

**From:** Amber Christenson <[amber@uniformoutlet.net](mailto:amber@uniformoutlet.net)>

**Sent:** Thursday, October 21, 2021 10:30 AM

**To:** 'Brian Riniker' <[crownedridgeplo@gmail.com](mailto:crownedridgeplo@gmail.com)>

**Cc:** Kearney, Darren <[Darren.Kearney@state.sd.us](mailto:Darren.Kearney@state.sd.us)>; Thurber, Jon <[Jon.Thurber@state.sd.us](mailto:Jon.Thurber@state.sd.us)>; Edwards, Kristen <[Kristen.Edwards@state.sd.us](mailto:Kristen.Edwards@state.sd.us)>; Gregg, Deb <[Deb.Gregg@state.sd.us](mailto:Deb.Gregg@state.sd.us)>; Reiss, Amanda <[Amanda.Reiss@state.sd.us](mailto:Amanda.Reiss@state.sd.us)>; Paulson, Eric <[Eric.Paulson@state.sd.us](mailto:Eric.Paulson@state.sd.us)>; Hanson, Gary (PUC); Nelson, Chris; Fiegen, Kristie

**Subject:** RE: [EXT] Fall 2021 Crowned Ridge Sound Testing Permission

**From:** Brian Riniker [<mailto:crownedridgeplo@gmail.com>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 20, 2021 10:07 PM

**To:** [amber@uniformoutlet.net](mailto:amber@uniformoutlet.net)

**Cc:** Kearney, Darren; Thurber, Jon; Edwards, Kristen; Gregg, Deb; Reiss, Amanda; Paulson, Eric

**Subject:** Fall 2021 Crowned Ridge Sound Testing Permission

Amber,

PUC Staff and Crowned Ridge have asked me to reach out to you regarding access permission for the upcoming sound test this year. Below is information to consider in deciding to grant permission.

For your information, the [Fall 2020 Protocol](#) will be the basis for the Fall 2021 evaluation with the following modifications as found in [Section D.3 of Crowned Ridge's Mitigation Plan](#) (that was approved by the Commission):

1. Perform the study at 3 locations (near locations 1-3 since the original locations have signed a waiver), plus the [Lindgren](#) and [Christenson](#) residences, for a total of 5 locations in Fall 2021 program.
  2. Evaluation will be focused on periods close in time to the shutdowns and not primarily based on electrical output as was the approach in 2020.
  3. Wind turbine shutdown procedure modified to have four shutdowns daily at 1:00 AM, 7:00 AM, 1:00 PM, and 7:00 PM. Additional shutdowns may be conducted upon request by Epsilon.
  4. Shutdowns will be for all wind turbines within 1.75 mi of a sound level measurement location and, therefore, the entire wind energy facility will not be shutdown as was the approach in 2020.
  5. Frequent personal observations will be made by an Epsilon consultant who will remain in Watertown, SD for the duration of the study (excluding frequent observations at Location 6, Christenson residence, since those personal observations were not required in the [Commission's order](#) that added the Christenson residence to the Fall 2021 evaluation)
1. Site visits begin November 2, with all equipment setup by November 3.

1. Your location will receive a mid-program check and data download and one night time observation at the beginning of the program site visit
2. Will you be available for a site meeting on November 2 or 3 to determine a location for the testing at your residence?
2. All measurements will be outside in the yard and no access within any buildings or home is needed.
3. Are there dogs on the property? Is there an area that they cannot access? Dogs can be problematic to the measurement equipment as they have had a tendency in the past to chew the equipment and they may need to consider another location.
4. The test will last until November 17 with all equipment retrieved by November 18th.

Would you be willing to grant the necessary access permission? What times would be best for the site visit November 2-3?

Thanks,

Brian Riniker

(605)777-4054

Mr. Riniker,

Yes, I will make myself available any time on November 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> for your site visit. I prefer times between 10 am and 4 pm, if possible, but I am open to accepting another time for the visit, if necessary. I would like to know the day and approximate time in advance, however.

I would like to note your Item 5 above is excluding my location from the personal observations which are being conducted at other locations in this study. In looking at the Order, I submit that you are incorrect in not including me in the totality of the sound study. Excluding my location from the site visits is not part of the Commission's Order. I do agree that according to Staff, Mr. Hessler had proffered that idea at one point, but that was not ordered. A complete sound study is what I agreed to when asked by Chairman Nelson if I would accept the results of this study, not a 'light' version of the study.

As for your dog question, yes, I have a dog. There is nowhere on my property he does not have access to, but he is very well behaved and had access to the equipment last year when it was in my trees and paid no attention to it other than to sniff it when it was initially placed.

Thank you.

Amber Christenson