

**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)**

**ORDER PERMITTING DAVID
HESSLER TO TESTIFY
TELEPHONICALLY

EL17-055**

On December 15, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from Crocker Wind Farm, LLC (Crocker), for an energy facility permit and a 345 KV Transmission Line (Projects) to construct the Crocker Wind Farm, a wind energy facility located on approximately 29,331 acres of privately owned land in Clark County, South Dakota, approximately 8 miles north of Clark, South Dakota. The proposed projects include up to 120 wind turbines, associated access roads, a new collector substation, an operations and maintenance facility, and associated 345 kilovolt (KV) transmission in Clark County, South Dakota. The projects will result in the installation of approximately 5.2 miles of overhead transmission that will be wholly located within the wind farm's boundary. The transmission line route will run from a substation in Section 30 of Township 119N, Range 58W to the Point-of-Interconnect (POI), which is located approximately 2 miles north of the town of Crocker in Section 9 of Township 119N, Range 58W. Two routing options from the substation in Section 30 are under consideration. At the POI, the power will transfer to the Basin Electric Groton-to-Watertown 345 kV transmission line, part of the Southwest Power Pool, Inc./Western Area Power Administration transmission line portfolio in Clark County, South Dakota.

On December 21, 2017, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the Application and the intervention deadline of February 13, 2018, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On February 26, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Granting Intervention and Party Status to 64 individuals. On March 21, 2018, the Commission received a request for withdrawal of party status with respect to 62 of the Intervenors. On April 9, 2018, the Commission granted the intervenors' Motion to Withdraw Party Status, leaving only Shad Stevens and Gale Paulson as intervenors.

On April 27, 2018, the Commission received a joint Stipulation and Request for Telephonic Testimony of David Hessler signed by all parties requesting that David Hessler be allowed to testify telephonically on the second day of the evidentiary hearing.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the joint Stipulation Permitting David Hessler to Testify Telephonically is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15th day of May 2018.

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>Adam de Hueck</u>
Date: <u>5/1/18</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner