

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO
BY TATANKA RIDGE WIND, LLC FOR A)	ALLOW ANNETTE STURGILL TO
PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY)	APPEAR TELEPHONICALLY
IN DEUEL COUNTY, SOUTH DAKOTA)	
)	EL19-026

On June 17, 2019, the Commission received an Application for a Facility Permit (Application) from Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC (Tatanka or Applicant), a subsidiary of Avangrid Renewables, LLC. Tatanka proposes to construct a wind energy facility to be located in Deuel County, South Dakota, known as the Tatanka Ridge Wind Project (Project). The Project would be situated within an approximately 27,900-acre project area, located near the towns of Toronto and Brandt (Project Area). The Project Area is in Blom, Brandt, Grange, Hidewood, and Scandinavia Townships. The total installed capacity of the Project would be approximately 155 megawatts (MW) of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 56 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, above/underground electrical collector lines, communication systems, a collection substation, one permanent meteorological tower, less than 0.5-mile long 345-kV gen-tie transmission line, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project would interconnect to the regional electric grid via the Astoria substation, a new Otter Tail Power Company interconnection substation scheduled to be operational in 2020, located in Scandinavia Township. Tatanka has entered into two purchase power agreements, one with Google for 98 MW and one with Dairyland Power Cooperative for the balance. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$216 million.

On June 20, 2019, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of August 16, 2019, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed. A public input hearing was held on August 7, 2019. On October 4, 2019, Applicant and staff filed a Settlement Stipulation and Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation that resolved all issues except for the funding for the decommissioning of the Project. On October 22, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Granting Joint Motion for Approval of Settlement Stipulation; Order Approving Settlement Stipulation, which resolved all issues with the exception of sound and ice throw and reserved for future consideration the issue of a permit condition related to the protection of whooping cranes. On October 23, 2019, Applicant filed a Motion for Telephonic Testimony requesting witness Annette Sturgill be permitted to appear telephonically for the evidentiary hearing.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22. The Commission may rely upon any or all of these or other laws of this state in making its determination.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on October 30, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. Staff stated it did not oppose the motion to allow Ms. Annette Sturgill to appear telephonically. The Commission unanimously voted to grant the Motion to Allow Annette Sturgill to Appear Telephonically. It is therefore

ORDERED, that the Motion to Allow Annette Sturgill to Appear Telephonically is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 31st day of October 2019.

<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</p> <p>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.</p> <p>By: <u>Adam de Huelck</u></p> <p>Date: <u>10/31/19</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
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BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson

GARY HANSON, Chairperson

Chris Nelson

CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen

KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner