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**From:** Peder Mewis

**Sent:** Wednesday, 18 March 2020 09:17:00 (UTC-06:00) Central Time (US & Canada)

**To:** PUC Docket Filings

**Subject:** [EXT] Existing Docket Filing

Docket Number: EL19-027 Last Name: Mewis First Name: Peder Company: Clean Grid Alliance Address: 570 N. Asbury St. 201 City: Saint Paul State: Minnesota Zip: 55104 Phone: 6512713648 Email: [pmewis@cleangridalliance.org](mailto:pmewis@cleangridalliance.org) Comments: Support letter for Crowned Ridge II Wind Project



March 17, 2020

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501

**Re: In the Matter of the Application by Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC for a Permit of a Wind Energy Facility in Grant, Codington and Duel Counties  
Docket No. EL19-027**

Clean Grid Alliance (CGA) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the Crowned Ridge II wind project.

CGA is a nonprofit organization headquartered and working in Minnesota, plus eight additional states in the Midwest, including South Dakota. CGA's membership consists of wind and solar developers, manufacturers, and nonprofit clean energy advocacy organizations.

The wind industry has invested \$2.2 billion in South Dakota, and tax revenue flowing to counties that host wind farms amounts to over \$21.5 million since 2009. The economic benefits that come with them can be a lifeline for sparsely populated counties that have limited tax base.

Wind development projects like Crowned Ridge II will continue to build on those benefits to rural South Dakota in many ways. Along with the additional revenue flowing to landowners and local communities, businesses like restaurants, gas stations, and hotels also benefit from the jobs that come with building and maintaining wind energy facilities.

*Delivering Midwest Renewable Energy*

**ADDRESS**

570 Asbury Street, Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55104

**OFFICE**

651.644.3400

**WEB**

[CleanGridAlliance.org](http://CleanGridAlliance.org)



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For instance, a 300 MW wind project that was recently approved in South Dakota will pay approximately \$2.5 million per year to landowners and approximately \$1.5 million per year in property taxes. This amounts to \$120 million in total local financial injection over the 30-year project.

South Dakota has enormous potential for renewable energy development. I appreciate the opportunity to comment and thank you for the Commission's consideration of the Crowned Ridge II wind project application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peder Mewis".

Peder Mewis  
Regional Policy Manger – West

*Delivering Midwest Renewable Energy*

<p><b>ADDRESS</b> 570 Asbury Street, Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55104</p>	<p><b>OFFICE</b> 651.644.3400</p>	<p><b>WEB</b> <a href="http://CleanGridAlliance.org">CleanGridAlliance.org</a></p>	The logo for the Clean Grid Alliance, consisting of three overlapping squares forming a diamond shape, with the central square filled in red.
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**From:** PUC

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 4:16 PM

**To:** pmewis@cleangridalliance.org

**Subject:** EL19-027

Mr. Mewis,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Crowned Ridge II requested siting permit currently being processed by the Public Utilities Commission via docket EL19-027.

Your letter will be posted under Comments and Responses in the docket so my fellow commissioners and others interested may read them. You can find the docket on the PUC.sd.gov website by clicking on Commission Actions, Commission Dockets, Electric Dockets, 2019 Electric Dockets, and scrolling down to EL19-027.

I suggest you review the Siting Info Guide posted in the docket and also posted on the commission's home page. Please note that comments submitted to the commission by those that are not formal parties to a docket should be sent to [PUC@state.sd.us](mailto:PUC@state.sd.us).

Chairman Gary Hanson  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
PUC.sd.gov

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**From:** Giovannini David <DGiovannini@moldedfiberglass.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2020 3:04 PM

**To:** PUC-PUC <PUC@state.sd.us>

**Subject:** [EXT] Crowned Ridge II Support

Dear Sirs;

Attached please find a letter of support for the Crowned Ridge II wind project.

Best Regards,

Dave

David M Giovannini

Sr Vice President

Molded Fiber Glass Companies

[dgiovannini@moldedfiberglass.com](mailto:dgiovannini@moldedfiberglass.com)

605-725-9362 (O)

508-769-4168 (M)



Molded Fiber Glass Companies – South Dakota  
1401 Brown County #19 North  
Aberdeen, SD 57401

Telephone: 605-725-9463  
Fax: 605-725-9466

SUBJECT: Docket EL20-002

Dear Commissioners Hanson, Fiegen, and Nelson –

In early December of 2017, our company announced it would be closing its doors by February 2018. Our 409 employees were left wondering how they were going to feed their families or keep a roof over their heads. Then, later that same month, NextEra Energy put in an order for wind turbines that would power Crowned Ridge Wind Farm. Because of that order, our company was able to keep its door open and even hire more people to fill that order. To this day, Molded Fiber Glass Companies remains a major employer within Aberdeen.

We are excited to hear about the proposal of Crowned Ridge Wind II that was placed in front of the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission. NextEra Energy has proven their support of small businesses and local communities as we have benefitted the most from the original wind farm. Crowned Ridge II would provide yet another opportunity for our communities to keep people at work and provide new jobs to our neighbors.

I respectfully ask that you approve Crowned Ridge Wind II, as your approval of the Crowned Ridge wind farm kept our business and community thriving.

Sincerely,

Dave

David M Giovannini  
Sr. Vice President  
Molded Fiber Glass Companies