

**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  
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, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of September 9, 2019, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. On July 31, 2019, Amber Christenson, Allen Robish, and Kristi Mogen were granted Party Status. On August 6, 2019, Garry Ehlebracht, Steven Greber, Mary Greber, Richard Rall, Amy Rall, and Laretta Kranz submitted a corrected Application for Party Status. On August 6, 2019, Applicant submitted a letter stating it had no objection to granting the above-referenced landowners party status.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-17, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22, specifically 20:10:22:40.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on August 21, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. The Commission voted unanimously to grant party status to Garry Ehlebracht, Steven Greber, Mary Greber, Richard Rall, Amy Rall, and Laretta Kranz. It is therefore

ORDERED, that party status is hereby granted to Garry Ehlebracht, Steven Greber, Mary Greber, Richard Rall, Amy Rall, and Laretta Kranz.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26<sup>th</sup> day of August 2019.

<b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b>
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 deHueck</u>
Date: <u>8/26/19</u>
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner