

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION BY)
CROWNED RIDGE ENERGY STORAGE I,)
LLC FOR A PERMIT FOR AN ENERGY)
CONVERSION FACILITY)
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**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE; ORDER
AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR TO ENTER INTO
CONSULTING CONTRACTS**

EL26-014

On May 14, 2026, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application from Crowned Ridge Energy Storage I, LLC (Applicant) for an Energy Facility Permit for an energy conversion facility in Codington County, South Dakota. Specifically, Applicant proposes to construct a 120- megawatt (MW), four-hour duration battery energy storage system (Project). The Project would be situated on approximately 52.7 acres within the existing Crowned Ridge Wind Energy Facility project area, of which the battery energy storage system would occupy approximately 7.8 acres. The Project would connect to the existing Crowned Ridge Wind Collector Substation through an approximately 2,215-foot medium voltage collection line. The Project is planned to be located in Section 11, Township 118 North, Range 51 West in Codington County and is southeast of the intersection of 464th Avenue and 161st Street. The Project includes ancillary facilities such as fencing, roads, and a supervisory control and data acquisition system. The Project, which has an estimated construction cost of \$174 million, is expected to be in commercial operation in May 2028. Pursuant to SDCL 49-41B-12, the minimum filing fee is \$20,000 and the maximum calculated fee is \$287,000.

On May 15, 2026, the Commission issued a Notice of Application; Order for and Notice of Public Input Meeting; Notice of Opportunity to Apply for Party Status. On May 21, 2026, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of July 13, 2026, to interested persons and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv.

The Commission has jurisdiction in this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-12.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on June 2, 2026, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff requested the Commission assess a filing fee not to exceed \$287,000 for actual expenses incurred in reviewing this Application and to authorize the executive director to enter into consulting contracts that may be needed for review of the application. The Applicant did not object to the request. The Commission voted unanimously to assess a filing fee up to the statutory limit of \$287,000 for actual expenses incurred in reviewing this Application and to give the executive director authority to enter into consulting contracts. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Applicant shall be assessed a filing fee in an amount up to the statutory limit of \$287,000, to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing. It is further

ORDERED, that the executive director shall have the authority to enter into necessary

consulting contracts.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 4th day of June 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:	<u><i>David M. Rem</i></u>
Date:	<u>6/4/2026</u>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Chairman

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Commissioner