislators, top left, Commissioner Gary Hanson gave updates on rate cases the PUC was processing and explained the electricity generation and consumption in South Dakota. Hanson also took time to converse with and answer additional questions from legislators like Rep. Kirk Chaffee, top right.

Lower left: Commissioners Nelson and Hanson take a moment to rest following the PUC's open house for legislators. The annual event is popular offering a warm breakfast, beverages and an excellent opportunity to talk and ask questions.

# DOCKET STATUS REGISTER

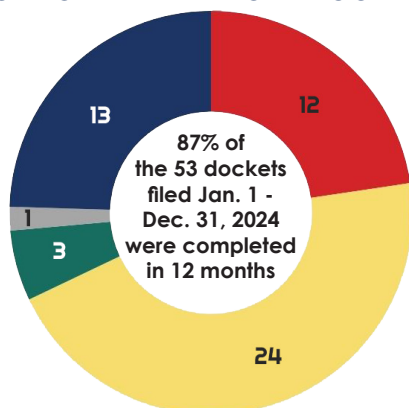
*A look at all the dockets filed with the PUC in 2024.*

| Type                                   | Dockets Opened | Dockets Closed | Pending as of Jan. 1, 2025 | Dockets closed between Jan. 1, 2025, and the publication date of this report (Spring 2025) are noted in parentheses.<br><br>Visit <a href="http://puc.sd.gov">puc.sd.gov</a> to check the current status of pending dockets. |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------------------|--|
| Administrative Items                   | 1              | 1              | 0                          |  |
| Electric                               | 38             | 31             | 12                         |  |
| Gas & Electric                         | 2              | 2              | 0                          |  |
| Grain Warehouse                        | 1              | 0              | 1                          |  |
| Hydrocarbon & Carbon Dioxide Pipelines | 1              | 0              | 1                          |  |
| Natural Gas                            | 13             | 13             | 1                          |  |
| Telecommunications                     | 47             | 46             | 8                          |  |
| <b>TOTALS</b>                          | <b>103</b>     | <b>93</b>      | <b>23</b>                  |  |

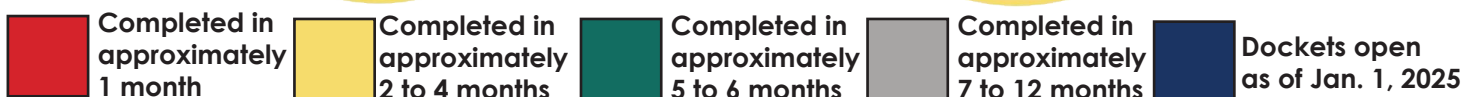
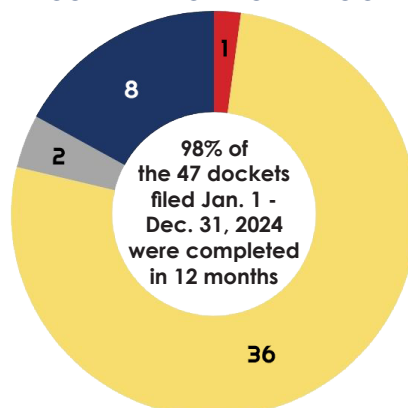
## COMPLETED DOCKETS

The number of dockets filed and completed each year reveals the agency's ability to manage its duties and workload. The measurement also assists agency officials in managing the process by which dockets are assigned, analyzed and acted upon by staff and commissioners. The commission seeks to completely process 90% of its electric and natural gas dockets and telecommunications dockets within 12 months of a docket being filed.

**ELECTRIC & NATURAL GAS DOCKETS**



**TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS**





## ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

---

**AA24-001** - Establishment of the Gross Receipts Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2025

Date Filed: 04/12/24 • Completed: 05/04/24

## ELECTRIC DOCKETS

---

**EL24-001** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy and Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Date Filed: 01/26/24 • Completed: 03/13/24

**EL24-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its Rates for Small Power Production and Cogeneration

Date Filed: 01/31/24 • Completed: 04/02/24

**EL24-003** - In the Matter for Approval of the Joint Service Exception Agreement between Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy and Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Date Filed: 02/06/24 • Completed: 03/13/24

**EL24-004** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of a New My Renewable Energy Credits (My RECs) Rider

Date Filed: 02/13/24 • Completed: 05/29/24

**EL24-005** - In the Matter of MidAmerican Energy Company's Application for Approval of Its 2023 Reconciliation and 2024 Transmission Cost Recovery Factors

