

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER ASSESSING FILING FEE;
BY CROWNED RIDGE WIND II, LLC FOR)	ORDER AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE
A PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY)	DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO
IN DEUEL, GRANT AND CODINGTON)	CONSULTING CONTRACTS;
COUNTIES)	ORDER GRANTING PARTY
)	STATUS
)	
)	
)	EL19-027

On July 9, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for a Facility Permit (Application) from Crowned Ridge Wind II, 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 Deuel, Grant, and Codington Counties, South Dakota (Project). The Project would be situated within approximately 60,996-acres in the townships of Waverly, Kranzburg North, Kranzburg South, Troy, Rome, Goodwin, and Havana, South Dakota (Project Area). The total installed capacity of the Project would not exceed 301 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 132 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 230-kV collection substation, two permanent meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project will utilize the Crowned Ridge Wind II 5-mile 230-kV generation tie line and the Crowned Ridge Wind II collector substation to transmit the generation to the dead-end transmission structure adjacent to the Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC project's collector substation and conjoined to the Big Stone South 230-kV Substation, which is owned by Otter Tail Power Company. Applicant has executed a purchase and sale agreement with Northern States Power Company (NSP) to sell NSP the Project and the Facility Permits once constructed. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant estimates the total cost of the Project to be \$425 million. On July 11, 2019, Amber Christenson, Allen Robish, and Kristi Mogen filed applications for party status.

SDCL 49-41B-12 authorizes the Commission to assess a maximum fee not to exceed one-quarter of one percent for the first one hundred million dollars of estimated construction costs plus one-twentieth of one percent of all additional estimated construction costs of the Project, with a minimum total fee chargeable of not less than eight thousand dollars. The fee shall be deposited in a subfund in the Commission's Regulatory Assessment Fee Fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon the Application.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-12, 49-41B-17, 49-41B-26, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 25, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee not to exceed \$412,500 with an initial deposit of \$8,000, and to authorize the executive director to enter into consulting contracts needed for review of the Application. Applicant stated it did not object to the fee assessment nor to granting party status to Amber Christenson, Allen Robish, and Kristi Mogen. The Commission voted unanimously to assess Crowned Ridge a filing fee in an amount not to exceed \$412,500, with an initial deposit of \$8,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing commencing from the filing date. The Commission further voted unanimously to authorize the executive director to enter into necessary consulting contracts. The Commission further voted unanimously to grant the requests for party status to Amber

Christenson, Allen Robish, and Kristi Mogen. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Crowned Ridge shall be assessed a filing fee not to exceed \$412,500 with an initial deposit of \$8,000 and shall from time to time make such additional deposits up to the total amount of the assessment as requested by the Commission's finance manager. It is further

ORDERED, that the executive director is authorized to enter into necessary consulting contracts. It is further

ORDERED, that party status is granted to Amber Christenson, Allen Robish, and Kristi Mogen.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 31st day of July 2019.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u><i>Karen E. Bremer</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u><i>07/31/19</i></u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner