

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF)
CROWNED RIDGE ENERGY STORAGE I,)
LLC FOR A PERMIT FOR AN ENERGY)
CONVERSION FACILITY)**

**ORDER GRANTING MOTION
FOR APPROVAL OF
PROCEDURAL SCHEDULE**

EL26-014

On May 14, 2026, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application by Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I, LLC (Applicant) for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit. Applicant proposes to construct an energy conversion facility in Codington County, South Dakota, known as the battery energy storage system (Project). The Project as proposed consists of 120-megawatt (MW) battery energy storage system (BESS) to store excess energy available on the grid. The Project includes a 120-MW, 4-hour duration BESS facility with associated inverters, transformers, medium voltage (mV) collection cables, and other ancillary facilities, such as fencing, roads, and a supervisory control and data acquisition (SCADA) system. The Project will connect to the existing CRW Collector Substation via approximately 2,215-foot-long mV collection cables. The Project is expected to be in commercial operation in May 2028. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$174 million.

On May 21, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 13, 2026, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filing electronic listserv. On June 4, 2026, the Commission issued Order Assessing Filing Fee; Order Authorizing Executive Director to Enter in Consulting Contracts. Party status has been granted to Timothy Lindgren, Linda M. Lindgren, Codington Clark Electric Cooperative, to South Dakota Rural Electric Association (SDREA), Bob Welder, Paul Johnson, and Bridget Johnson. . On July 29, 2026, Staff filed a Joint Motion for Procedural Schedule between Staff and the Applicant (Joint Motion). On July 30, 2026, the Commission issued Order for and Notice of Motion Hearing on Less than Ten Days' Notice. On August 3, 2026, SDREA submitted a response to the Joint Motion.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on August 11, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. Staff requested the Commission grant the Joint Motion with the edits proposed by SDREA. Neither Applicant, SDREA or Codington Clark Electric Cooperative objected to the Staff's Procedural Schedule with the requested edits of SDREA. No other parties appeared or filed written responses. The Commission voted unanimously to grant the procedural schedule as set forth in the Joint Motion, with the inclusion of a prehearing conference to be held virtually at 3:00 p.m., CT on March 18, 2027, the responses to final discovery due by March 12, 2027, as requested by SDREA, and that exhibits and witness lists be filed by March 15, 2027, as requested in the Joint Motion.

ORDERED, that the Motion for Approval of Procedural Schedule is granted. It is further

ORDERED, that the procedural schedule is established as follows:

Staff/Intervenor Testimony Due	December 17, 2026
Rebuttal Testimony Due	February 16, 2027
Deadline to Serve Final Discovery	February 26, 2027
Response to Final Discovery Due	March 12, 2027
File Exhibits and Witness List	March 15, 2027
Prehearing Conference	March 18, 2027
Evidentiary Hearing	March 22-24, 2027
Post-Hearing Briefs Due	April 12, 2027

It is further

ORDERED, that responses to discovery are due ten business days after service of discovery unless a different period is agreed upon by the requesting Party and responding Party. It is further

ORDERED, that prefiled testimony is prerequisite to the offering of testimony at the evidentiary hearing and all exhibits and witness lists be prefiled in accordance with the procedural schedule.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 14th day of August 2026.

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: Kristin Edmonds

Date: August 14, 2024

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner