

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE)	
APPLICATION OF CROWNED)	
RIDGE WIND, LLC FOR A)	AFFIDAVIT
PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY)	
FACILITY IN GRANT)	
AND CODINGTON COUNTIES)	
		EL-19-003

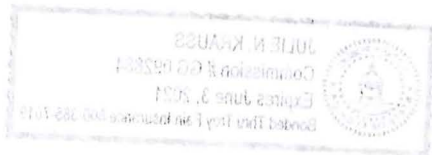
**AFFIDAVIT OF
TYLER WILHELM**

1. I am the Project Manager for the Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC (“Crowned Ridge Wind”) wind facility that is proposed for approval in South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (“Commission”) Docket No. EL19-003. I am responsible for the development of the proposed wind facility, which includes working with the Crowned Ridge Wind land team to execute easement option agreements to support the wind facility.
2. On November 22, 2017, Cattle Ridge Wind Farm, LLC (“Cattle Ridge Wind Farm”) was acquired as a wholly-owned indirect subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. At the time of the acquisition, Cattle Ridge Wind Farm provided a land status data package that showed John Thompson as a participant. See Attachment 1.
3. On February 27, 2019, Cheryl Thompson left a message for me expressing an interest in placing wind turbines on her property in Grant County, South Dakota. On the same day, I asked the land team to contact her.
4. On March 5, 2019, Cheryl Thompson emailed Russel Lloyd, a land agent for Crowned Ridge Wind, providing John and James Thompson’s contact information. See Attachment 2.
5. On March 5, 2019, James Thompson emailed me to indicate that the Crowned Ridge Wind planning map incorrectly identified his family farm as hosting a collection line for the Crowned Ridge Wind facility. See Attachment 3.
6. As of March 5, 2019, while I understood the map as filed with the Commission indicated that the Thompson property was participating, and James Thompson indicated that no participation easement was executed, it was also my understanding that Cheryl Thompson was interested in participating, and, therefore, prior to changing the land status map with the Commission, I endeavored to understand whether or not the Thompsons would participate.
7. On March 6, 2019, Russel Lloyd, a land agent for Crowned Ridge Wind, emailed Cheryl, James, and John wind farm easements for their review. That same day, John Thompson wrote back thanking Russel Lloyd for the information. See Attachment 2.

8. On March 6, 2019, John Thompson and I had an approximately 30 minute phone conversation. During that conversation, I apologized for the confusion resulting from the project map showing him as hosting collection. In an attempt to understand why the Cattle Ridge Wind Farm documents identified the Thompson property as participating, I inquired whether the family had at some time committed to execute an agreement with Cattle Ridge Wind Farm. We also discussed if the Thompson family had any interest in participating in the proposed Crowned Ridge Wind Project moving forward. There was no indication on this call that the Thompsons would not be interested in executing an easement agreement. A large part of the conversation focused on the possibility for a turbine(s) to be sited on the Thompson property and whether we could re-align the collection routing on the property in a manner that would be agreeable to the family. The conversation was cordial, and, it is my understanding that John Thompson wished to continue the conversation at a later date and possibly participate in the Crowned Ridge Wind Project.
9. On March 19, 2019, James Thompson emailed me requesting that I follow-up on his concern that their farm was identified as participating. See Attachment 3. On March 19, 2019, I emailed John and James Thompson and I explained that they were correct and the map showing them as a participant was incorrect, and that Crowned Ridge Wind had no rights to perform any work on their land. I also provided an overview of the current status of the review of the Crowned Ridge Wind application before the Commission, and offered to discuss with them an opportunity to participate in the Crowned Ridge Wind Project.
10. On March 20, 2019, in response to a question from Commissioner Nelson at the Public Input Hearing, I indicated that there had been no land status changes from the map filed on February 7, 2019 with the Commission. At that time, it was my understanding that the Thompsons were interested in continuing to discuss the potential to participate in the Crowned Ridge Wind Project.
11. On April 4, 2019, Russel Lloyd emailed the Thompsons in an attempt to understand the status of the Thompson family's consideration of participating in the Crowned Ridge Wind Project. On the same day, John Thompson emailed back "I don't think we are interested and are busy. What did you need?" See Attachment 4. After Mr. Lloyd conveyed that message to me the same day, I started working with the Crowned Ridge Wind team to analyze where the proposed underground collection could be relocated off of the Thompson's property, so that any updated maps would: (1) show the Thompson's property as non-participating; and (2) show the collection line as being located outside the boundaries of the Thompson family's property. That analysis was completed on May 14, 2019. Also, I worked with the Crowned Ridge Wind team to understand whether there were any other instances for which the land status map needed updating. While I did not find another situation similar to the Thompson family's, I did find that six easement options had expired, and, therefore, the updated map shows those properties as

pending rather than as participating. I also updated the maps to show minor adjustments to infrastructure to accommodate the requests of participating landowners. The updated land status map and all other maps were completed on May 23, 2019, and submitted to be posted on the Commission's web site in Docket No. EL19-003, with the exception of the sound level and shadow/flicker maps which will be included in Jay Haley's Rebuttal Testimony.

12. I understand that the Crowned Ridge Wind facility can only be constructed, operated, and, maintained on land in which Crowned Ridge Wind has the necessary rights to use the land to construct, operate, and maintain the facility. Therefore, Crowned Ridge Wind commits to keep the Commission updated on land status rights, including, if the Commission approves the facility permit, during the pre-construction compliance phase of the project.



)

) SS

)

Tyler Nixon

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23th day of May 2019.

Julien Krauss



JULIE N. KRAUSS
 Commission # GG 092884
 Expires June 3, 2021
 Bonded Thru Troy Fain Insurance 800-385-7019

4