

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
BY DAKOTA RANGE I, LLC AND DAKOTA)
RANGE II, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A WIND)
ENERGY FACILITY IN GRANT COUNTY)
AND CODINGTON COUNTY, SOUTH)
DAKOTA, FOR THE DAKOTA RANGE)
WIND PROJECT)**

**ORDER GRANTING
WITHDRAWAL OF
PARTY STATUS**

EL18-003

On January 24, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for a Facility Permit for a wind energy facility (Application) from Dakota Range I, LLC, and Dakota Range II, LLC (together Dakota Range or Applicant). Applicant proposes to construct a wind energy facility to be located in Grant County and Codington County, South Dakota, known as the Dakota Range Wind Project (Project). The Project would be situated within an approximately 44,500-acre project area, ten miles northeast of Watertown, South Dakota (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 302.4MW nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 72 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5-kilovolt (kV) electrical collector lines connecting the turbines to the collection substation, underground fiber-optic cable for turbine communications co-located with the collector lines, a 34.5-kV to 345-kV collection substation, up to five permanent meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project would interconnect to the high-voltage transmission grid via the Big Stone South to Ellendale 345-kV transmission line which crosses the Project site. The Project is expected to be completed in 2021. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$380 million.

On January 25, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of March 26, 2018, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On April 6, 2018, the Commission issued an Order Granting Party Status to 16 individuals, including Daniel D. Seurer, Christian Reimche, Paul Nelson, and Derek Nelson. On May 2, May 4, May 7, and May 10, 2018, respectively, Dan Seurer, Christian Reimche, Paul Nelson, and Derek Nelson requested withdrawal of party status.

The Commission finds it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22. The Commission may rely upon any or all of these or other laws of this state in making its determination.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 15, 2018, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the withdrawal of party status requested by Dan Seurer, Christian Reimche, Paul Nelson, and Derek Nelson. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the request for withdrawal of party status by Dan Seurer, Christian Reimche, Paul Nelson, and Derek Nelson is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 16th 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>Karow E. Bremer</u>
Date: <u>05/16/18</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner