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December 24, 2008

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

Re: Application by Buffalo Ridge II LLC  
EL08-031

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

Attached for filing please find the Petition of SDREA to Intervene which I ask you file in regards to the above-referenced matter.

Very truly,

RITER, ROGERS, WATTIER  
& NORTHRUP, LLP

BY:

Darla Pollman Rogers

DPR/cs

Enclosure

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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

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IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )	DOCKET NUMBER EL08-031
BY BUFFALO RIDGE II LLC, A SUBSIDIARY )	
OF IBERDROLA RENEWABLES, INC., FOR AN )	
ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITY PERMIT )	PETITION OF
FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BUFFALO )	SDREA TO INTERVENE
RIDGE II WIND FARM AND ASSOCIATED )	
COLLECTION SUBSTATION AND ELECTRIC )	
INTERCONNECTION SYSTEM )	

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Pursuant to ARSD 20:10:01:15.02, South Dakota Rural Electric Association (SDREA) by its undersigned counsel, petitions the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) as follows:

1. SDREA is an organization comprised of member rural electric cooperatives in South Dakota. SDREA’s member cooperatives provide retail electric service to thousands of their members in South Dakota and beyond. SDREA is devoted to the protection of the interests of its member electric cooperatives and their members.

2. Buffalo Ridge II, LLC (Buffalo Ridge II) has filed an Application with this Commission (EL08-031) seeking an Energy Conversion Facility Permit to construct and operate the Buffalo Ridge II Wind Farm and Associated Collection Substation and Interconnection Systems.

3. The Applicant proposes to construct and operate a wind farm on up to 77 acres dispersed throughout portions of up to 77 sections of land in Brookings and Deuel Counties as well as a 13-mile long 115 kilovolt overhead transmission line. The proposed wind farm could have a name plate capacity of up to 306 megawatts.

4. SDREA’s interests in this docket include, but are not limited to, the following:

(a) That portions of the Buffalo Ridge Wind Farm are located in the service territories of Sioux Valley Energy and H-D Electric Cooperative, Inc., rural electric cooperatives that are member companies of SDREA.

(b) That the Buffalo Ridge II (and future similar facilities) be required to purchase station power from the electric service providers in whose territories the facilities are located, consistent with South Dakota's Territorial Laws.

(c) That the proposed Buffalo Ridge II collector lines are for the transmission of wholesale power only and that neither Buffalo Ridge II nor its purchasing entity(ies) be allowed to use collector lines to deliver retail service to any customers in the incumbent electric service provider's territory, as said retail service should be provided by the assigned electric service provider.

5. SDREA believes that the issues presented in the Buffalo Ridge II Application directly affect all of its member companies, and their members. SDREA requests that the Commission examine the Application of Buffalo Ridge II in this docket in a manner that does not result in an erosion of South Dakota's territorial laws, which would be detrimental to member companies and to many South Dakota citizens who are members of and receive retail electric service from SDREA's member companies.

6. The issues presented in this docket and SDREA's proposed intervention constitute matters of public interest, especially to the preservation and integrity of the South Dakota Territorial Act. Thus, denial of this Petition would be detrimental to the public interest and is likely to result in a miscarriage of justice.

WHEREFORE, SDREA requests that the Commission permit its intervention and participation in this proceeding, to examine and cross-examine witnesses, conduct discovery and offer evidence on its own behalf.

Dated this 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008

RITER, ROGERS, WATTIER  
& NORTHRUP, LLP

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### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2008, I caused to be served, electronically, a true and correct copy of the PETITION OF SDREA TO INTERVENE to:

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen  
Executive Director  
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission  
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Pierre, SD 57501  
[patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us](mailto:patty.vangerpen@state.sd.us)

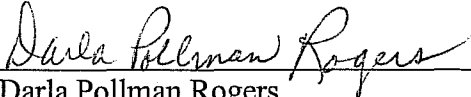
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