BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY CROCKER WIND FARM, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND A 345 KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN CLARK COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, FOR CROCKER WIND FARM

AFFIDAVIT OF MELISSA SCHMIT PROVIDING NOTICE OF PROJECT ADJUSTMENTS

EL17-055

STATE OF MINNESOTA)) SS.COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

I, Melissa Schmit, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and state as follows:

- 1. I am the Permitting Manager at Geronimo Energy, LLC, which is assisting Crocker Wind Farm, LLC ("Crocker") in the development of the Crocker Wind Farm and associated 345 kV Transmission Line ("Project"). I have the authority to provide this affidavit on behalf of Crocker.
- 2. I am providing this Affidavit pursuant to paragraph 23 of the Permit Conditions approved by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") and included as Attachment A to its June 12, 2018 Final Decision and Order Granting Permit to Construct Facilities and Notice of Entry ("Order") in the above-referenced docket.
- 3. Since the issuance of the Order, Crocker has determined that 2 turbine adjustments within 325 feet of the locations approved by the Commission are needed for the Project. Maps showing both the turbine locations approved by the Commission (in white outline) and the current turbine locations (in green outline) are attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (public and confidential versions).
- 4. A summary of the modifications is provided below.
 - A. Turbine 155 has been adjusted 36 feet to the southeast to provide additional distance between Basin Electric's microwave beam paths from the Project's interconnect switchyard.
 - B. Turbine 186 has been adjusted 88 feet to the northwest provide additional distance between Basin Electric's microwave beam paths from the Project's interconnect switchyard.
- 5. The turbine adjustments comply with the specified noise and shadow flicker requirements set forth in paragraphs 29 and 30(c) of the Permit Conditions. **Exhibit B**, attached hereto, provides the highest modeled shadow flicker and noise level at a residence for each turbine

based on an updated analysis of the current proposed Project layout. In accordance with paragraph 30 of the Permit Conditions, updated noise and shadow flicker analysis reports for the entire Project are attached as **Exhibit C** and **Exhibit D**, respectively.

- 6. The confidential version of Exhibit A identifies the locations of cultural resources, sensitive species habitat, wetlands, and microwave beam paths in relation to the Project adjustments. In addition, Exhibit B provides a chart showing the distances of the turbines from residences, property lines, roads, and cemeteries. As shown in Exhibits A and B, the proposed turbine adjustments avoid cultural resources, sensitive species habitat, wetland impacts, microwave beam paths, and comply with all applicable county and state setback requirements.
- 7. All modifications are located on land under lease/easement for the Project.
- 8. With respect to the Project, including the adjustments described herein, Crocker will comply with the Commission's Order, and all other applicable regulations and requirements.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Dated this 26 day of Ucr., 2018.

Melissa Schr

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 26th day of Oct, 2018.

My Commission Expires: JAN. 31, 2021

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Notary Public

