

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE
APPLICATION BY CROCKER WIND
FARM, LLC FOR A PERMIT OF A
WIND ENERGY FACILITY AND A 345
KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN CLARK
COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA, FOR
CROCKER WIND FARM**

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**AFFIDAVIT OF MELISSA SCHMIT
PROVIDING NOTICE OF PROJECT
ADJUSTMENTS**

EL17-055

STATE OF MINNESOTA)
) SS.
COUNTY OF HENNEPIN)

I, Melissa Schmit, being first duly sworn on oath, depose and state as follows:

1. I am the Permitting Manager at Geronimo Energy, LLC, which is assisting Crocker Wind Farm, LLC (“Crocker”) in the development of the Crocker Wind Farm and associated 345 kV Transmission Line (“Project”). I have the authority to provide this affidavit on behalf of Crocker.
2. I am providing this Affidavit pursuant to paragraph 25 of the Permit Conditions approved by the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) and included as Attachment A to its June 12, 2018 Final Decision and Order Granting Permit to Construct Facilities and Notice of Entry (“Order”) in the above-referenced docket.
3. Since the issuance of the Order, Crocker has determined adjustments to the 345 kV transmission line within the 150-foot-wide right-of-way approved by the Commission are needed for the Project. Maps showing the 345 kV transmission line centerline approved by the Commission (black dashed line) and the current transmission line centerline (solid purple line) are attached hereto as **Exhibit A** (public and confidential versions).
4. A summary of the modifications is provided below.
 - A. The transmission line has been adjusted up to 71 feet within the permitted 150-foot-wide right-of-way for approximately 6,250 feet along 419th Avenue. This adjustment is a result of finalizing design of the transmission line and minimizing impact to adjacent agricultural fields. [Note that the deviation outside of the 150-foot-wide right-of-way near the Project substation is addressed in a separate material change filing.]
 - B. The transmission line has been adjusted up to 38 feet within the permitted 150-foot-wide right-of-way for approximately 6,522 feet and up to 60 feet for approximately 2,195 feet along Highway 20. These adjustments are a result of finalizing design of the transmission line and minimizing impact to adjacent

agricultural fields. [Note that the deviation outside of the 150-foot-wide right-of-way at the interconnection switchyard is addressed in a separate material change filing.]

- C. The transmission line has been adjusted up to 11 feet within the permitted 150-foot-wide right-of-way for approximately 247 feet and up to 20 feet for approximately 3,772 feet along 421st Avenue. These adjustments are a result of finalizing design of the transmission line and minimizing impact to adjacent agricultural fields.

- 5. The confidential version of **Exhibit A** identifies the locations of cultural resources, sensitive species habitat, wetlands, and microwave beam paths in relation to the Project adjustments. As shown in **Exhibit A**, the proposed adjustments avoid cultural resources, sensitive species habitat, and microwave beam paths. [Note that a material change request to place a structure within a non-jurisdictional wetland is addressed in a separate material change filing.] All adjustments are within surveyed areas covered by previously submitted cultural resource reports (see the September 2018 Level III Cultural Resource survey and the Cultural Resources Survey Methods and Preliminary Field Results filed as Exhibit A14-2).]

- 6. All modifications are located on land under lease/easement for the Project.

- 7. With respect to the Project, including the adjustments described herein, Crocker will comply with the Commission's Order, and all other applicable regulations and requirements.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

Dated this 8TH day of February, 2019.



Melissa Schmit

Subscribed and sworn to before me on this 8th day of February, 2019.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: JAN 31, 2021

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