

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY )  
CROWNED RIDGE WIND II, LLC FOR A PERMIT )  
OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN DEUEL, )  
GRANT AND CODINGTON COUNTIES )**

**ORDER GRANTING REQUEST FOR  
CONSENT TO WITHDRAW  
APPLICATION WITHOUT PREJUDICE  
AND CLOSE THE DOCKET**

**EL19-016**

On April 1, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for a Wind Energy Facility Permit (Application) from Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC (Crowned Ridge Wind or Applicant), a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. Crowned Ridge Wind proposes to construct a wind energy facility to be located in Codington, Deuel and Grant Counties, South Dakota (Project). The Project would be situated within an approximately 60,996-acre project area, located east of the City of Watertown (Project Area). The Project Area is in Waverly, Kranzburg, Troy, Rome, Goodwin, and Havana Townships. The total installed capacity of the Project would be approximately 300.6 megawatts of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 132 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5 kV electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 230-kV collection substation, up to two permanent meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project would interconnect to the electric grid at the Big Stone South 230-kV Substation using the Crowned Ridge II's 5-mile 230-kV transmission line that was approved in Docket EL18-018 and the Crowned Ridge 34-mile generation tie line that was approved in Docket EL17-050. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant has executed a purchase and sale agreement with Northern States Power Company (NSP) to sell NSP the Project upon commercial operation. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$425 million.

On April 4, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of May 31, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. Party status has been granted to individuals Garry Ehlebracht, Steven Greber, Mary Greber, Richard Rall, Amy Rall and Laretta Kranz. Citing a notice issue, on May 7, 2019, Applicant filed a Request for Consent to Withdraw Application.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD 20:10:01:02.04.

At its regularly scheduled meeting of May 14, 2019, the Commission considered the Request for Consent to Withdraw Application. Commission staff recommended the Commission grant Crowned Ridge's request. Finding the notice issue detrimental to the permitting process, the Commission unanimously voted to grant Crowned Ridge's Request for Consent to Withdraw Application. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Crowned Ridge's Request for Consent to Withdraw Application without prejudice is granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the docket be dismissed without prejudice and closed.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 15<sup>th</sup> day of May 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. Bremer</u>
Date:	<u>05/15/2019</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)	

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner