

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION</b>	)	<b>ORDER GRANTING</b>
<b>BY BUFFALO RIDGE II LLC A</b>	)	<b>AMENDED JOINT MOTION</b>
<b>SUBSIDIARY OF IBERDROLA</b>	)	<b>FOR APPROVAL OF</b>
<b>RENEWABLES, INC., FOR AN ENERGY</b>	)	<b>DECOMMISSIONING PLAN</b>
<b>CONVERSION FACILITY PERMIT FOR</b>	)	<b>AND STIPULATION OF</b>
<b>THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE</b>	)	<b>FINANCIAL ASSURANCE</b>
<b>BUFFALO RIDGE II WIND FARM AND</b>	)	
<b>ASSOCIATED COLLECTION</b>	)	
<b>SUBSTATION AND ELECTRIC</b>	)	
<b>INTERCONNECTION SYSTEM</b>	)	<b>EL08-031</b>

On October 31, 2008, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from Buffalo Ridge II LLC a subsidiary of Iberdrola Renewables, Inc., (Buffalo Ridge or Applicant) 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 (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.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on September 28, 2021, the Commission considered this matter. After hearing comments from Buffalo Ridge and Staff, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Amended Joint Motion for Approval of Decommissioning Plan and Stipulation of Financial Assurance. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Amended Joint Motion for Approval of Decommissioning Plan and Stipulation of Financial Assurance is hereby granted. It is further

ORDERED, that Buffalo Ridge, within 90 days of this order, shall file with the Commission a surety bond consistent with the Stipulation of Financial Assurance, for Commission review and approval, in the amount of \$10,870,523 to cover Buffalo Ridge's decommissioning obligations.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 1st day of October 2021.

<p align="center"><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></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>Adam DeHueck</u></p> <p>Date: <u>10/1/21</u></p> <p align="center">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Commissioner