

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION
OF CROWNED RIDGE WIND II, LLC FOR
A FACILITY PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A
230-KV TRANSMISSION LINE AND
ASSOCIATED FACILITIES IN CODINGTON
COUNTY

EL 18-019

AFFIDAVIT OF CHRISTOPHER B. CLARK

Christopher B. Clark, under oath, states:

1. I am employed by Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation (NSPM or the Company), which is a public utility operating subsidiary of Xcel Energy Inc., a registered public utility holding company. My business address is 401 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55401. My title is President – Northern States Power Company – Minnesota.
2. I have more than 20 years of experience in the public utility industry and have worked extensively in connection with the Company's purchases, construction, and operation of wind energy generation facilities. The Company and Xcel Energy's transmission team have extensive experience in the field of engineering and operation of transmission infrastructure, including transmission lines associated with wind projects like the Crowned Ridge Wind II Project.
3. I am submitting this Affidavit in support of the Company's request for the transfer of the Permit to Construct the file-mile 230-kV transmission line associated with the Crowned Ridge Wind II Project (Site Permit), which was originally granted by the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) in Docket No. EL 18-019 to Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC, in its February 5, 2019 Order Granting Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation; Order Granting Permit to Construct a Transmission Line and Associated Facilities; Notice of Entry.

4. On August 16, 2019, I signed, and the Company entered into the Amended and Restated Purchase and Sale Agreement with ESI Energy, LLC, for the acquisition of Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC (the Purchase and Sale Agreement).

5. The Crowned Ridge Wind II Project is nearing commercial operation, and NSPM and ESI Energy, LLC intend to close on the transaction contemplated in the Purchase and Sale Agreement in the near future.

6. I have reviewed all of the terms and conditions of the Permit and Settlement Stipulation.

7. The Company agrees to abide by all of the terms and conditions of the Site Permit and stands ready, willing and able to perform the obligations stated therein.

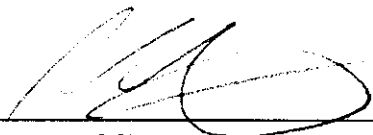
8. I have authority to bind the Company in the commitments made in this Affidavit.

Dated this 15th day of October, 2020.



Christopher B. Clark
President – NSPM

Subscribed and sworn to before me
this 15 day of October, 2020.



Notary Public

My Commission Expires: 1/31/2023

