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9414814901098243627615

February 22, 2019

Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC

Subject: Notice of Public Hearing for the Crowned Ridge Wind Facility

The South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (SD PUC) will hold a public hearing on a proposed an up to 300 megawatt ("MW") Crowned Ridge Wind Facility (the "Project") requesting a Facility Permit (Commission Docket EL19-003). The hearing will be held on March 20, 2019 at 5:30 p.m., CDT, at Waverly-South Shore School Gymnasium, 319 Mary Place, Waverly, South Dakota. (Attachment 1 SD PUC Notice)

Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC's Project is proposed to be located in Grant County and Codington County, South Dakota, in the townships of Waverly, Rauville, Leola, Germantown, Troy, Stockholm, Twin Brooks, and Mazeppa, South Dakota (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 300 MW of nameplate capacity with up to 130 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities. (Attachment 2 is a map of the Project, which is also included in Figure 3 to the Application).

You are receiving this notice, because South Dakota state law requires that landowners within 1/2 mile of a proposed project be notified of this public hearing. If you wish to review the Facility Permit application in person, copies will be on file with the Auditors of Codington and Grant. You can also access the application online at the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission website: <https://puc.sd.gov/Dockets/Electric/2019/EL19-003.aspx>

For more information, you can contact the following:

Tyler Wilhelm Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC 1-561-694-3193	Amanda Reiss South Dakota Public Utilities Commission 1-800-332-1782 1-605-773-3201
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Regards,

Tyler Wilhelm
Project Developer
Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC

Enclosures

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY CROWNED RIDGE WIND, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN GRANT AND CODINGTON COUNTIES)))))))))))	NOTICE OF APPLICATION; ORDER FOR AND NOTICE OF PUBLIC INPUT HEARING; NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO APPLY FOR PARTY STATUS
		EL19-003

On January 30, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for an Energy Facility Permit (Application) from Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC (Crowned Ridge or Applicant), a wholly-owned, indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. Crowned Ridge proposes to construct a wind energy conversion facility to be located in Grant County and Codington County, South Dakota (Project). The Project would be situated on approximately 53,186-acres in the townships of Waverly, Rauville, Leola, Germantown, Troy, Stockholm, Twin Brooks, and Mazeppa, South Dakota (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 300 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 130 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5-kilovolt (kV) electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 345-kV collection substation, one permanent meteorological tower, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project will utilize the Crowned Ridge 34-mile 230-kV generation tie line and a new reactive power compensation substation to transmit the generation from the Project's collector substation to the Project's point of interconnection located at the Big Stone South 230-kV Substation, which is owned by Otter Tail Power Company. Applicant has executed a power purchase agreement with Northern States Power Company (NSP) to sell NSP the full output of the Project. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant estimates the total cost of the Project to be \$400 million.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15 and 49-41B-16, **the Commission will hold a public input hearing on the Application on Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., CDT, at Waverly-South Shore School Gymnasium, 319 Mary Place, Waverly, S.D.**

The purpose of the public input hearing will be to hear public comments regarding the Application and the Project. At the hearing, Crowned Ridge will present a brief description of the Project, after which interested persons may appear and present their views, comments, and questions regarding the Application. A copy of the Application is on file with the Grant and Codington County Auditors pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-15(5) and at the Commission's office in Pierre. The Application and all other documents in the case, including detailed maps of the Project, may be accessed on the Commission's web site at www.puc.sd.gov under Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2019 Electric Dockets, EL19-003 or by contacting the Commission in person at the Capitol Building, 500 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, SD, or by phone at (605) 773-3201 or (800) 332-1782.

Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, the parties to this proceeding are currently the Applicant and the Commission. Any person residing in the area of the Project; each municipality, county, and governmental agency in the area where the Project is proposed to be sited; any non-profit organization formed in whole or in part to promote conservation or natural beauty, to protect the environment, personal health or other biological values, to preserve historical sites, to promote consumer interests, to represent commercial and industrial groups, or to promote the orderly development of the area in which the Project is to be sited; or any interested person,

may be granted party status in this proceeding by making written application to the Commission. Applications for party status will be available at the public input hearing or may be obtained from the Commission's web site or by contacting the Commission. **Applications for party status should be filed with the Commission on or before 5:00 p.m., CDT, April 1, 2019.** The Commission will also be accepting comments in writing from anyone, either by mail, personal delivery, or e-mailing the Commission right up until the time of the decision. You only need to apply for party status if you want to participate formally in the case by putting on actual testimony or other factual evidence, conducting discovery, cross-examining witnesses, making legal arguments, and to preserve your right to appeal to the courts if you do not believe the Commission's decision is legally correct.

Following the public input hearing, the Commission may schedule a formal evidentiary hearing conforming to SDCL Chapter 1-26 to consider any issues raised by any intervening party, the Commission's staff, or the Commission itself. At such a formal hearing, all parties will have the opportunity to appear, present evidence, cross-examine the other parties' witnesses, and exercise all other rights afforded by SDCL Chapters 1-26, 49-1, and 49-41B and ARSD Chapters 20:10:01 and 20:10:22, including rights of appeal to the courts.

For approval, Crowned Ridge must show that the proposed Project will comply with all applicable laws and rules, will not pose a threat of serious injury to the environment nor to the social and economic condition of inhabitants or expected inhabitants in the siting area, will not substantially impair the health, safety or welfare of the inhabitants, and will not unduly interfere with the orderly development of the region with due consideration having been given to the views of governing bodies of affected local units of government. Based upon these factors, the Commission will decide whether a permit to construct should be granted, denied, or granted upon such terms, conditions, or modifications of the construction, operation, or maintenance as the Commission finds appropriate. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Commission will hold a public input hearing on the Application and Project on **Wednesday, March 20, 2019, at 5:30 p.m., CDT, at Waverly-South Shore School Gymnasium, 319 Mary Place, Waverly, S.D.** It is further

ORDERED, that pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-17 and ARSD 20:10:22:40, **applications for party status should be filed on or before 5:00 p.m., CDT, on April 1, 2019.**

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, these hearings will be held in physically accessible locations. Please contact the Public Utilities Commission at (605) 773-3201 or (800) 332-1782 at least 48 hours prior to the hearing if you have special needs so arrangements can be made to accommodate you.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 6th day of February 2019.

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE
The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, electronically or by mail.
By: <u>Karen E. Cremer</u>
Date: <u>02/06/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

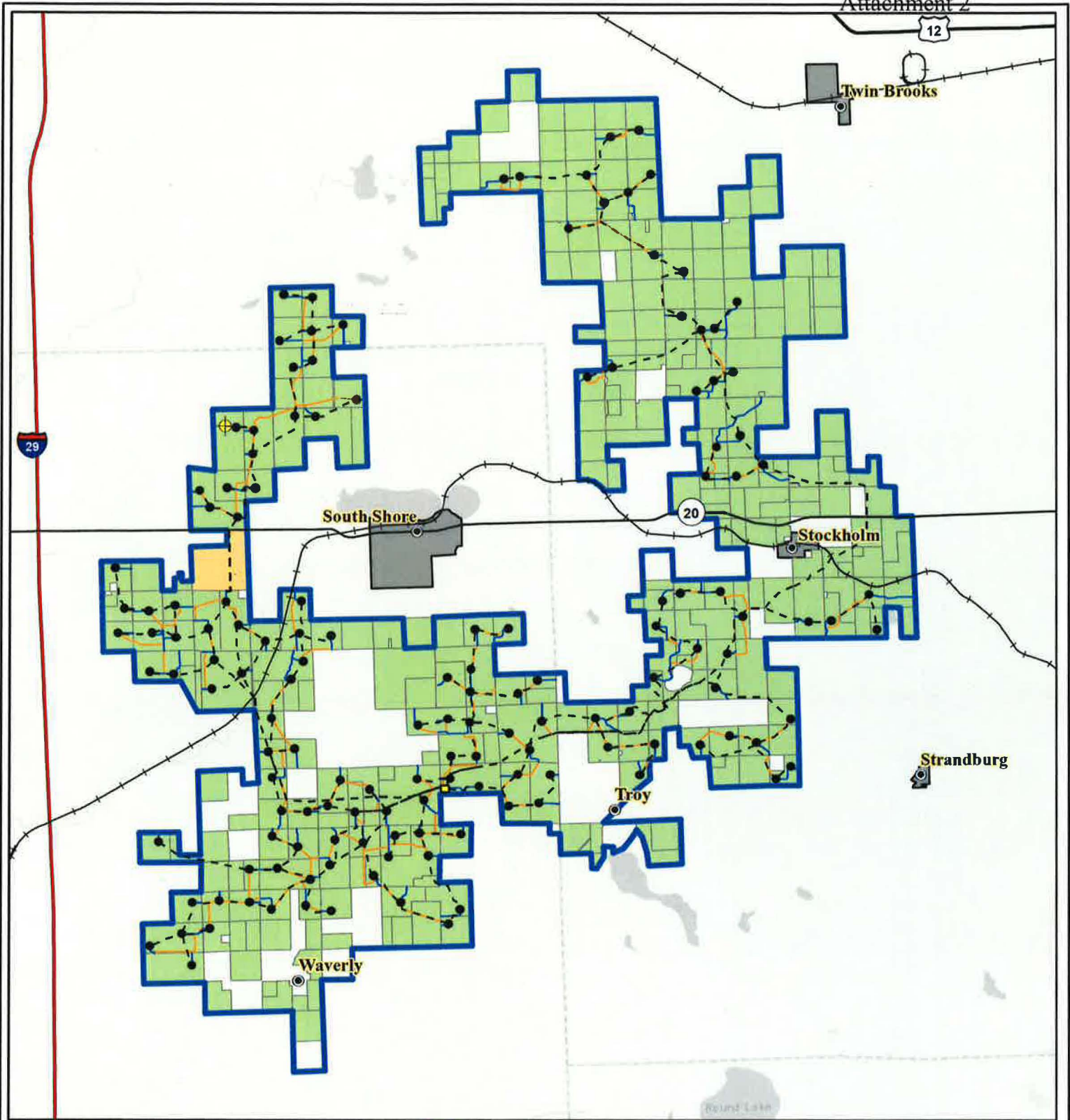
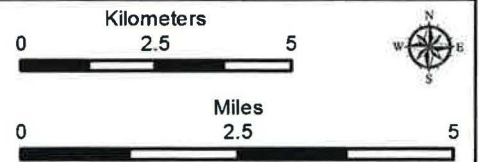


Figure 3. Project Map

Crowned Ridge Wind Farm

- MET Tower
- Turbine
- City
- Proposed Turbine Access Road
- Collector Line
- Crane Path
- Railroad
- Interstate Highway
- U.S. Highway
- State Highway
- O&M Facility/Substation
- Town Boundary
- Project Boundary
- Lease Status**
- Lease, Signed
- Pending Approval



Base Map: World Light Gray Canvas Base
 Sources: Esri, HERE, Garmin, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community
 Codington and Grant Counties, South Dakota