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BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )  
OF TATANKA RIDGE WIND, LLC FOR A )  
PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY )  
IN DEUEL COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA )

EL19-026

**SUPPLEMENTAL  
DIRECT TESTIMONY OF  
JANELLE RIELAND**

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**1. Ms. Rieland, are you familiar with the whooping crane condition in the Triple H Wind Farm Docket EL19-007?**

Answer: Yes, I am.

**2. Do you have any comments on the inclusion of a similar condition for the Tatanka Ridge Wind Project?**

Answer: Yes, I do. My first reaction would be that there is no need to include a condition relating to whooping crane for the Tatanka Ridge Wind Project (or Project). The Project is located nearly 40 miles east of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) whooping crane migration corridor, which contains 95% of the confirmed whooping crane observations during migration. That is unlike the Triple H Wind Project, which is located in the central portion of the migration corridor. Whooping cranes are much more frequently documented migrating through central South Dakota near the Missouri River than in eastern South Dakota.

**3. Did you discuss a Whooping Crane condition with either the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service or South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks?**

Answer: No, we did not. Although we engaged in early coordination with both the USFWS and South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks (SDGFP), the whooping crane was not discussed. The whooping crane was not identified by the USFWS Information for Planning and Conservation online system as a species known or expected to be near the Project, and the South Dakota Natural Heritage Database review did not include any records of the whooping crane occurring within or near the Project. The whooping crane was not observed during surveys conducted at the Project.

**4. Is there an expense to developing and implementing a formal plan for monitoring the Project site for whooping cranes during the spring and fall migration period?**

Answer: Yes. The expense can be substantial. Implementation of a whooping crane monitoring plan would likely involve physical monitoring by either project staff or contract professionals during the spring and fall migration period each year. The expense associated with physical monitoring at the Project is significant and unwarranted given the species is not expected to be present in far eastern South Dakota.

43           **5. What would you propose for a condition for the Tatanka Ridge Wind Project to**  
44 **minimize potential impacts to whooping cranes?**

45 Answer: If the Commission determines that a condition relating to whooping cranes is warranted,  
46 I would propose the condition state that the applicant shall establish a procedure for minimize the  
47 risk of whooping crane collisions with turbines during operations. The applicant will coordinate  
48 with the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks on the procedure to minimize impacts to whooping  
49 cranes.

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51           Dated this 28 day of October 2019.

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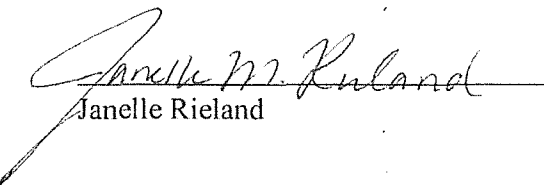
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Janelle Rieland