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From the office of Miles F. Schumacher

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November 11, 2020

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen, Executive Director
South Dakota Public Utilities Commission
Capital Building, 1st Floor
500 East Capital Avenue
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Re: Docket No. EL19-003 Application to the SD PUC for a Facility Permit to
Construct A 300 Megawatt Wind Facility

Dear Ms. Van Gerpen:

On November 2, 2020, Amber Christenson filed a letter claiming that the Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC (“Crowned Ridge”) Aircraft Detection Lighting System (“ADLS”) was not properly operating, because the warning lights were not turning off until 11:00 p.m., and sometimes the warning lights were staying on all night. Ms. Christenson is incorrect. The ADLS is properly working and as the attached ADLS Report shows there is no system issue with the lights staying on until 11:00; instead, the warning lights are being triggered by aircraft, weather, or migrating birds (*i.e.*, “aircraft-like targets detected”). While, at times, the warning lights are on for long periods during the night, the migration of high flying birds can trigger the ADLS radars much like aircraft. Crowned Ridge is working to filter out migrating birds from triggering the ADLS. However, bird migration patterns are dynamic and weather-dependent, and, therefore, it will likely take at least two migration seasons, including next Spring, to fully implement a filter.

Crowned Ridge will file a status update on when the migration of birds has ended in this season, so they are not triggering the warning lights. Crowned Ridge will file another status report next Spring when Crowned Ridge has adjusted the filter sufficiently to mitigate against migrating birds triggering the ADLS to the extent practicable and with a priority of safety so that the warning lights are triggered on when an aircraft is in the area.

Ms. Patricia Van Gerpen
November 11, 2020
Page 2

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Yours very truly,

LYNN, JACKSON, SHULTZ & LEBRUN, P.C.

/s/ Miles F. Schumacher

Miles F. Schumacher