

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY)	ORDER GRANTING
BUFFALO RIDGE II LLC A SUBSIDIARY)	MOTION TO ACCEPT AND
OF IBERDROLA RENEWABLES, INC., FOR)	APPROVE
AN ENERGY CONVERSION FACILITY)	DECOMMISSIONING
PERMIT FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF)	BOND
THE BUFFALO RIDGE II WIND FARM AND)	
ASSOCIATED COLLECTION SUBSTATION)	EL08-031
AND ELECTRIC INTERCONNECTION)	
SYSTEM)	

On October 31, 2008, Buffalo Ridge II LLC, a subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables, Inc., (Buffalo Ridge or Applicant) submitted an application for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit for the Construction of the Buffalo Ridge II Wind Farm and Associated Collection Substation and Electric Interconnection System to be located in Brookings and Deuel counties. The project consists of 105 wind turbines with a total generating capacity of 210 MWs, as well as a 13-mile long 115 kilovolt overhead transmission line. On April 23, 2009, the Commission issued its Final Decision and Order (Permit) authorizing the construction of the Project. Condition 24 of the Permit required Buffalo Ridge to file a Project status report, updated decommissioning plan and financial information for the Applicant in accordance with ARSD 20:10:22:33.01 for the Commission's review and approval within 90 days following the date 10 years after the project commences operation. Further, Condition 24 also states that at such time the Commission will determine whether the Applicant shall be required to provide a bond, letter of credit, guarantee or other security to assure adequate funding is available for decommissioning.

On March 31, 2021, Buffalo Ridge filed a Wind Project Decommissioning Plan for the Buffalo Ridge II Wind Project. On May 5, 2021, Buffalo Ridge filed a Project Status Report. On July 8, 2021, Buffalo Ridge and Commission staff filed a Joint Motion for Approval of Decommissioning Plan and Stipulation of Financial Assurance. At the August 3, 2021, Commission meeting, the Commission requested certain revisions be made to the Joint Motion for Approval of Decommissioning Plan and Stipulation of Financial Assurance. On September 21, 2021, Buffalo Ridge and staff filed an Amended Joint Motion for Approval of Decommissioning Plan and Stipulation of Financial Assurance. On October 1, 2021, the Commission issued an Order Granting Amended Joint Motion for Approval of Decommissioning Plan and Stipulation of Financial Assurance (Financial Assurance Order). On December 2, 2021, Buffalo Ridge II filed a Motion to Approve Bond in accordance with the Financial Assurance Order. At the December 21, 2021, Commission Meeting, the Commission requested revisions be made to the Bond. On June 30, 2022, Buffalo Ridge II filed a revised Bond and Motion to Accept the Bond.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, and ARSD 20:10:22:33.01.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on July 19, 2022, the Commission considered this matter. After reviewing the proposed bond for decommissioning, the Commission voted to grant Buffalo Ridge's Motion to Accept and approved the Bond. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Buffalo Ridge's Motion to Accept the Bond is hereby granted and Bond Number 019080821, dated October 21, 2021, is hereby approved.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 25th day of July 2022.

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: Adam Oetneke

Date: 7/25/22

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner