

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY  
CROWNED RIDGE WIND II, LLC FOR A PERMIT  
OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY IN DEUEL,  
GRANT AND CODINGTON COUNTIES**

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**ORDER GRANTING  
AUTHORITY TO ENTER  
INTO A CONSULTING  
CONTRACT**

**EL19-027**

On July 9, 2019, the Commission received an Application for a Wind Energy Facility Permit from Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC (CRW II), a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. CRW II proposes to construct a wind energy facility to be located in Codington, Deuel and Grant counties, South Dakota (Project). The Project is located in Waverly, Kranzburg North, Kranzburg South, Troy, Rome, Goodwin, and Havana townships. On April 6, 2020, the Commission issued its Final Decision and Order Granting Permit to Construct Facility; Permit Conditions; Notice of Entry (Permit). On October 30, 2020, the Commission issued an Order Granting Motion for Approval of Transfer of Permit and Approving Transfer of Permit in which ownership of CRW II was transferred to Northern States Power Company dba Xcel Energy (NSP). NSP received sound complaints at three non-participating residences following commercial operation and voluntarily agreed to conduct field surveys and provide monitoring data verifying compliance with specified noise levels in accordance with Condition 26 of the Permit. On May 4, 2021, NSP filed a Post-Construction Sound Monitoring Protocol (Protocol) for testing that is scheduled to begin the week of May 24, 2021. The Commission issued an Order Approving Post Construction Noise Compliance Test Protocol on May 19, 2021. On August 6, 2021, NSP filed its Post Construction Noise Compliance Report. On August 17, 2022, Greg Wall contacted Commission staff regarding a request for further sound testing. At the August 30, 2022, Commission meeting, NSP voluntarily agreed to conduct a second sound test in the fall of 2022. At the same meeting, the Commission requested that Commission staff hire an independent consultant to oversee the sound test and independently review the data collected. On September 20, 2022, Commission staff filed a letter requesting authority for the executive director to enter a consulting contract.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B and 49-1-8.2.

On September 27, 2022, at its regularly scheduled meeting, the Commission considered Commission staff's request for the Commission to authorize the executive director to enter into a Consulting Contract for the purpose of overseeing and independently reviewing the results of NSPs upcoming fall 2022 sound test. No party objected to Commission staff's request. The Commission, voted 2-1, with Commissioner Fiegen dissenting, to authorize the Executive Director to enter into a Consulting Contract as requested. It is therefore

**ORDERED**, that the Executive Director is hereby authorized to enter into a Consulting Contract for the purpose of overseeing and independently reviewing the results of the additional sound testing to be completed at Crowned Ridge Wind II.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September 2022.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

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.

By: Adam Dethebeck

Date: 9/29/22  
(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner (Dissenting)

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner