APPENDIX I

Draft Decommissioning Plan

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DECOMMISSIONING AND SITE RESTORATION PLAN
Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I

DRAFT

Prepared for

Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I, LLC

16138 464th Ave, Watertown SD 57263

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym/Abbreviation	Definition
County	Codington County
BESS	Battery Energy Storage System
Project	Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I

1.0 Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan

1.1 Introduction

Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I, LLC is proposing to develop the Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I (Project), an approximately 120MW/4Hr, 480MWh AC Coupled battery energy storage system (BESS) energy-generating facility located at 16138 464th Ave, Watertown SD 57263 in Codington County.

The Project is expected to have a useful life of at least 35 years. If the facility is decommissioned at the end of this period, Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I or its successor in interest will be responsible for the removal, recycling, or disposal of all solar arrays, inverters, transformers, and other structures on the site, depending upon the proposed future use of the site. Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I anticipates using the best available recycling measures at the future time of decommissioning.

1.2 Existing Use

The approximately 7.8-acre Project site is owned by NextEra Energy Resources, LLC (NextEra Energy Resources) and is anticipated to provide future capacity at the point of interconnection at the Crowned Ridge Wind Energy Facility (CRW). The current land is an unoccupied green space with the Crowned Ridge Wind Energy Facility located approximately .3 miles to the south.

1.3 Planned Use

The Project is being developed to provide BESS power. Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I would sell its electricity to an electric utility purchaser under long-term contracts to help meet South Dakota state's renewable portfolio standard goals.

The Project would involve additional support facilities consisting of access roads, fencing, battery energy storage system, operation and maintenance building, supervisory control and data acquisition system, and other ancillary facilities or equipment. The Project would also include an existing substation, owned by Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC to deliver power generated on site to an existing 230kV overhead transmission line.

1.4 Plan Purpose

The purpose of this Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan is to ensure that if the Project is decommissioned, the site restoration will be accomplished in a way that is environmentally sound, safe, and protects the public health and safety. Decommissioning is a general term used to describe a formal process to remove something from active status, whereas restoration objectives aspire to return the land to some degree of its former state, after some process has resulted in its disturbance.

Future conditions that could affect decommissioning are largely unknown at this time; however, the best available technologies and management practices will be deployed to ensure successful Project decommissioning and site restoration.

1.5 Plan Objectives

To ensure that decommissioning will be completed in a manner that is environmentally sound, safe, and protects the public health and safety, Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I or its successor in interest will submit a final plan for Project decommissioning to the County for review and approval before the Project's decommissioning begins. Overall, the final plan will include a discussion of the following:

- Proposed decommissioning activities for the Project and all appurtenant facilities that were constructed as part of the Project.
- The activities necessary to restore the site if the plan requires removal of equipment and appurtenant facilities.
- Decommissioning alternatives that may not be considered as part of this Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan that should be considered at the time of decommissioning.

Satisfying the above requirements should serve as a safeguard, even in the unlikely event that the Project is abandoned.

1.6 Project Decommissioning

When the Project reaches the end of its operational life, the Project component parts will be dismantled and recycled. All waste resulting from the decommissioning of the facility will be transported by a certified and licensed contractor and taken to a landfill/recycling facility in accordance with all local, state, and federal regulations.

The initial decommissioning plan for the Project site will include the following requirements:

- The facility will be disconnected from the utility power grid.
- Individual battery containers will be disconnected from the on-site electrical system.
- Project components will be dismantled and removed using conventional construction equipment and recycled or disposed of safely.
- Individual battery containers will be unbolted and removed from the support frames and carefully packaged for collection and return to a designated recycling facility for recycling and material reuse.
- Electrical interconnection, transmission, and distribution cables will be removed and recycled off site by an approved recycling facility.
- Electrical and electronic devices, including inverters, transformers, panels, support structures, lighting fixtures, and their protective shelters will be recycled off site by an approved recycler.
- Any hazardous materials will be removed and disposed of in accord with the current regulations.
- All concrete that is removed from the substation will be recycled off site by a concrete recycler or crushed on site and used as fill material.
- Fencing will be removed and recycled off site by an approved metals recycler.

- Soil erosion and sedimentation control measures will be reimplemented during the decommissioning period and until the site is stabilized.

This initial Decommissioning and Site Restoration Plan assumes that only minimal grading would be required.

1.7 Site Restoration

Restoration activities will return the Project site to agriculture use or another useful purpose. Returning the land to agricultural use would entail increasing the nutrient content to pre-construction levels and aerating the soils through tilling. If the land were to be used for another useful purpose, soil stabilization techniques would be deployed to ensure topsoil preservation to the extent feasible.

The initial site restoration plan for the Project site will include the following requirements:

- Gravel roads installed to serve the Project will be removed; filter fabric would be bundled and disposed of in accordance with all applicable regulations. Road areas would be backfilled and restored to their natural contour.
- Existing wells or pumps will be maintained in place. Any ditches used for temporary water transport within the site will be removed for implementation of the Project. These irrigation works will be restored if appropriate or necessary.

Restoration activities would entail one of the following measures:

- If land is to be used for agriculture, the nutrient content of the soil would be restored to pre-construction concentration levels (if degraded) and the land would be tilled to ensure aeration of soils and proper weed management.
- If the land is to be converted for another purpose, soil stabilization techniques would be deployed to prevent topsoil erosion. Conversion to a use other than agriculture would need to be consistent with applicable land use regulation in effect at that time.

All permits related to restoration would be obtained, where required.

2.0 Decommissioning and Restoration: Scope and Timing

2.1 Scope of Decommissioning

Decommissioning the Project will involve removal of the Project's components as necessary for reuse of the site, including the battery containers, container anchors, inverters, electrical conductors, electrical cables, and substation components; removal of other structures; and the regrading of any areas significantly impacted by the removal of any components. Roads may be removed or left in place based upon the landowner's anticipated reuse after decommissioning.

2.2 Site Restoration

Restoration of the Project site will be to a reasonable approximation of its original condition prior to construction, allowing for any permanent improvements chosen by the underlying landowners to be left on site. The final decommissioning and restoration plans will contain the measures necessary to fulfill Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I restoration obligations.

2.3 Timing, Exemptions, and Extensions

Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I or any transferee, as the case may be, will decommission the Project and restore the Project site within 12 months following Project termination. The 12-month period to perform the decommissioning and restoration may be extended for one additional 12-month period if there is a delay caused by forces beyond the control of Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I including, but not limited to, inclement weather conditions, permitting delays, planting requirements, equipment failure, wildlife considerations, or the availability of equipment or personnel to support decommissioning.

2.4 County Inspection and Reporting

The County may choose to perform periodic inspections of decommissioning work or perform decommissioning evaluations. If requested by the County, Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I will provide monthly status reports until decommissioning work is complete.

3.0 Decommissioning and Restoration: Funding and Security

3.1 Decommissioning and Restoration Obligations

Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I or any transferee will post a performance bond, letter of credit, or other form of surety, as described in Section 3.2, to ensure the availability of funds to cover Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I's decommissioning and restoration obligations. The surety will be based upon a signed engineer's estimate of the costs of Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I's potential decommissioning and restoration obligations. The surety will also provide that such estimated costs will be re-evaluated at the conclusion of construction of the Project and every ten (10) years thereafter from the date of substantial completion to ensure sufficient funds for decommissioning and restoration and, if deemed appropriate at that time, the amount of the surety will be adjusted accordingly.

3.2 Surety

Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I or any transferee will provide financial security for the performance of its decommissioning and restoration obligations assuming the site is restored to the County's next use (i.e., restore the Project site to pre-construction conditions [agriculture] or to a condition that best meets the future needs) through a performance bond, letter of credit, or other form of surety issued by a surety registered with the [Entity TBD] is, at the time of delivery of the bond, letter of credit, or other form of surety, on the authorized insurance provider list published by the Insurance Commissioner. The performance bond, letter of credit, or other form of surety will be in an amount equal to 100% of the estimated costs Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I decommissioning and restoration obligations with credit provided for any recyclable materials. The surety will be for a term of one (1) year, and will be continuously renewed, extended, or replaced so that it remains in effect for the remaining term of the agreement or until the secured decommissioning obligations are satisfied, whichever occurs later.