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South Dakota

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Patricia Van Gerpen
Executive Director
SD Public Utilities Commission
500 E. Capitol Ave.
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: EL19-003, *In re Crowned Ridge Wind*

Ms. Van Gerpen,

Following the January 7, 2020 Commission meeting public comment period, Staff requested the status of Crowned Ridge's Aircraft Detection Lighting System (ADLS) based on consumer concerns. Crowned Ridge directed Staff to Page 6, footnote 8 of Crowned Ridge's response to Intervenor Complaints for the ADLS status:

Intervener asserts the Commission should investigate what other changes have occurred to the project. The only other change is due to the 100 MW deferral and involves the Aircraft Detection Lighting System ("ADLS") which had to be moved to the 200 MW electrical system. In Exhibit A44 at page 11 it was explained that CRW was on track to install and operate ADLS within a year of Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") approval. Although the ADLS has been moved, which required more analysis and studies, CRW will submit its application to the FAA in January of 2020, and expects to install and operate the ADLS by June 2020.

Staff further inquired as to how the Project is in compliance with Condition 33 of the Permit, as well as SDCL 49-41B-25.2, which provides:

For any wind energy facility that receives a permit under this chapter after July 1, 2019, the facility shall be equipped with an aircraft detection lighting system that meets the requirements set forth by the Federal Aviation Administration for obstruction marking and lighting in Chapter 14 of FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 70/7460-1L, "Obstruction Marking and Lighting," dated December 4, 2015. Any cost associated with the installation, operation, or maintenance of a system under this section is solely the responsibility of any owner of the wind energy facility.

Staff has requested Crowned Ridge file its response to Staff's compliance inquiry in the docket.

Sincerely,

Kristen N. Edwards
Staff Attorney