Date Filed: 02/15/24 • Completed: 04/02/24

**EL24-006** - In the Matter the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of Its 2023 Economic Development Report and 2024 Economic Development Plan

Date Filed: 02/29/24 • Completed: 04/15/24

**EL24-007** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., for Approval of the Annual Update to Its Transmission Cost Recovery Rider Rate

Date Filed: 03/01/24 • Completed: 04/25/24

**EL24-008** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., for Approval of the Annual Update to Its Infrastructure Rider Rate

Date Filed: 03/01/24 • Completed: 04/25/24

**EL24-009** - In the Matter of the Filing of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2023 Economic Development Activities and 2024 Budget

Date Filed: 03/12/24 • Completed: 04/15/24

**EL24-010** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Exchange Agreement between West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy

Date Filed: 03/21/24 • Completed: 05/10/24

## ELECTRIC DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**EL24-011** - In the Matter of the Application by East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. for a Permit to Construct a WAPA North Bend to Pratt 230kV Transmission Line  
Date Filed: 03/22/24 • Pending

**EL24-012** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Its 2024 Economic Development Plan and 2023 Economic Development Report  
Date Filed: 03/28/24 • Completed: 05/14/24

**EL24-013** - In the Matter of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval to Amend Its Energy Cost Adjustment Tariff to Include Costs Related to the Study of Balancing Authority Options Including Participation in Energy Markets or a Regional Transmission Organization Including Associated Implementation Costs  
Date Filed: 04/02/24 • Completed: 04/08/24

**EL24-014** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval to Amend Its Energy Cost Adjustment Tariff to Include Costs and Benefits Related to WEIS Market Participation  
Date Filed: 04/08/24 • Completed: 04/24/24

**EL24-015** - In the Matter of the Application by Otter Tail Power Company and Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency for a Facility Permit for a 345-kV Transmission Facility and Associated Facilities in Grant County, South Dakota  
Date Filed: 04/15/24 • Pending

**EL24-016** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2023 Demand Side Management Report and 2025 Proposed Demand Side Management Plan  
Date Filed: 05/01/24 • Completed: 12/13/24

**EL24-017** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's 2023 South Dakota Energy Efficiency Plan Status Report and 2024 Annual Filing to Update the Energy Efficiency Adjustment Rider  
Date Filed: 05/01/24 • Completed: 06/24/24

**EL24-018** - In the Matter of the Application of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Advanced Metering Infrastructure Meter-Related Tariff Change  
Date Filed: 05/03/24 • Completed: 07/12/24

**EL24-019** - In the Matter of the Request by Rushmore Crossing Associates, LLC for a Variance from the Individual Metering Requirement in ARSD 20:10:26:03(1) for the Rushmore Crossing Shopping Center in Rapid City  
Date Filed: 05/30/24 • Completed: 09/17/24

**EL24-020** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of Rate Schedule, Section 13.09, Phase-In Rider  
Date Filed: 06/03/24 • Completed: 08/30/24

**EL24-021** - In the Matter of the Filing by Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency, through its agent Missouri River Energy Services, regarding Its Notification of Intent to Apply for a Permit for an Energy Conversion Facility  
Date Filed: 06/13/24 • Pending

**EL24-022** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions to its Rates for Cogeneration and Small Power Production Facilities  
Date Filed: 06/25/24 • Completed: 08/14/24

## ELECTRIC DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**EL24-023** - In the Matter of the Application by Deuel Harvest Wind Energy South LLC for Energy Facility Permits of a Wind Energy Facility and a 345-kV Transmission Facility in Deuel County, South Dakota, for the South Deuel Wind Project  
Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Pending

**EL24-024** - In the Matter of the Petition of Gevo Net-Zero 1, LLC to have Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, Inc. Assigned as its Electric Provider in the Service Area of Otter Tail Power Company  
Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 12/12/24

**EL24-025** - In the Matter of the Petition of Dakota Renewable Hydrogen, LLC to have Kingsbury Electric Cooperative, Inc. Assigned as its Electric Provider in the Service Area of Otter Tail Power Company  
Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 12/12/24

**EL24-026** - In the Matter of the Filing by Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy regarding its Notification of Intent to Apply for a Permit for an Energy Conversion Facility for the Proposed Lange 2 Power Plant Project  
Date Filed: 08/02/24 • (Completed: 01/22/25)

**EL24-027** - In the Matter of the Petition by Leola Data Center LLC to have Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., Assigned as its Electric Provider in the Service Area of FEM Electric Association Inc.  
Date Filed: 08/05/24 • Pending

**EL24-028** - In the Matter of the Request by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., for Approval of an Electric Service Agreement under Rate 45 between Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., and Leola Data Center LLC  
Date Filed: 08/05/24 • Pending

**EL24-029** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2025 Infrastructure Rider Project Eligibility and Factor Update  
Date Filed: 08/30/24 • Completed: 12/19/24

**EL24-030** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2025 Transmission Cost Recovery Eligibility and Rate Adjustment  
Date Filed: 08/30/24 • Completed: 11/26/24

**EL24-031** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Douglas Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 10/01/24 • Completed: 10/24/24

**EL24-032** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Authorization to Enter into up to \$450 Million of Intercompany Notes with Black Hills Corporation  
Date Filed: 10/04/24 • Completed: 10/23/24

**EL24-033** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its Rates for Rate 95 and Rate 96  
Date Filed: 10/21/24 • Completed: 12/06/24

**EL24-034** - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of the Transmission Cost Recovery Rider Rate  
Date Filed: 11/01/24 • (Completed: 02/13/25)



---

## ELECTRIC DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**EL24-035** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Exchange Agreement between West River Electric Association, Inc. and Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy  
Date Filed: 11/22/24 • (Completed: 01/22/25)

**EL24-036** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of a Credit Mechanism for Payments from the Fourth Extended Department of Energy Settlement  
Date Filed: 11/27/24 • (Completed: 01/22/25)

**EL24-037** - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of an Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between City of Fort Pierre and West Central Electric Cooperative, Inc.  
Date Filed: 12/04/24 • (Completed: 01/22/25)

**EL24-038** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of Rate Schedule, Section 13.09, Phase-In Rider  
Date Filed: 12/20/24 • Pending

---

## GAS & ELECTRIC DOCKETS

---

**GE24-001** - In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions to its Sample Forms  
Date Filed: 01/19/24 • Completed: 02/26/24

**GE24-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of a Revised Customer Information Welcome Booklet  
Date Filed: 11/20/24 • Completed: 12/19/24

---

## GRAIN WAREHOUSE DOCKETS

---

**GW24-001** - In the Matter of PUC Staff's Complaint Against Yield10 Bioscience, Inc. of Woburn, MA  
Date Filed: 04/04/24 • Pending

---

## HYDROCARBON & CARBON DIOXIDE PIPELINE DOCKETS

---

**HP24-001** - In the Matter of the Application by SCS Carbon Transport LLC for a Permit to Construct a Carbon Dioxide Transmission Pipeline  
Date Filed: 11/19/24 • Pending

---

## NATURAL GAS DOCKETS

---

**NG24-001** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with POET Biorefining - Hudson, LLC  
Date Filed: 01/19/24 • Completed: 03/08/24

**NG24-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., for Approval of Its Revised Conservation Tracking Adjustment  
Date Filed: 01/30/24 • Completed: 02/23/24

## NATURAL GAS DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**NG24-003** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Its 2024 Economic Development Plan and 2023 Economic Development Report  
Date Filed: 03/28/24 • Completed: 05/14/24

**NG24-004** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Its 2023 Economic Development Activities and 2024 Proposed Budget  
Date Filed: 06/20/24 • Completed: 08/15/24

**NG24-005** - In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Authority to Increase Rates for Natural Gas Utility Service in South Dakota  
Date Filed: 06/21/24 • Completed: 12/19/24

**NG24-006** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co., a Subsidiary of MDU Resources Group Inc., for Approval of Authority to Discontinue North Deadwood Expansion Area Surcharge Rate 75  
Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 07/24/24

**NG24-007** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of an Amended and Restated Contract with Deviations with L.G. Everist, Incorporated  
Date Filed: 07/11/24 • Completed: 09/06/24

**NG24-008** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with Five Shot RNG, LLC  
Date Filed: 07/23/24 • Completed: 09/13/24

**NG24-009** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with Moccasin Creek RNG, LLC  
Date Filed: 07/23/24 • Completed: 09/13/24

**NG24-010** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Its Gas Transportation Tariff Revisions Regarding Fuel Retention Percentage  
Date Filed: 08/23/24 • Completed: 09/25/24

**NG24-011** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with Clark RNG LLC  
Date Filed: 10/04/24 • Completed: 11/21/24

**NG24-012** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Amendment No. 1 to Transportation Service Agreement with Dakota Ethanol, L.L.C.  
Date Filed: 12/03/24 • Completed: 12/30/24

**NG24-013** - In the Matter of MidAmerican Energy Company's Petition for Approval of Deferred Accounting Treatment of Costs Incurred Related to McCook Lake Flooding  
Date Filed: 12/31/24 • (Completed: 03/04/25)

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS

---

**TC24-001** - In the Matter of the Approval of the Carrier Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc. for the State of South Dakota  
Date Filed: 01/05/24 • Completed: 02/23/24

**TC24-002** - In the Matter of the Petition of Assurance Wireless USA, L.P. for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier for the Purpose of Offering Lifeline Service to Qualifying Customers  
Date Filed: 01/12/24 • Completed: 05/15/24

**TC24-003** - In the Matter of the Petition of IM Telecom, LLC dba Infiniti Mobile's for Approval for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of South Dakota for the Limited Purpose of Providing Lifeline Service to Qualifying Customers  
Date Filed: 01/17/24 • Completed: 12/18/24

**TC24-004** - In the Matter of the Petition of TruConnect Communications, Inc. for Approval for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of South Dakota for the Limited Purpose of Providing Lifeline Service to Qualifying Customers  
Date Filed: 01/17/24 • Completed: 11/12/24

**TC24-005** - In the Matter of the Filing of TracFone Wireless, Inc.'s Petition for Approval of a Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in the State of South Dakota for the Limited Purpose of Providing Lifeline Service to Qualifying Customers  
Date Filed: 02/01/24 • Pending

**TC24-006** - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of Amendment No. 2 to the Reciprocal Transport and Termination Agreement between Verizon Wireless and Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association  
Date Filed: 02/09/24 • Completed: 03/13/24

**TC24-007** - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Peerless Network of South Dakota, LLC for the State of South Dakota  
Date Filed: 02/15/24 • Completed: 05/14/24

**TC24-008** - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of the Carrier Partner for Interconnected VoIP Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Peerless Network of South Dakota, LLC for the State of South Dakota  
Date Filed: 02/15/24 • Completed: 05/14/24

**TC24-009** - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of the First Amendment to Extended Area Service Agreement between Midcontinent Communications and James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company dba James Valley Telecommunications  
Date Filed: 04/11/24 • Completed: 07/02/24

**TC24-010** - In the Matter of the Filing for Approval of the First Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Midcontinent Communications and Northern Valley Communications, LLC  
Date Filed: 04/11/24 • Completed: 07/08/24

**TC24-011** - In the Matter of the Application of Ubiquity South Dakota, LLC for Certificates of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Telecommunications Services in the State of South Dakota  
Date Filed: 04/26/24 • Completed: 07/23/24



## TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**TC24-012** - In the Matter of the Request of Northern Valley Communications, LLC for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Areas: 399017 and 396340)  
Date Filed: 05/17/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-013** - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Cooperative Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391664)  
Date Filed: 05/17/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-014** - In the Matter of the Request of James Valley Wireless, LLC for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399014)  
Date Filed: 05/17/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-015** - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. (ILEC) for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391654)  
Date Filed: 06/03/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-016** - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., fka SSTELECOM, Inc. (CLEC) for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399013)  
Date Filed: 06/03/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-017** - In the Matter of the Request of Fort Randall Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391660)  
Date Filed: 06/14/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-018** - In the Matter of the Request of Venture Vision, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399025)  
Date Filed: 06/14/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-019** - In the Matter of the Request of Venture Communications Cooperative for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391680)  
Date Filed: 06/14/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-020** - In the Matter of the Request of City of Brookings Municipal Telephone for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391650)  
Date Filed: 06/18/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-021** - In the Matter of the Request of Santel Communications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391676)  
Date Filed: 06/18/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-022** - In the Matter of the Request of TrioTel Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Areas: McCook 391669 and Tri-County Telecom 391682)  
Date Filed: 06/20/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-023** - In the Matter of the Request of Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Areas: 391405, 391642, 391657 and 399024)  
Date Filed: 06/20/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-024** - In the Matter of the Request of West River Telecommunications Cooperative for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: Mobridge - 391671)  
Date Filed: 06/24/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**TC24-025** - In the Matter of the Request of Golden West Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Areas: Armour-391640, Golden West Telecom-391659, Kadoka-391667, Sioux Valley-391677, Union-391684, Vivian-391686)

Date Filed: 06/24/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-026** - In the Matter of the Filing by Local Exchange Carriers Association for Approval of Revisions to Its Access Services Tariff No. 1

Date Filed: 06/25/24 • Completed: 09/17/24

**TC24-027** - In the Matter of the Request of Midstate Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Areas: ILEC-391670 and CLEC-Chamberlain/Oacoma)

Date Filed: 06/26/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-028** - In the Matter of the Request of City of Faith Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391653)

Date Filed: 06/27/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-029** - In the Matter of the Request of RC Technologies for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391674)

Date Filed: 06/27/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-030** - In the Matter of the Request of Kennebec Telephone Co., Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391668)

Date Filed: 06/27/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-031** - In the Matter of the Request of Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391685)

Date Filed: 06/27/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-032** - In the Matter of the Request of Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 395145)

Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-033** - In the Matter of the Request of Jefferson Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391666)

Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-034** - In the Matter of the Request of Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391647)

Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-035** - In the Matter of the Request of Beresford Municipal Telephone Company for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391649)

Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-036** - In the Matter of the Request of Clarity Telecom, LLC dba Bluepeak Fiber for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: ILEC-391652 and CLEC-399006)

Date Filed: 06/28/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-037** - In the Matter of the Request of Midcontinent Communications for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399005)

Date Filed: 07/01/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

## TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS CONTINUED...

---

**TC24-038** - In the Matter of the Request of West River Cooperative Telephone Company Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391689)  
Date Filed: 07/01/24 • Completed: 09/20/24

**TC24-039** - In the Matter of the Application of Barr Tell USA Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in the State of South Dakota  
Date Filed: 07/17/24 • Completed: 08/29/24

**TC24-040** - In the Matter of the Application of ImOn Communications, LLC for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in the State of South Dakota  
Date Filed: 10/04/24 • Completed: 12/04/24

**TC24-041** - In the Matter of the Joint Application of Celerity Networks LLC and Gallatin Wireless Internet LLC for Authority to Complete the Transfer of the Certificate of Authority to Provide Competitive Local Exchange Telecommunications Services of Celerity Networks LLC to Gallatin Wireless Internet LLC  
Date Filed: 11/07/24 • (Completed: 01/22/25)

**TC24-042** - In the Matter of Approved Contact, LLC's Failure to Timely the Pay Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/24 • (Completed: 02/25/25)

**TC24-043** - In the Matter of COMTECH21, LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/24 • (Completed: 02/25/25)

**TC24-044** - In the Matter of Rocket Mobile, LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/24 • (Completed: 02/25/25)

**TC24-045** - In the Matter of Sarver Corporation's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/24 • (Completed: 02/25/25)

**TC24-046** - In the Matter of Square Mobile Inc.'s Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/24 • (Completed: 02/25/25)

**TC24-047** - In the Matter of Welncentivize LLC dba Chosen Wireless' Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax  
Date Filed: 12/06/24 • (Completed: 02/25/25)



## REOPENED DOCKETS

---

**EL09-012** - In the Matter of the Petition of MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of a Fuel Clause Rider Tariff Change

Date Filed: 07/01/09 • Completed: 08/04/09

Reopened: 03/05/24 • Completed: 03/27/24

**EL10-016** - In the Matter of the Application of Great River Energy and Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for a Permit to Construct a 10.6 Mile, 345 kV Transmission Line (CapX2020) in Brookings County Near White, South Dakota

Date Filed: 11/23/10 • Completed: 07/07/11

Reopened: 02/05/16 • Completed: 03/16/16

Reopened: 04/09/24 • Pending

**EL23-021** - In the Matter of Approval of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of a Bill Re-design and Modifications to General Rules and Regulations, Rate Schedule Section 1.05

Date Filed: 08/18/23 • Completed: 04/15/24

Reopened: 04/30/24 • Completed: 07/29/24

**GW23-001** - In the Matter of PUC Staff's Complaint Against Banghart Properties, LLC, Gettysburg, South Dakota

Date Filed: 01/30/23 • Completed: 02/29/24

Reopened: 06/10/24 • Completed: 06/17/24

**HP07-001** - In the Matter of the Application by TransCanada Keystone Pipeline LP for a Permit Under the South Dakota Energy Conversion and Transmission Facilities Act to Construct the Keystone Pipeline Project.

Date Filed: 04/27/07 • Completed: 06/10/08

Reopened: 03/02/11 • Completed: 05/02/13

Reopened: 02/06/24 • Completed: 03/28/24

# MISSION STATEMENT

---

*of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission*

**The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission will serve and protect South Dakota consumers by ensuring safe, reliable and high quality utility services. The commission will exercise its authority and influence to ensure that residential and business consumers have access to utility services at fair and reasonable rates. The commission will be proactive and solutions-oriented in striving to maximize consumer utility value and education while working to enhance the economic and environmental well-being for the citizens of the state of South Dakota.**

*South Dakota PUC  
500 E. Capitol Ave.  
Pierre SD 57501  
(605) 773-3201  
[puc.sd.gov](http://puc.sd.gov)*

