



PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

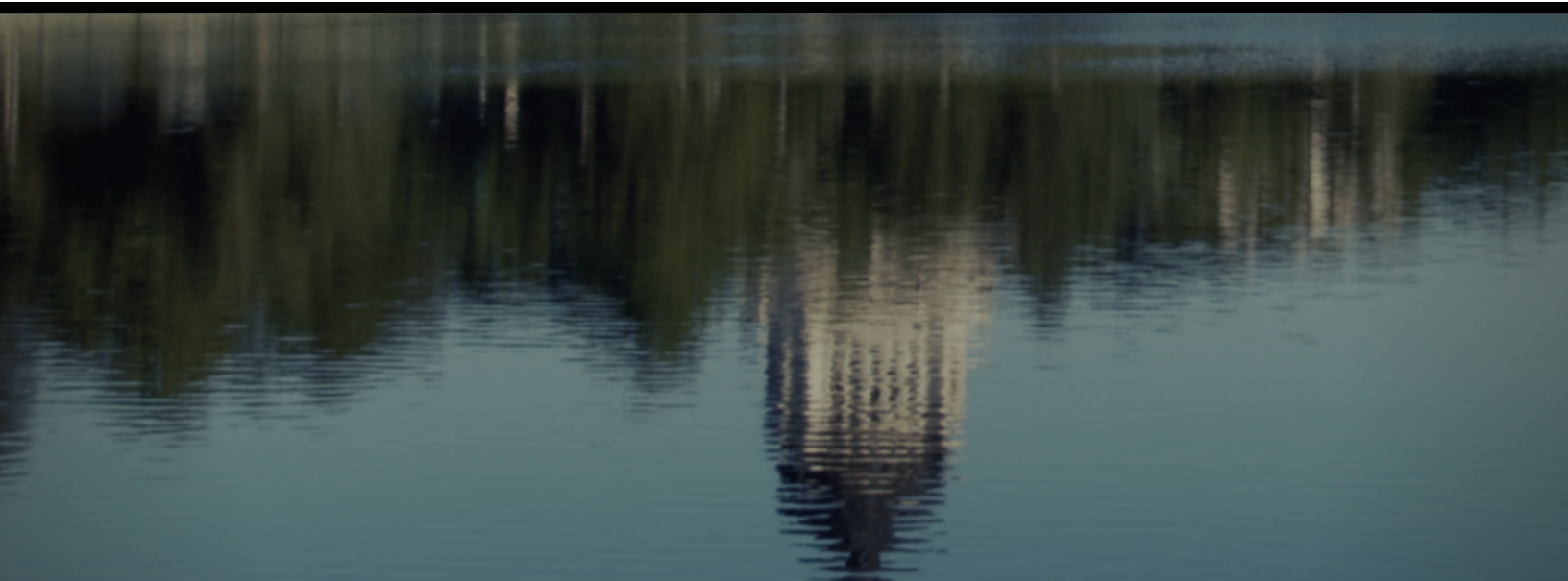
The background of the cover is a photograph of the South Dakota State Capitol building, a large neoclassical structure with a prominent dome, situated on a grassy hill. In the foreground, a calm body of water reflects the building and the surrounding trees. The sky is a clear, deep blue.

2020
ANNUAL
REPORT

Photo courtesy of South Dakota Tourism

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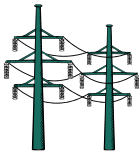
ABOUT THE PUC

South Dakotans elect their three Public Utilities Commissioners 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, www.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, reasonable rates. It plays a more limited regulatory role with respect to telecommunications companies and cooperative, independent and municipal utilities.



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 or carbon dioxide.



OUTREACH

The commission advocates for smart energy and telecommunications policy at state and federal levels and works hard to educate consumers about ways to save energy and money.



OTHER DUTIES

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

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.

Life. Uninterrupted. The site, 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.

CHAIRMAN GARY HANSON

ELECTIONS & APPOINTMENTS

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

Gary served as the commission's chairman in 2005, 2008, 2011, 2013, 2014, 2019 and 2020 and as vice chairman in 2003, 2004, 2011, 2017 and 2018.

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 chair of the committees on Bonding and of Government Audit and Operations, and was vice chair 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
- president of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference
- member of the Advisory Council for New Mexico State University's Center for Public Utilities
- member of the Organization of MISO States' Board of Directors and Committee on Conflict of Interest
- member of the national Low-Income Energy Forum

Past roles include:

- served on the executive committee and as treasurer of the Organization of MISO States
- represented NARUC 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. He was also 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 Pavillion and Great Plains Zoo. While Gary was mayor of Sioux Falls, the violent crime rate was decreased every year except one for a total decrease of over 31 percent.

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 Hat's 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



VICE CHAIRMAN 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.

COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

Chris served as the PUC's chairman in 2012, 2015 and 2016 and as vice chairman in 2011, 2013, 2014, 2019 and 2020.

EXPERIENCE

Prior to joining the PUC, Chris was elected 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's current roles include:

- member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' board of directors
- chairman of NARUC's Broadband Expansion Task Force
- co-chair of NARUC's Washington Action Program
- member of NARUC's Investment Committee
- chairman of the board of the Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service
- member of the National Regulatory Research Institute's board of directors

Past roles include:

- chairman of NARUC's Committee on Telecommunications

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 recognizes 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



COMMISSIONER 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.

COMMISSION LEADERSHIP

Kristie served as the commission's chairperson in 2017 and 2018 and as vice chairperson in 2012, 2015 and 2016.

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 also 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:

- member of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners' Committee on Gas
- member of the NARUC Subcommittee on Pipeline Safety
- vice president of the Southwest Power Pool's Regional State Committee
- member of the Gas Technology Institute's Public Interest Advisory Committee
- member of the SPP Regional States Committee and OMS Seams Liaison 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 then 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



PUC Commissioners Chris Nelson, Gary Hanson and Kristie Fiegen (left to right) host the PUC Open House for Legislators in January. The open house provides a great opportunity for legislators to catch up with commissioners and staff.

ABOUT OUR 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.

Advising the commissioners are **Karen Cremer** and **Adam de Hueck** as **commission attorneys** and **Greg Rislov** as **commission advisor**. The attorneys also serve as hearing examiners and represent the commission in federal courts and before federal regulatory agencies. Greg provides policy and technical consultation and research support regarding major regulatory issues.

Administrative staff members perform a variety of support services including handling incoming phone calls and mail and greeting guests. Each staff member has specific duties that keep the PUC running smoothly. **Joy Lashley** has primary responsibility for maintaining the PUC electronic docket system as well as each of the websites the commission operates. **Kaitlyn Baucom** schedules and coordinates meeting logistics, travel and training. **Macy Jo Murren** assists with the preparation of orders, handles meeting minutes, and distributes meeting agendas and weekly filings.

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, and energy efficiency efforts. They also engage in outreach activities to consumers, industry representatives and students, and provide other docket analysis as assigned.

Kristen Edwards and **Amanda Reiss** 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.

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 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.

WORKING THROUGH COVID-19

Like other government agencies, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission was indeed impacted by the coronavirus in 2020. Commissioners and staff worked from home at times. Safety protocols were put in place. Grain warehouse and pipeline safety inspections were conducted remotely. Commission meetings took place over the phone. Virtual conferences kept us connected.

Generally, it was business as usual, under unusual circumstances. Specifically, adaptations were made to ensure the commission remained accessible while meeting its obligations and keeping commissioners and staff as safe as possible.

- Staff were present in the PUC's Capitol office every workday in 2020. The ratio of commissioners and staff working in the Capitol and remotely fluctuated depending on the rate of coronavirus infections reported in Hughes County.*
- Regular commission meetings were held on schedule. Meetings in March, April and May were held completely telephonically. Thereafter, commission meetings were held in the Capitol with many participants joining by telephone, much like before the pandemic.*
- The PUC followed the CDC's guidance regarding group gatherings and transitioned traditional in-person public input meetings to telephonic sessions.*
- Clear barriers were added to some workstations to provide additional protection from the airborne virus. Bottles of hand sanitizer and cleaning spray became office décor.*
- Dependence on technology was stepped up to a new level. MS Teams, Zoom and Webex became familiar tools.*
- Throughout the pandemic, the PUC continued to function as a commission that was open, working and accessible to the public.*

FINANCIAL REPORT 2020

For the fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2020

	BUDGET	GENERAL FUNDS	FEDERAL FUNDS	OTHER FUNDS	ENCUMBRANCE	BUDGET NOT EXPENDED
ADMINISTRATION						
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$1,289,865	\$364,642	\$27,338	\$872,032	\$0	\$25,853
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$174,375	\$0	\$2,230	\$140,480	\$185	\$31,480
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$1,464,240	\$364,642	\$29,568	\$1,012,512	\$185	\$57,332
GRAIN WAREHOUSE						
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$295,118	\$197,819	\$0	\$71,768	\$0	\$25,531
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$79,158	\$53,539	\$0	\$1,300	\$0	\$24,319
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$374,276	\$251,358	\$0	\$73,068	\$0	\$49,851
FIXED UTILITY (INFORMATIONAL BUDGET)						
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$1,475,173	\$0	\$0	\$1,375,266	\$0	\$99,907
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$439,421	\$0	\$751	\$296,197	\$2,320	\$140,153
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$1,914,594	\$0	\$751	\$1,671,463	\$2,320	\$240,060
PIPELINE SAFETY (INFORMATIONAL BUDGET)						
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$226,615	\$0	\$135,560	\$85,084	\$0	\$5,972
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$77,376	\$0	\$36,455	\$16,722	\$0	\$24,199
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$303,991	\$0	\$172,015	\$101,806	\$0	\$30,171
DO NOT CALL REGISTRY						
PERSONAL SERVICES	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$28,606	\$0	\$0	\$11,383	\$0	\$17,223
TOTAL PROGRAM	\$28,606	\$0	\$0	\$11,383	\$0	\$17,223
GROSS RECEIPTS TAX FUND REVENUES & FEES						
GRAIN & WAREHOUSE LICENSES		\$118,825		GROSS RECEIPTS TAX*		\$1,698,433
CHECK OFF AUDITS		\$5,200		APPLICATION FEES		\$1,000
INTEREST EARNED		\$3,137		INTEREST EARNED		\$63,590
TOTAL REVENUE		\$127,162		TOTAL REVENUE		\$1,763,023

*INCLUDES FINES/PENALTIES

2020 YEAR IN REVIEW

A look back highlighting actions taken by the PUC during the 2020 calendar year.

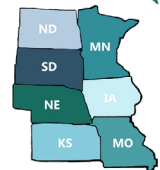
ELECTRIC & NATURAL GAS

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 fair 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 2020.

ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS RATE CHANGES AND ADJUSTMENTS

Reviewing electric and natural gas rates from around the state, region and nation offers perspective to evaluate the financial impact of South Dakota ratepayers' experience compared to residents in other states.

AVERAGE RESIDENTIAL UTILITY RATES		ELECTRIC Measurement per kWh, 2020	NATURAL GAS Measurement per thousand cubic feet, 2019
 SD	<i>South Dakota</i>	11.81 cents	\$7.29
 West Central Region <i>(Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota and South Dakota)</i>		11.99 cents	\$8.56
 USA	<i>United States</i>	13.20 cents	\$10.51

In April, the commission approved an annual update to **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s** infrastructure rider rate. The update approved a 2020 Infrastructure Rider revenue requirement of \$1,251,107, authorized the inclusion of the Sidney Transmission Line Project and Mandan Substation Project, and approved MDU's request to increase the tariff rate to \$0.00841 per kWh. As a result, a residential customer using 853 kWh saw \$0.57 added to their monthly bill.

The commission approved an update to **Xcel Energy's** infrastructure rider factor in December. The change adds approximately \$2.27 to an average residential customer's monthly bill and allows Xcel Energy to recover the cost of 70 previously approved projects and four new projects.

ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS RATE CHANGES AND ADJUSTMENTS CONTINUED...

PUC staff continued processing **Xcel Energy's** proxy pricing proposal to adjust certain fuel clause rider (FCR) power purchase costs which was filed in January 2018 as a result of the investigation that began in late 2016. Staff was tasked with evaluating whether the recovery of certain power purchase agreements (PPAs) through the company's FCR were reasonable and cost effective for South Dakota customers and engaged with the company in numerous negotiation sessions. The settlement approved by the commission in September 2017 adjusted the costs of certain challenged resources to reflect a fair and reasonable price for electricity for South Dakota consumers, including a proxy price for the Aurora Solar PPA and a capacity proxy price for the 187 MW Solar PPAs. The settlement deferred the decision on certain other resources to a separate proceeding, which resulted in Xcel's 2018 filing. Parties again engaged in settlement discussions and ultimately agreed to a comprehensive resolution on all issues and filed a settlement agreement with the commission in February 2020. The settlement established an energy proxy price for 187 MW Solar PPAs, an index proxy price for appropriate C-BED PPAs, a capacity and energy proxy price for all RDF resources, including four solar PPAs, two wind PPAs, and one biomass PPA, and an over \$3.2 million refund for South Dakota customers. The commission accepted the joint settlement agreement in March and further found that interest should be applied to the amount to be refunded to customers and ordered Xcel to apply an interest rate consistent with the carrying charge rate used in the FCR of 7.22%. The total amount credited to South Dakota customers through the FCR in April, May and June, including interest, was over \$3.9 million.

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

- In February, **Otter Tail Power Co.'s** updated TCR rider rate was approved by the commission. The updated rate allows for the recovery of more than \$2.3 million related to two previously approved transmission projects, a transmission adjustment from rate case EL18-021, Southwest Power Pool Schedule 9 and Schedule 11 expenses, Midcontinent Independent System Operator Schedule 26 and 26A expenses and revenues and MISO Schedule 9 and MVP ARR revenues. As a result of this change, the average residential bill decreased by approximately \$0.02 per month.
- In March, an updated TCR rider rate for **MidAmerican Energy Co.** was approved. The updated rate covers allowed costs related to the MISO's Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Transmission Rate Schedules 10, 10-FERC, 26, and 26-A. The \$413,459 approved revenue requirement translates roughly to a \$0.39 monthly bill increase for a typical residential customer's bill averaging 700 kWh per month.
- In April, **Montana-Dakota Utilities Co.'s** updated TCR rider rate was approved by the commission. The updated rate reflects the 2020 recovery period that includes the Ellendale to Leola Transmission and Dickinson Loop Line projects, transmission service costs for the MISO and Southwest Power Pool and revenue from the use of company facilities in MISO and SPP markets. The \$764,144 approved revenue requirement translates roughly to a \$0.02 monthly bill decrease for a typical residential customer's bill averaging 853 kWh per month.
- In December, the commission approved **Xcel Energy's** request for an update to its TCR rate to allow recovery of over \$7.2 million related to 24 transmission projects and costs associated with MISO's Schedule 26 expenses. An average residential customer using 750 kWh per month saw a monthly increase on their bill of approximately \$0.31.

ELECTRIC AND NATURAL GAS RATE CHANGES AND 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 6.521% and a revenue requirement of \$1,624,525. The updated rate allows Otter Tail to recover costs associated with the Merricourt Wind and Astoria Station projects and provides customers with offsetting revenue credits for new load growth in the Lake Norden area and net savings associated with the Hoot Lake Plant retirement. As a result, a typical residential customer using 1,000 kWh per month will see a monthly bill increase of \$2.30.

Vice Chairman Chris Nelson, along with a panel of PUC staff experts, led a virtual presentation about pricing and eligibility changes to PURPA for an EUCI audience. The group provided a commission perspective on the new ruling, specifically how ratepayers are considered and protected throughout the process. Staff members sharing their experience included Greg Rislov, commission advisor; Kristen Edwards, staff attorney; and Darren Kearney, staff analyst.

COMPLAINTS

In August, the commission approved a settlement stipulation from **Energy of Utah, LLC and Fall River Solar, LLC, Black Hills Energy** and PUC staff resolving all issues stemming from the complaint filed in 2018 by Fall River against Black Hills Energy. The complaint was in relation to a proposed 80-megawatt solar facility in Fall River County and the determination of avoided cost in accordance with the Public Utilities Regulatory Policies Act of 1978. The settlement's key provisions include a PPA rate, established that Renewable Energy Credits would be transferred to Black Hills Energy at no additional cost for the benefit of their customers, identified basic terms of the PPA like length and commercial operation date estimates and stated that Fall River and Black Hills will enter into a Large Generator Interconnection Agreement. Several stipulations for continuances were filed with the commission in 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.

ELECTRIC RELIABILITY

The electric utility industry uses indices to track and benchmark performance reliability. Companies use this data to evaluate and improve upon their response to outages, handling of customer complaints and system integrity. Though electric utilities in South Dakota are not required to report these scores to the PUC, the companies discuss the information with the commission and a comparison to national scores is ascertained.

INDICES

System Average Interruption Duration Index

(SAIDI): The average amount of time a customer's service is interrupted during the reporting period

System Average Interruption Frequency Index

(SAIFI): The average number of interruptions that a customer would experience

Customer Average Interruption Duration Index

(CAIDI): The average outage duration that any given customer would experience. CAIDI can also be viewed as the average restoration time.

Measurement

South Dakota 2020 scores compared to National 2019 median score

Sixteen of the 18 scores provided to the PUC by South Dakota's six investor-owned utilities were better than the median. Analyzing the scores with relation to customer base and other factors reveals that the utilities have a high degree of electric reliability performance.

