

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

**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**

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**AFFIDAVIT OF MELISSA SCHMIT
PROVIDING NOTICE OF TURBINE
ADJUSTMENTS UP TO 325 FEET**

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 issuance of the Order, Crocker has determined that 20 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 7 has been adjusted 322 feet to the northwest to avoid permanent impacts to USFWS basins and wetlands and cultural resources identified in the field.
 - B. Turbine 15 has been adjusted 106 feet to the east to avoid cultural resources identified in the field.
 - C. Turbine 71 has been adjusted 92 feet to the northwest to improve constructability (flatter grade).
 - D. Turbine 87 has been adjusted 323 feet to the northeast to maintain compliance with the Clark County turbine spacing requirement.

- E. Turbine 88 has been adjusted 280 feet to the northeast due to a landowner request that the turbine is located off his farm land.
- F. Turbine 91 has been adjusted 50 feet to the north to avoid temporary impacts to a USFWS protected basin.
- G. Turbine 93 has been adjusted 220 feet to the southeast due to a landowner request that the turbine is located off of his farm land.
- H. Turbine 102 has been adjusted 10 feet to the north due to a difference between surveyed property lines and those available from Clark County GIS.
- I. Turbine 158 has been adjusted 206 feet to the south to improve constructability (flatter grade).
- J. Turbine 180 has been adjusted 10 feet to the south due to a difference between surveyed property lines and those available from Clark County GIS.
- K. Turbine 187 has been adjusted 269 feet to the northeast due to a USDA conservation easement which was found during title review. The turbine had to move northeast instead of due east due to the required setback from a non-participating property.
- L. Turbine 189 has been adjusted 151 feet to the west to avoid cultural resources identified in the field.
- M. Turbine 197 has been adjusted 212 feet to the southwest to avoid permanent impacts to USFWS basins and wetlands identified in the field.
- N. Turbine 198 has been adjusted 264 feet to the west to avoid cultural resources identified in the field.
- O. Turbine 210 has been adjusted 98 feet to the west due to a difference in surveyed road right-of-way extent from the distance calculated from public data.
- P. Turbine 214 has been adjusted 145 feet to the west to improve constructability (flatter grade).
- Q. Turbine 215 has been adjusted 49 feet to the northeast to avoid an area with high probability of tribal resources.
- R. Turbine 216 has been adjusted 101 feet to the west to avoid permanent impacts to USFWS basins and wetlands identified in the field.
- S. Turbine 218 has been adjusted 269 feet to the southwest to improve constructability (flatter grade).
- T. Turbine 221 has been adjusted 1 foot to the west due to rounding error.

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 (including the nine proposed turbine adjustments over 325 feet previously submitted) 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, and wetlands 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, and wetland impacts, 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 3 day of Aug, 2018.



Melissa Schmit

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 3RD day of Aug., 2018.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: Jan. 31, 2021

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