SITING

In November, the commission approved a permit, with 38 conditions, for the construction of the **Wild Springs Solar Project**. The commission had approved a settlement agreement, presented by Wild Springs Solar, LLC, PUC staff and the Bundorf Family Trust, the docket's only intervenor, earlier that month addressing all issues except for decommissioning financial assurance. The 128-megawatt solar energy facility will include approximately 340,000 solar panels and will span up to 1,499 acres of privately-owned land in Pennington County. The company filed its application with the commission in May and a public input meeting was held telephonically in July.

A permit to construct the **Crowned Ridge Wind II** project, a 301-megawatt wind energy facility to be built in Codington, Deuel and Grant counties, was granted by the PUC in March of 2020. The project includes up to 132 wind turbines and associated facilities spread across a 60,996-acre project area east of Watertown. Xcel Energy purchased the first phase of the project which consists of 200 MWs. The second phase may consist of 100 MWs and is currently on hold due to a lack of transmission capacity. Crowned Ridge submitted their application to the PUC in July of 2019 and the commission held a public input meeting in Watertown in August 2019. Intervention was granted to several individuals and a three-day evidentiary hearing was held by the commission in Pierre in February 2020. Between April 29 and May 5, 2020, three filings were made to appeal the commission's decision to the South Dakota 3rd Circuit Court. In mid-May, all three appeals from intervenors Amber Christenson, Allen Robish, Garry Ehlebracht, Steven Greber, Mary Greber, Richard Rall, Amy Rall and Laretta Kranz were consolidated into one docket. A decision on this appeal is expected in 2021.

In February, the commission approved their first large scale solar project and issued a permit to construct **Lookout Solar Project** in Oglala Lakota County. The project will span 810 acres on the Pine Ridge Reservation, will be capable of generating up to 110 megawatts of electricity and is expected to include up to 500,000 solar panels. Lookout Solar filed its application with the PUC on Dec. 17, 2018. A public input hearing was held in Hermosa in February of 2019.

In April, the **South Dakota 3rd Circuit Court** issued an order affirming the commission's decision to grant a permit to construct the Crowned Ridge Wind Farm, an up to 300-megawatt wind energy facility in Grant and Codington counties. The PUC's decision had been appealed by intervenors Amber Christenson, Allen Robish, Kristi Mogen, Patrick Lynch and Melissa Lynch. On May 22, 2020, Amber Christenson and Allen Robish appealed the circuit court's decision to the South Dakota Supreme Court. A decision by that court is expected in 2021. The project began construction in 2019 and became operational in December of 2019.

In June, the **South Dakota Supreme Court** upheld the commission's 2019 decision to grant a permit to construct the Crowned Ridge Wind Farm. Timothy and Linda Lindgren sought the appeal before the high court after the 3rd Circuit Court dismissed the Lindgren appeal in December of 2019.

The PUC received an application for a facility permit from **Meridian Wind Project LLC** to construct an up to 175-megawatt wind energy conversion facility, an 8.9-mile, 345-kV transmission line and associated facilities in Hyde County. A public input hearing was held telephonically in June and one intervenor, Nicolas Ferens, was granted party status. *(In January 2021, the applicant filed a motion to withdraw the application due to substantial and unexpected interconnection costs. The commission granted the motion at their Jan. 19, 2021, meeting.)*

ENERGY EFFICIENCY

The commission approved updates to energy efficiency and conservation programs. In 2020, the estimated energy savings for all investor-owned utilities was 27,582 megawatt hours of electricity and 8,144 dekatherms of natural gas.

- **Xcel Energy's** 2021 DSM Plan was approved by the commission as well as the 2019 DSM status report, 2019 financial incentive, 2019 DSM Tracker Account, and the revised 2021 DSM Cost Adjustment Factor. The 2021 Demand Side Management plan included adjustments to LED-related rebates for residential and business lighting programs.
- **Black Hills Energy** eliminated its Energy Efficiency Solutions plan after determining it was no longer cost effective to continue.
- **Otter Tail Power Co.** continued its Energy Efficiency Plan in 2020. The commission approved the 2019 financial incentive, 2019 Energy Efficiency Plan Status Report and the revised Energy Efficiency Adjustment Factor. Otter Tail modified certain existing programs and plans to expand its offerings beginning in 2021 with additional incentives including home LED lighting, smart thermostats and appliance recycling for residential customers and direct install incentives for commercial customers.

COVID-19

In March, S.D. Gov. Kristi Noem declared a state of emergency in response to the coronavirus pandemic. President Trump declared the COVID-19 pandemic a national emergency. Neither the governor nor the commission ordered a moratorium on utility disconnections. However, in the weeks following the emergency declarations, South Dakota investor-owned utilities, at various start times, all placed moratoriums on disconnections and late payment fees during the pandemic for an indefinite amount of time. In May, the commission received a joint request to defer treatment of the financial effects of COVID-19 and the creation of regulatory assets from Xcel Energy, MidAmerican Energy Co., NorthWestern Energy, Otter Tail Power Co. and Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. In August, the commission granted the joint request for deferred accounting treatment and creation of regulatory assets, subject to certain conditions recommended by PUC staff. The companies continue to provide quarterly updates regarding costs incurred as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic in accordance with those conditions.



Commissioners Gary Hanson (left) and Chris Nelson (far right) speak with Rep. Mark Willadsen and Rep. Marty Overweg during the PUC's 2020 Open House for Legislators in January.

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 2020.

BROADBAND DEPLOYMENT

While the commission does not have a statutory duty related to broadband service, it recognizes the importance of broadband availability to South Dakotans and advocates for the expansion of advanced telecommunications services. The Federal Communications Commission tracks broadband deployment through an Annual Broadband Progress Report. The report describes telecommunications deployment according to census blocks. The information is updated annually to reflect changes in population and the construction of new homes. The PUC uses this information to track broadband expansion in the state.

Measurement, for reporting year ending June 30, 2020

New census blocks that meet 10 mbps download speed: 3,082

New census blocks that meet 25 mbps download speed: 10,023

UNIVERSAL SERVICE FUND

Twenty-eight 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 (ETCs), are using funds for the provision, maintenance and upgrading of facilities and services for which the 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. In 2019, the Universal Service Administrative Co. distributed nearly \$134 million in High Cost Support and over \$1.7 million in Lifeline and Link-Up monies to South Dakota companies.

WIRELESS

Monitored the actions and results as new wireless telecommunications sites were launched by companies at a number of locations including those in or near Aberdeen, Belle Fourche, Box Elder, Conde, Custer, Dakota Dunes, Edgemont, Ellsworth AFB, Hayes, Long Lake, Martin, McIntosh, New Underwood, Philip, Rapid City, Shadehill, Sioux Falls, Watertown, Webster, Wewela, Witten and Woonsocket.

PUBLIC ADVOCACY

Vice Chairman Chris Nelson joined a bipartisan group of state officials at a virtual news conference to raise concerns about proposed FCC rule changes to the Lifeline program that would add new program mandates which would reduce marketplace options.

PIPELINE SAFETY

The PUC has responsibility to regulate natural gas intrastate pipelines, which includes ensuring the public is provided safe and dependable gas service. As part of its duties, commission staff inspects and investigates natural gas pipeline operators for compliance with federal and state statutes and administrative rules. Here is a look at the commission's pipeline safety work in 2020.

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 the U.S. Department of Transportation's Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration specifies that a minimum of 127 inspection days are required annually.

Measurement, 2020

Inspections: 176.75 days (127 days required)

FEDERAL AUDIT

South Dakota's pipeline safety program is field audited annually by PHMSA's Office of Pipeline Safety (Central Region). 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, 2020

Audit score: 100%

FEDERAL CERTIFICATION

PUC staff members involved in pipeline safety inspection are required to complete seven training courses to become certified pipeline safety inspectors. Additional training is required for certification to conduct specialty inspections for control room management, distribution integrity management programs, public awareness, and transmission integrity management. The courses are taught by the federal Pipeline Safety Office of Training and Qualifications and are designed to educate federal and state pipeline safety inspectors in the application of compliance requirements, inspection techniques and enforcement procedures.

Measurement, 2020

PUC inspectors are fully certified to conduct all inspections.



Commissioner Chris Nelson presents at the 2020 Briefing for Legislators in January. The annual briefing provides an opportunity for legislators to catch up on the current work of the PUC and important PUC-related topics that may arise during legislative session.

PIPELINE SAFETY OPERATOR TRAINING CONFERENCE

The PUC hosted the annual **South Dakota/North Dakota Pipeline Safety Operator Training** for more than 130 members of the pipeline safety industry from both states. Unable to host an in-person event in the spring as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference was transitioned to a distance event held in October. Participants virtually attended presentations by experts discussing excavation damage prevention, electrofusion failures, safety culture, flooding impact on gas systems and more. The event also included an exhibitor showcase with 14 companies participating.

DAMAGE PREVENTION DIGITAL CAMPAIGN & WORKSHOP

Beginning in May, the commission's pipeline safety program began a damage prevent campaign to remind homeowners, farmers, excavators and contractors to utilize 811's call before you dig service. Tactics included online search marketing efforts and social media and web-based advertisement placement on Facebook and Google. Overall, the campaign, which concluded in September, performed well, exceeding overall campaign goals across all tactics. Funding for the promotion was provided through a State Damage Prevention Grant awarded to the PUC from the PHMSA.

The State Damage Prevention Grant also funded a half-day workshop for locators and excavators. The workshop focused on lessons learned from recent events, the availability and utilization of new resources like the Safe Excavator App and the role of innovative tools and technology in preventing damage to underground utilities. The event also featured two panels with contractors, locators, underground facility operators and other stakeholders discussing some of the more controversial issues facing them and what can be done to advance safety in the future. The workshop, originally scheduled to be two separate in-person workshops for locators and excavators in April, was rescheduled and converted to a virtual event due to the coronavirus pandemic. The online event was held in November with 94 industry professionals participating.

LEGISLATION

Occasionally, the commission finds that current South Dakota laws are in need of modification or clarification and makes efforts to update legislation. In addition to legislative efforts, the commission and staff take an active role in the annual budgeting process.

APPROPRIATIONS

Chairman Gary Hanson met with legislative appropriators to present the PUC's annual budget for fiscal year 2021. The full legislature gave favorable consideration to the PUC's budget and Governor Kristi Noem signed state government's general appropriations bill on March 27, 2020.



Commissioner Kristie Fiegen meets with South Dakota Senator Jim Stalzer to discuss the upcoming 2021 Legislative Session following Governor Noem's December budget address.

GRAIN WAREHOUSE

The Public Utilities Commission is responsible for monitoring the South Dakota grain industry. To reduce producer risk, the PUC's Warehouse Program licenses and inspects state-licensed grain storage warehouses, federally-licensed grain storage warehouses holding state grain-buyer licenses, grain buyers licensed as processors and non-storage facilities. Grain brokers and truck-based grain buyers are also licensed but not inspected because they do not maintain facilities in South Dakota.

The PUC uses three main categories, inspections, licenses and license revocations, to measure its effectiveness in the grain industry, plus other major happenings in the PUC's grain program in 2020.

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. The current PUC inspection process typically results in each facility being inspected once every six to nine months.

Measurement, 2020

Grain warehouse and grain buyer inspections: 492 inspections at 351 licensed facilities

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, 2020

- Class A Grain Buyer Licenses (entities that use voluntary credit sale contracts or exceed \$5,000,000 in annual purchases): 114 entities with 284 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): 63 entities with 64 locations.
- State Warehouse Licenses (entities that store grain for hire): 47 entities with 66 locations; one out-of-state.
- Federal Warehouse Licenses (entities that are licensed by the USDA to store grain for hire): 32 entities with 151 locations; 11 out-of-state locations maintain a South Dakota grain buyer license.
- Processors (entities that purchase grain for the purpose of processing it into other products): 26 entities with 44 locations; 13 out-of-state locations maintain a South Dakota grain buyer license.
- Non-storage (entities that operate a grain handling facility but do not hold a state or federal warehouse license): 17 entities with 22 locations; four out-of-state locations.
- Truck (entities that are primarily trucking companies with no grain handling facility but purchase grain for the purpose of resale): 13 entities with five in-state and eight out-of-state locations.
- Brokers (entities that purchase grain but do not take physical possession of the grain): 42 entities with three in-state and 39 out-of-state locations.

LICENSE REVOCATIONS

If a licensed warehouse 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. Though we work diligently to minimize producer risk, some license revocations cannot be avoided.

Measurement, 2020

License Revocations: None

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 or 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

Assisted consumers on 1,268 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

Consumer complaints are received by the commission via phone, mail, email and, occasionally, in-person. 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, 2020

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, 2020

Formal consumer complaints: None

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, 2020

South Dakota telephone numbers on Do Not Call Registry: 694,657 (1% increase)

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Visited with more than 550 consumers about the purpose and services of the PUC at the Sioux Falls Home Show in March. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the PUC was unable to host a booth at the Black Hills Home Show in Rapid City and South Dakota State Fair in Huron as they have in past years.

LEADERSHIP AND COMMISSIONER OUTREACH

Commissioners hold a number of leadership roles with national and regional organizations. Here is a look at their roles in 2020. They also engage with South Dakota consumers, students, industry professionals and community leaders through many public gatherings each year.

SOUTH DAKOTA PUC

Commissioner Gary Hanson served as PUC chairman and **Commissioner Chris Nelson** as vice chairman in 2020.

MID-AMERICA REGULATORY CONFERENCE

Chairman Gary Hanson was elected president of the Mid-America Regulatory Conference. MARC is an association of utility regulatory agencies from Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wisconsin. Hanson had previously served two years as vice president, two years as secretary and one year as treasurer. As MARC president, Hanson led presentations to the membership at their fall meeting.

SOUTHWEST POWER POOL

Commissioner Kristie Fiegen served as vice president of the Southwest Power Pool's Regional State Committee, which is tasked with overseeing the fulfillment of the on-target, customer-driven goals of SPP as it provides bulk transmission, reliability and market services to transmission companies, utilities and end-use customers in the region.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF REGULATORY UTILITY COMMISSIONERS

Vice Chair Chris Nelson continued serving as chairman of NARUC's Broadband Expansion Task Force and co-chair of the organization's Washington Action Program. He is also a member of the group's board of directors and Investment Committee.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENTS

Chairman Gary Hanson offered a glimpse of the PUC's role and responsibilities to members of the South Dakota AFL/CIO and South Dakota Rural Electric Association managers at the groups' annual gatherings in Pierre. He also spoke to more than a dozen service organizations throughout the state to enhance awareness of how the PUC serves and protects South Dakota's consumers.

Vice Chairman Chris Nelson met with several school and utility industry groups, sharing expertise and leading discussions on such topics as spectrum, the Rural Digital Opportunity Fund, wind energy, electric generation mix, technology divide, the telecommunications aspect of transactive energy, and broadband. Audiences and events receiving his messages included Newell, Chamberlain and South Dakota School of Mines and Technology students; National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners conferences; South Dakota AFL/CIO members; National Regulatory Research Institute webinar; Oscher Lifelong Learning Institute participants; Transactive Energy Systems Conference; Valley Telecommunications Reconnect award announcement; NTCA-The Rural Broadband Association members; and Utilities Technology Council members.

Commissioner Kristie Fiegen shared her passion for consumer protection in presentations to students from Chamberlain and Newell. Fiegen also led a question and answer session for legislative interns and pages about the PUC. As a leader on the Regional State Committee of the Southwest Power Pool, Fiegen also gave her perspective during several presentations to regional transmission organizations throughout the year.

REGULATED UTILITY COMPANIES

A listing of the companies regulated by the PUC in 2020.

2020 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. They 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 COMPANIES

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	\$ 1,300,330
Telecommunications Companies	\$ 453,145

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 Co.
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	Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc. Alliance Global Networks LLC American Telecommunications Systems Inc. AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba LifeLine Communications dba Affinity 4 ANPI LLC AT&T Corp.
A ----- Access One Inc. AccessLine Communications Corp. dba Voice Telco Services ACN Communication Services LLC Affinity Network Inc. Airespring Inc. Airus Inc.	B ----- Bandwidth.com CLEC LLC BCN Telecom Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (CONTINUED)

B continued...

BEK Communications Cooperative
Blackfoot Communications Inc.
Broadband Dynamics LLC
Broadsmart Global Inc.
Broadview Networks Inc.
Broadvox-CLEC LLC
Broadwing Communications LLC
BullsEye Telecom Inc.
Business Network Long Distance Inc.
Business Telecom LLC dba EarthLink Business
(withdrew COA 10/20)

C

CBTS Technology Solutions LLC
Central Telecom Long Distance Inc.
CenturyLink Communications LLC dba Lumen
CenturyLink Public Communications Inc.
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Vast Broadband
ComApp Technologies LLC
(withdrew COA 03/20)
Combined Public Communications LLC
Comcast Phone of South Dakota LLC
Communications Network Billing Inc.
Communications Venture Corp. dba INdigital
COMTECH21 LLC
Consolidated Communications Enterprise
Services Inc.
Consolidated Communications Networks Inc.
Consolidated Telecom Inc. dba Secured
Technologies Inc.
Consumer Telcom Inc.
Convergia Inc.
Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.
Crown Castle Fiber LLC
CSDVRS LLC
Custom Teleconnect Inc.

D

DeltaCom LLC
dishNET Wireline LLC

E

EarthLink Business LLC
Easton Telecom Services LLC
Education Networks of America Inc.
Enhanced Communications Group LLC dba
ECG LLC
EnTelegent Solutions Inc.

Express Communications Inc.

F

City of Faith Telephone Co. dba Faith Municipal
Telephone Co.
FiberComm LC
First Choice Technology Inc.
First Communications LLC
France Telecom Corporate Solutions LLC
Frontier Communications of America Inc.
Fusion LLC
Fusion Cloud Services LLC

G

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

H

Heartland Telecommunications Company of Iowa

I

IDT America Corp.
InContact Inc.
Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions
Integrated Services Inc.
Intrado Communications LLC fka West Telecom
Services LLC
Intrado Safety Communications Inc. fka West
Safety Communications Inc.

J

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

K

KDDI America Inc.

L

LCR Telecommunications LLC
Legacy Long Distance International Inc.
(withdrew COA 03/20)
Level 3 Communications LLC
Level 3 Telecom Data Services LLC

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (CONTINUED)

L continued...

Lingo Communications North LLC
(canceled COA 12/20)
Long Lines Metro LLC

M

MagicJack SMB Inc.
Magna5 LLC
Matrix Telecom LLC dba Matrix Business
Technologies dba Trinsic Communications
dba VarTec Telecom dba Excel
Telecommunications dba Impact Telecom
dba Americatel dba Lingo
MCC Telephony of the Midwest LLC
MCI Communications Services LLC dba Verizon
Business Services
MCImetro Access Transmission Services Corp. dba
Verizon Access Transmission Services
McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC
dba PAETEC Business Services
Metropolitan Telecommunications of South
Dakota Inc. dba MetTel
Midcontinent Communications
Midstate Communications Inc.
Mobilitie LLC
Multiline Long Distance Inc.

N

National Access Long Distance Inc.
Nationwide Long Distance Services Inc.
Native American Telecom LLC
Nebraska Technology & Telecommunications Inc.
Netwolves Network Services
Network Communications International Corp. dba
NCIC Inmate Communications
Network Innovations Inc.
Network Service Billing Inc.
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.
NOSVA Limited Partnership

O

Onvoy LLC
Opex Communications Inc.

P

PaeTec Communications LLC
PayTel Communciations Inc.
Peerless Network of South Dakota LLC
PNG Telecommunications Inc.
Premier Communications Inc.
Public Communications Services Inc.

Q

Quantumshift Communications dba vCom
Solutions
Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

R

RC Technologies
Reduced Rate Long Distance LLC
Reliance Telephone Systems Inc.

S

Santel Communications Cooperative
SBC Long Distance LLC dba AT&T Long Distance
Securus Technologies LLC
Spectrotel Inc. dba OneTouch Communications
dba Touch Base Communications
Sprint Communications Co. LP
Standard Tandem LLC
Stratus Networks Inc.

T

Talk America Services LLC
TDS Long Distance Corp.
Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer
Telephone
Televergence Solutions Inc.
Telrite Corp.
Three River Telco
Time Clock Solutions LLC
Time Warner Cable Business LLC
Toly Digital Networks Inc.
Total Holdings Inc. dba GTC Communications dba
GTC Long Distance
Touchtone Communications Inc.

LONG DISTANCE TELEPHONE COMPANIES (CONTINUED)

U

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.
Velocity, A Managed Services Company, Inc.
fka Velocity The Greatest Phone Company
Ever Inc.
Verizon Long Distance LLC
Verizon Select Services Inc.
Vesta Solutions Inc.
Voicecom Telecommunications LLC

W

Wide Voice LLC
WiTel Communications LLC
WiMacTel Inc. dba Intellicall Operator Services
Windstream Communications LLC
Windstream KDL LLC
Windstream Norlight LLC
Windstream NTI (withdrew COA 12/20)
Working Assets Funding Service Inc. dba Credo
Long Distance

X

X2Comm Inc. dba DC Communications
XO Communications Services LLC

Z

Zayo Group 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

CenturyLink Public Communications Inc.
ComApp Technologies LLC (withdrew COA 03/20)
Combined Public Communications LLC
Consolidated Telecom Inc. dba Secured
Technologies
Custom Teleconnect Inc.

G

Global Tel*Link Corp.

I

Inmate Calling Solutions LLC dba ICSolutions

L

Legacy Long Distance International Inc.
(withdrew COA 03/20)

N

Network Communications International Corp. dba
NCIC Inmate Communications

P

PayTel Communications Inc.
Public Communications Services Inc.

R

Reliance Telephone Systems Inc.

S

Securus Technologies LLC

V

Value-Added Communications Inc.

W

WiMacTel Inc. dba Intellicall Operator Services

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 26) 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

BCN Telecom Inc.

BEK Communications Cooperative

Blackfoot Communications Inc.

BlueBird Communications SD LLC

Broadsmart Global Inc.

Broadview Networks Inc.

Broadvox-CLEC LLC

BullsEye Telecom Inc.

C -----

CBTS Technology Solutions LLC

CenturyLink Communications LLC dba Lumen

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority

Clarity Telecom LLC dba Vast Broadband

Communications Venture Corp. dba INdigital

COMTECH21 LLC

Consolidated Communications Enterprise
Services Inc.

Crexendo Business Solutions Inc.

Crown Castle Fiber LLC

D -----

dishNET Wireline LLC

E -----

EarthLink Business LLC

Easton Telecom Services LLC

Education Networks of America Inc.

eNetworks LLC

EnTelegent Solutions Inc.

ExteNet Systems Inc.

F -----

FiberComm LC

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

I -----

IDT America Corp.

InContact Inc.

Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative Inc.

Intrado Communications LLC fka West Telecom
Services LLC

Intrado Safety Communications fka West Safety
Communications Inc.

L -----

Level 3 Communications LLC

Level 3 Telecom Data Services LLC

Lingo Communications North LLC (canceled
COA 12/20)

Long Lines Metro LLC

M -----

MagicJack SMB Inc.

Matrix Telecom LLC dba Matrix Business

Technologies dba Trinsic Communications

dba VarTec Telecom dba Excel

Telecommunications dba Impact Telecom
dba Americatel dba Lingo

MCC Telephony of the Midwest LLC

MCImetro Access Transmission Services Corp.
dba Verizon Access Transmission Services

McLeodUSA Telecommunications Services LLC
dba PAETEC Business Services

Metropolitan Telecommunications of South
Dakota Inc. dba MetTel

Midcontinent Communications

Midstate Communications Inc.

Mobilitie LLC

Mobilitie Management LLC

COMPETITIVE LOCAL EXCHANGE COMPANIES (CONTINUED)

N

Native American Telecom LLC
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

South Dakota Network LLC dba SDN
Communication
Spectrotel Inc. dba One Touch Communications
dba Touch Base Communications

Sprint Communications Co. LP
SQF LLC
Standard Tandem LLC

T

Talk America Services LLC
Teleport Communications America LLC
Time Clock Solutions LLC

V

Valley Communications Inc. dba Valley FiberCom
Velocity, A Managed Services Co. Inc. fka Velocity
The Greatest Phone Company Ever Inc.
Vesta Solutions Inc.

W

Wide Voice LLC
Windstream KDL LLC
Windstream NTI Inc. (canceled COA 12/20)

X

XO Communications Services LLC

Y

YMax Communications Corp.

Z

Zayo Group LLC

WIRELESS COMPANIES

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

A

Alliance Communications Cooperative Inc.
Alliant Technologies LLC
Alltel Corp.
American Messaging Services LLC
AmeriVision Communications Inc. dba LifeLine
Communications dba Affinity 4
Assurance Wireless USA LP fka Virgin Mobile
USA LP

B

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

C

China Unicom (Americas) Operations Limited
Comcast OTR1 LLC

CommNet Cellular Inc.
Consumer Cellular Inc.
Cricket Wireless LLC
CSC Wireless LLC dba Altice Mobile

D

Databytes Inc.
DISH Wireless LLC (Boost Mobile brand)

E

EarthLink LLC
Enhanced Communications Group LLC dba Boom
Mobile
Excellus Communications LLC

F

FiberComm LC
Flash Wireless LLC

WIRELESS COMPANIES (CONTINUED)

G

Gabb Wireless Inc.
GloTell US Corp.
Google North America Inc dba Project Fi by Google
Granite Telecommunications LLC

H

Hello Mobile Telecom LLC

I

IM Telecom LLC dba Infiniti Mobile
i-wireless LLC

J

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

K

Kajeet Inc.
KDDI America Inc.

L

Locus Telecommunications LLC
Lunar Labs Inc. dba Lunar Wireless
Lycamobile USA Inc.

M

Midstate Communications Inc.
Mint Mobile LLC
Mobi Inc.

N

Native Wireless LLC
New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC dba AT&T Mobility LLC
Nextel West Corp. dba Nextel
Nextiva
Nexus Communications dba Reachout Wireless
NPCR Inc. Nextel Partners

O

OnStar LLC
Onvoy Spectrum LLC

P

Patriot Mobile LLC
Peerless Network of South Dakota LLC
PNG Telecommunications Inc. dba PowerNet
Puretalk Holdings Inc.

R

Ready Wireless LLC
Republic Wireless Inc.
Rural Cellular Corp.

S

SelectTel Inc. dba SelectTel Wireless
Soehl Electronics Inc. dba Vantek Communications
SoTel Systems (withdrew 02/20)
Sprint Spectrum LP dba Sprint PCS
Standing Rock Telecom
Stream Communications LLC
STS Media Inc. dba FreedomPop
STX Group LLC dba Twigby

T

T C Telephone LLC dba Horizon Cellular
Telecom Management Inc. dba Pioneer Telephone
Telefonica USA Inc.
Tempo Telecom LLC
The People's Operator USA LLC (withdrew 02/20)
Ting Inc.
T-Mobile Central LLC dba T-Mobile USA Inc.
The Light Phone Inc.
TracFone Wireless Inc.
Truphone Inc.

U

U.S. Mobile LLC
USA Mobility Wireless Inc.
UVNV Inc.

V

Valley Telecommunications Cooperative Association Inc.
Visible Service LLC
Vodafone US Inc. dba Vodapone Americas

W

WaveNation LLC
Western Communications Inc.
Wing Tel. Inc.
Wizie Mobile LLC
Working Assets Funding Service Inc. dba Credo Long Distance

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 23) in different service areas.

INDEPENDENTS

C
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe Telephone Authority
Clarity Telecom LLC dba Vast Broadband

F
Fort Randall Telephone Co.

J
Jefferson Telephone LLC aka Long Lines Ltd.

K
Kennebec Telephone Co. Inc.

Q
Qwest Corp. dba CenturyLink QC

MUNICIPALS

B
City of Beresford dba Beresford Municipal
Telephone Co.
City of Brookings Municipal Telephone Co.

F
City of Faith Telephone Co. dba Faith Municipal
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. dba
James Valley Telecommunications

M
Midstate Communications Inc.

R
RC Technologies

S
Santel Communications Cooperative

T
TrioTel Communications Inc.

V
Valley Telecommunications Cooperative
Association Inc.
Venture Communications Cooperative

W
West River Cooperative Telephone Co.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE COMPANIES

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.

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



Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, PUC commissioners and staff were not able to participate in many in-person meetings, trainings and conferences as planned. Instead, many events were moved to virtual platforms. Applications like Zoom and MS Teams allowed Commissioner Chris Nelson to participate in NARUC's Annual Meeting and Education Conference in November (top) and continue leading the organization's Broadband Expansion Task Force Meeting as chair (bottom).

DOCKET STATUS REGISTER

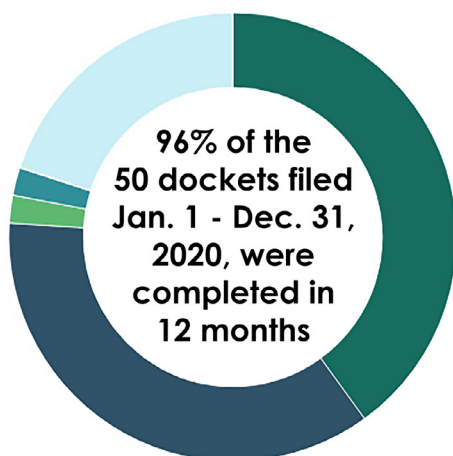
A look at all of the dockets filed with the PUC in 2020.

Type	Filed	Completed	Pending as of Jan. 1, 2021	Dockets closed between Jan. 1, 2021, and the publication date of this report (Spring 2021) are noted in parentheses. Visit www.puc.sd.gov to check the current status of pending dockets.
Administrative Items	2	2	0	
Civil	5	3	2	
Complaint	1	0	1	
Electric	35	28	7	
Gas & Electric	3	2	1	
Grain Warehouse	3	2	1	
Natural Gas	12	10	2	
Pipeline Safety	1	0	1	
Telecommunications	61	51	10	
TOTALS	123	98	25	

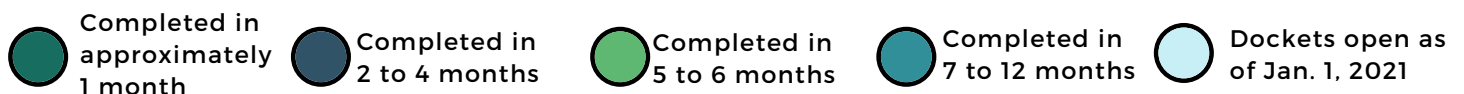
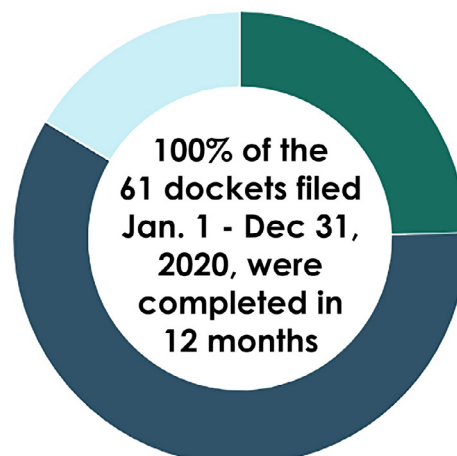
COMPLETED DOCKETS

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 percent of its electric and natural gas dockets and telecommunications dockets within 12 months of a docket being filed.

Electric and Natural Gas Dockets



Telecommunications Dockets



ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

AA20-001 - In the Matter of Clarification of the Commission's ETC Certification Process

Date Filed: 02/12/20 ♦ Completed: 04/02/20

AA20-002 - Establishment of the Gross Receipts Tax Levy for Fiscal Year 2021

Date Filed: 04/06/20 ♦ Completed: 06/11/20

CIVIL DOCKETS

Supreme Court #29229 - Lindgren v. Codington County et. al.

Date Filed: 01/22/20 ♦ Completed: 06/01/20

19CIV20-021 - In the Matter of PUC Docket EL19-027, Application by Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility in Deuel, Grant and Codington Counties (Ehlebracht, Greber, Rall, Kranz)

Date Filed: 04/29/20 ♦ (Completed: 04/12/21)

14CIV20-174 - In the Matter of PUC Docket EL19-027, Application by Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility in Deuel, Grant and Codington Counties (Christenson, Robish)

Date Filed: 05/01/20 ♦ Completed: 05/19/20

25CIV20-040 - In the Matter of PUC Docket EL19-027, Application by Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility in Deuel, Grant and Codington Counties (Grant Co. - Christenson, Robish)

Date Filed: 05/05/20 ♦ Completed: 05/21/20

Supreme Court #29334 - Christenson and Robish vs. Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC and South Dakota Public Utilities Commission

Date Filed: 05/22/20 ♦ Pending

COMPLAINT DOCKETS

CT20-001 - In the Matter of the Complaint of Venture Communications Cooperative against AT&T Mobility

Date Filed: 05/13/20 ♦ Pending

ELECTRIC DOCKETS

EL20-001 - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy

Date Filed: 01/07/20 ♦ Completed: 03/11/20

EL20-002 - In the Matter of Commission Staff's Request for an Order to Show Cause regarding Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC

Date Filed: 01/13/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/12/21)

EL20-003 - 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: 01/31/20 ♦ Completed: 03/30/20

ELECTRIC DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- EL20-004** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions regarding Expansion of Electric Distribution System
Date Filed: 02/07/20 ♦ Completed: 02/19/20
- EL20-005** - In the Matter of Filing of MidAmerican Energy Company for Determination of Its Energy Cost Adjustment Factor As Applied to Repowered Wind Facilities
Date Filed: 02/12/20 ♦ Completed: 05/28/20
- EL20-006** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its 2019 Transmission Cost Recovery Reconciliation and 2020 Transmission Cost Recovery Factors
Date Filed: 02/13/20 ♦ Completed: 03/20/20
- EL20-007** - In the Matter of the Filing of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2019 Economic Development Activities and 2020 Budget
Date Filed: 02/26/20 ♦ Completed: 05/04/20
- EL20-008** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of Its 2019 Economic Development Report and 2020 Economic Development Plan
Date Filed: 02/28/20 ♦ Completed: 04/02/20
- EL20-009** - 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: 02/28/20 ♦ Completed: 04/30/20
- EL20-010** - 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: 02/28/20 ♦ Completed: 04/21/20
- EL20-011** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy and H-D Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Date Filed: 03/05/20 ♦ Completed: 04/02/20
- EL20-012** - 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 West River Electric Cooperative
Date Filed: 04/07/20 ♦ Completed: 06/15/20
- EL20-013** - In the Matter of the Application by Meridian Wind Project, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility and a 345-kV Transmission Facility in Hyde County, South Dakota
Date Filed: 04/23/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/21/21)
- EL20-014** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Its 2020 Economic Development Plan and 2019 Economic Development Report
Date Filed: 04/29/20 ♦ Completed: 06/25/20

ELECTRIC DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- EL20-015** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2019 Demand Side Management Report and 2021 Proposed Demand Side Management Plan
Date Filed: 05/01/20 ♦ Completed: 12/18/20
- EL20-016** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's 2019 South Dakota Energy Efficiency Plan Status Report and 2020 Annual Filing to Update the Energy Efficiency Adjustment Rider
Date Filed: 05/01/20 ♦ Completed: 06/30/20
- EL20-017** - In the Matter of the Petition for a Declaratory Ruling regarding the South Dakota Science and Technology Authority
Date Filed: 05/08/20 ♦ Completed: 05/28/20
- EL20-018** - In the Matter of the Application by Wild Springs Solar, LLC for a Permit of a Solar Energy Facility in Pennington County, South Dakota
Date Filed: 05/15/20 ♦ Pending
- EL20-019** - In the Matter of Otter Tail Power Company's Petition for Approval of Phase-In Rider Rate
Date Filed: 06/01/20 ♦ Completed: 08/17/20
- EL20-020** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy and Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. dba Sioux Valley Energy
Date Filed: 06/16/20 ♦ Completed: 07/09/20
- EL20-021** - 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: 06/30/20 ♦ Completed: 08/07/20
- EL20-022** - In the Matter of the filing by Otter Tail Power Company regarding its 2021-2023 Energy Efficiency Partnership Triennial Plan
Date Filed: 07/01/20 ♦ Completed: 11/30/20
- EL20-023** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for an Electric Service Rights Exception between Northern Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Dakota Energy Cooperative, Inc.
Date Filed: 08/03/20 ♦ Completed: 08/19/20
- EL20-024** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Boundary between Codington-Clark Electric Cooperative, Inc. and H-D Electric Cooperative, Inc.
Date Filed: 08/20/20 ♦ Completed: 11/16/20
- EL20-025** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2021 Transmission Cost Recovery Eligibility and Rate Adjustment
Date Filed: 09/01/20 ♦ Completed: 12/30/20
- EL20-026** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of Its 2021 Infrastructure Rider Project Eligibility and Factor Update
Date Filed: 10/01/20 ♦ Completed: 12/28/20

ELECTRIC DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- EL20-027** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy to Terminate the Energy Efficiency Solutions Adjustment Rate Tariff and Energy Efficiency Solutions Adjustment Rate Commodity Balancing Account
Date Filed: 10/01/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/07/21)
- EL20-028** - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its Rates for Rate 95 and Rate 96
Date Filed: 10/16/20 ♦ Completed: 12/17/20
- EL20-029** - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Tariff Revisions to Its Small Qualifying Facility Rider (Rates 73 and 74)
Date Filed: 10/21/20 ♦ Completed: 11/20/20
- EL20-030** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Southeastern Electric Cooperative, Inc. and NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy
Date Filed: 10/27/20 ♦ Completed: 11/16/20
- EL20-031** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Approval of an Amended Electric Service Territory Boundary Agreement between Black Hills Electric Cooperative, Inc. and Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy
Date Filed: 10/29/20 ♦ Completed: 12/15/20
- EL20-032** - In the Matter of the Petition of Otter Tail Power Company for Approval of the Transmission Cost Recovery Rider Rate
Date Filed: 10/30/20 ♦ (Completed: 02/24/21)
- EL20-033** - In the Matter of the Filing by West Plains Engineering Inc. regarding Separate Metering Requirement in 20:10:26:03(1)
Date Filed: 11/03/20 ♦ Completed: 12/11/20
- EL20-034** - In the Matter of the Joint Request for Service Rights Exception between Sioux Valley-Southwestern Electric Cooperative, Inc. dba Sioux Valley Energy and Lyon Rural Electric Cooperative
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 02/03/21)
- EL20-035** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of a Modification to the Back of the Company's Standard Billing Form and Disconnection Notice
Date Filed: 12/14/20 ♦ (Completed: 02/25/21)

GAS & ELECTRIC DOCKETS

- GE20-001** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for the Approval of Its Reconciliation and Annual Report for 2019 and 2019 Reconciliation for the Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor
Date Filed: 04/15/20 ♦ Completed: 07/27/20
- GE20-002** - In the Matter of Investor Owned Utilities' Joint Request for Deferred Treatment of the Financial Effects of COVID-19 and the Creation of Regulatory Assets
Date Filed: 05/01/20 ♦ Pending

GAS & ELECTRIC DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

GE20-003 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of a Revised Customer Information Welcome Booklet
Date Filed: 07/14/20 ♦ Completed: 08/06/20

GRAIN WAREHOUSE DOCKETS

GW20-001 - In the Matter of PUC Staff's Complaint Against Engelman Commercial Group, LLC dba BC Trading Corp.
Date Filed: 01/07/20 ♦ Completed: 04/21/20

GW20-002 - In the Matter of Kingsburg Grain and Feed, LP
Date Filed: 02/24/20 ♦ (Completed: 03/11/21)

GW20-003 - In the Matter of the Request for Approval of Settlement Stipulation regarding Violations of SDCL 49-45 by Dakota AgSynergy
Date Filed: 07/31/20 ♦ Completed: 09/24/20

NATURAL GAS DOCKETS

NG20-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Its Revised Conservation Tracking Adjustment
Date Filed: 01/30/20 ♦ Completed: 02/26/20

NG20-002 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Its 2020 Economic Development Plan and 2019 Economic Development Report
Date Filed: 04/29/20 ♦ Completed: 06/24/20

NG20-003 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Its 2019 Economic Development Activities and 2020 Proposed Budget
Date Filed: 05/01/20 ♦ Completed: 06/15/20

NG20-004 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with Rustic Acres Hutterite Colony
Date Filed: 05/15/20 ♦ Completed: 06/26/20

NG20-005 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of a Contract with Deviations with Aberdeen Energy, LLC
Date Filed: 06/19/20 ♦ Completed: 07/30/20

NG20-006 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Renewal of a Contract with Deviations with the University of South Dakota
Date Filed: 07/30/20 ♦ Completed: 08/19/20

NG20-007 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Its Gas Transportation Tariff Revisions Regarding Fuel Retention Percentage
Date Filed: 08/26/20 ♦ Completed: 10/01/20

NG20-008 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of Refund Plan regarding Northern Natural Gas Interim Rate Refund
Date Filed: 10/16/20 ♦ Completed: 10/29/20

NATURAL GAS DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

NG20-009 - In the Matter of the Filing of the South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company for Approval of 2021 Loss and Unaccounted Adjustment Percentage
Date Filed: 10/21/20 ♦ Pending

NG20-010 - In the Matter of the Filing by NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Approval of its Refund Plan regarding Its Recovery of Manufactured Gas Plant Site Remediation Costs
Date Filed: 10/23/20 ♦ Completed: 12/01/20

NG20-011 - In the Matter of the Filing by Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. for Approval of Its South Dakota Natural Gas Conservation Portfolio Plan for 2021-2023
Date Filed: 10/29/20 ♦ Completed: 12/29/20

NG20-012 - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for Approval of Refund Plan regarding Northern Natural Gas Interim Rate Refund
Date Filed: 12/15/20 ♦ *(Completed: 01/07/21)*

PIPELINE SAFETY DOCKETS

PS20-001 - In the Matter of the Filing by Commission Pipeline Safety Staff for Approval of an Agreed Upon Penalty for Pipeline Safety Violations by Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy
Date Filed: 12/15/20 ♦ *(Completed: 03/09/21)*

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS

TC20-001 - In the Matter of the Application by Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC for Approval of Waiver of Switched Access Cost Study
Date Filed: 01/28/20 ♦ Completed: 03/23/20

TC20-002 - In the Matter of the Application of Simwood Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Long Distance Services in the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 02/24/20 ♦ Completed: 05/15/20

TC20-003 - In the Matter of CenturyLink QC's Petition for Approval of Amendments to the Qwest Performance Assurance Plan and Performance Indicator Definitions to Implement the FCC'S 2019 Forbearance Orders
Date Filed: 02/25/20 ♦ Completed: 04/21/20

TC20-004 - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Teleport Communications America, LLC for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 04/07/20 ♦ Completed: 05/01/20

TC20-005 - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and BullsEye Telecom, Inc.
Date Filed: 04/07/20 ♦ Completed: 05/07/20

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- TC20-006** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and AT&T Corporation for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 04/24/20 ♦ Completed: 06/01/20
- TC20-007** - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391654)
Date Filed: 06/08/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-008** - In the Matter of the Request of Interstate Telecommunications Cooperative, Inc., fka SSTELECOM, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399013)
Date Filed: 06/08/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-009** - 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: 06/10/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-010** - 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: 06/18/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-011** - In the Matter of the Request of Brookings Municipal Utilities dba Swiftel Communications for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399009)
Date Filed: 06/18/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-012** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements (UNEs) – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Spectrotel, Inc. dba OneTouch Communications dba Touch Base Communications for the State of South Dakota
Date Filed: 06/19/20 ♦ Completed: 08/06/20
- TC20-013** - 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: 06/22/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-014** - 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: 06/22/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-015** - 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: 06/23/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-016** - 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: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- TC20-017** - 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: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-018** - 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: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-019** - 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: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-020** - 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: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-021** - In the Matter of the Request of Citizens Telecommunications Company of Minnesota, LLC for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 361123)
Date Filed: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-022** - 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: 06/26/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-023** - 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: 06/26/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-024** - In the Matter of the Request of RC Technologies for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 391674)
Date Filed: 06/26/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-025** - 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: 06/26/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-026** - 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: 06/26/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-027** - 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: 06/29/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-028** - In the Matter of the Request of Clarity Telecom, LLC dba Vast Broadband for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: ILEC-391652 and CLEC-399006)
Date Filed: 06/29/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- TC20-029** - In the Matter of the Application by South Dakota Network, LLC for Approval of Waiver of Switched Access Cost Study
Date Filed: 06/29/20 ♦ Completed: 08/18/20
- TC20-030** - In the Matter of the Request of RT Communications, Inc. for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 512251)
Date Filed: 06/29/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-031** - 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 and 391657)
Date Filed: 06/29/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-032** - 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: 06/29/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-033** - 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: 06/30/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-034** - 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-399011)
Date Filed: 06/30/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-035** - 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: 06/30/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-036** - In the Matter of the Request of Midcontinent Communications for Certification Regarding Its Use of Federal Universal Service Support (Study Area: 399005)
Date Filed: 07/01/20 ♦ Completed: 10/08/20
- TC20-037** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Northern Valley Communications, LLC
Date Filed: 07/07/20 ♦ Completed: 08/07/20
- TC20-038** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc. fka IntelPeer, Inc.
Date Filed: 07/08/20 ♦ Completed: 08/10/20
- TC20-039** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Onvoy, LLC
Date Filed: 07/08/20 ♦ Completed: 08/10/20

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- TC20-040** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and EnTelegent Solutions, Inc.
Date Filed: 07/09/20 ♦ Completed: 08/06/20
- TC20-041** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and BCN Telecom, Inc.
Date Filed: 07/09/20 ♦ Completed: 08/07/20
- TC20-042** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Peerless Network of South Dakota, LLC
Date Filed: 07/09/20 ♦ Completed: 08/06/20
- TC20-043** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and FiberComm, L.C.
Date Filed: 07/22/20 ♦ Completed: 08/18/20
- TC20-044** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and CenturyLink Communications, LLC
Date Filed: 07/22/20 ♦ Completed: 08/18/20
- TC20-045** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Level 3 Communications, LLC
Date Filed: 07/22/20 ♦ Completed: 08/19/20
- TC20-046** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements - Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Midcontinent Communications
Date Filed: 07/22/20 ♦ Completed: 08/18/20
- TC20-047** - In the Matter of CenturyLink QC's Petition for Elimination of the Qwest Performance Assurance Plan and Performance Indicator Definitions
Date Filed: 07/31/20 ♦ Completed: 10/29/20
- TC20-048** - In the Matter of the Application of Easton Telecom Services, L.L.C. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 08/18/20 ♦ Completed: 10/02/20
- TC20-049** - In the Matter of the Request of Spectrotel, Inc. dba OneTouch Communications dba Touch Base Communications to Transfer Its Certificate of Authority to Provide Interexchange Long Distance Services and Local Exchange Services in South Dakota to Spectrotel of the West LLC
Date Filed: 09/11/20 ♦ Completed: 12/29/20

TELECOMMUNICATIONS DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

- TC20-050** - In the Matter of the Approval of an Unbundled Network Elements – Resale Forbearance Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Sprint Communications Company, LP
Date Filed: 09/18/20 ♦ Completed: 10/14/20
- TC20-051** - In the Matter of the Application of Clear Rate Communications, Inc. for a Certificate of Authority to Provide Local Exchange and Interexchange Services in South Dakota
Date Filed: 10/05/20 ♦ (Completed: 04/07/21)
- TC20-052** - In the Matter of the Approval of a Third Party Transit Provider Amendment to the Interconnection Agreement between Qwest Corporation dba CenturyLink QC and Airus, Inc. fka IntelPeer, Inc.
Date Filed: 10/07/20 ♦ Completed: 12/15/20
- TC20-053** - In the Matter of American Telecommunications Systems, Inc.'s Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/15/21)
- TC20-054** - In the Matter of DataBytes Inc.'s Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/19/21)
- TC20-055** - In the Matter of Peerless Network of South Dakota, LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/19/21)
- TC20-056** - In the Matter of Stream Communications' Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/19/21)
- TC20-057** - In the Matter of STS Media Inc. dba FreedomPop's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/19/21)
- TC20-058** - In the Matter of The Light Phone's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/19/21)
- TC20-059** - In the Matter of WaveNation LLC's Failure to Timely Pay the Gross Receipts Tax
Date Filed: 12/02/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/19/21)
- TC20-060** - In the Matter of the Petition of Brookings Municipal Utilities dba Swiftel Communications to Relinquish Its Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier in Study Area Code 399009
Date Filed: 12/07/20 ♦ (Completed: 01/07/21)
- TC20-061** - In the Matter of Staff's Petition for an Order to Show Cause Against National Access Long Distance, Inc.
Date Filed: 12/17/20 ♦ (Completed: 03/08/21)

REOPENED DOCKETS

- EL19-002** - In the Matter of the Petition of Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy for Approval of a Credit Mechanism for Payments from the Second Extended Department of Energy Settlement
Date Filed: 01/22/19 ♦ Completed: 02/22/19
Date Reopened: ♦ Completed: 02/20/20
- EL19-034** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of a Revision to the Commercial and Industrial Energy Efficiency Solutions Adjustment (EESA) Rates
Date Filed: 10/01/19 ♦ Completed: 12/03/19
Date Reopened: 06/24/20 ♦ Completed: 08/06/20
- EL18-003** - In the Matter of the Application by Dakota Range I, LLC and Dakota Range II, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility in Grant County and Codington County, South Dakota, for the Dakota Range Wind Project
Date Filed: 01/24/18 ♦ Completed: 03/11/19
Date Reopened: 01/06/20 ♦ Pending
- EL17-006** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of 2017 Transmission Facility Adjustment
Date Filed: 02/15/17 ♦ Completed: 06/20/17
Date Reopened: 05/01/18 ♦ Completed: 05/17/18
Date Reopened: 12/31/19 ♦ Completed: 01/10/20
Date Reopened: 04/14/20 ♦ Completed: 05/04/20
- EL17-008** - In the Matter of the Application of Black Hills Power, Inc. dba Black Hills Energy for Approval of Its 2017 Environmental Improvement Adjustment
Date Filed: 02/15/17 ♦ Completed: 06/20/17
Date Reopened: 05/01/18 ♦ Completed: 05/17/18
Date Reopened: 12/31/19 ♦ Completed: 01/10/20
Date Reopened: 04/14/20 ♦ Completed: 05/05/20
- EL14-106** - In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Authority to Increase Its Electric Rates
Date Filed: 12/19/14 ♦ Closed: 12/11/15
Date Reopened: 09/10/18 ♦ Reclosed: 09/26/18
Date Reopened: 11/20/18 ♦ Reclosed: 12/19/18
Date Reopened: 03/23/20 ♦ Reclosed: 04/02/20
- GE19-002** - In the Matter of the Filing by MidAmerican Energy Company for the Approval of Its Reconciliation and Annual Report for 2018 and 2018 Reconciliation for the Energy Efficiency Cost Recovery Factor
Date Filed: 04/12/19 ♦ Completed: 06/04/19
Date Reopened: 09/20/19 ♦ Completed: 11/01/19
Date Reopened: 12/23/19 ♦ Completed: 02/25/20
Date Reopened: 03/31/20 ♦ Completed: 04/30/20

REOPENED DOCKETS (CONTINUED)

GE17-003 - In the Matter of Staff's Request to Investigate the Effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on South Dakota Utilities

Date Filed: 12/21/17 ♦ Completed: 07/30/19

Date Reopened: 03/25/20 ♦ Completed: 04/17/20

Date Reopened: 07/16/20 ♦ Completed: 08/06/20

Date Reopened: 11/19/20 ♦ Completed: 12/10/20

NG17-009 - In the Matter of the Application of South Dakota Intrastate Pipeline Company for Authority to Increase Its Natural Gas Rates

Date Filed: 06/01/17 ♦ Completed: 07/16/18

Date Reopened: 09/24/19 ♦ Completed: 10/31/19

Date Reopened: 09/28/20 ♦ Pending

NG11-003 - In the Matter of the Application of NorthWestern Corporation dba NorthWestern Energy for Authority to Increase its Natural Gas Rates

Date Filed: 05/20/11 ♦ Completed: 12/08/11

Date Reopened: 03/23/20 ♦ Completed: 04/08/20



South Dakota PUC Commissioner Gary Hanson (center) was elected President of Mid-America Regulatory Conference at a virtual gathering of MARC commissioners in June 2020. Pictured with Commissioner Hanson, at the group's previous annual meeting in 2019, are commissioners Katie Sieben of Minnesota, Ellen Nowak of Wisconsin, Dan Scripps of Michigan and Sadzi Oliva of Illinois.

MISSION STATEMENT

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 citizens of the state of South Dakota.

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