

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)	ORDER GRANTING
OF DAKOTA RANGE III, LLC FOR A)	REQUEST FOR TURBINE
PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY FACILITY)	MODEL CHANGE
AND A 345-KV TRANSMISSION LINE IN)	
GRANT AND ROBERTS COUNTIES)	EL18-046

On October 26, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an application from Dakota Range III, LLC (Dakota Range) to construct an approximately 8-mile 345-kilovolt interconnection transmission line and an up to 151.2-megawatt wind energy conversion facility (Project). The Project will be in Grant County and Roberts County, South Dakota, with the wind portion in an 18,717-acre area. The transmission line will run from the Project's substation located in section 13 of Blooming Valley Township, outside the public right of way along 455th Avenue, turning east on Farmington Township's 150th Street to the Otter Tail Power Company switchyard located in section 14 of Mazeppa Township. The Project is expected to be in service by December 31, 2020, with a total of up to 42 wind turbines and associated facilities. Dakota Range estimates the total cost of the proposed Project to be approximately \$200 million.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B, specifically, 49-41B-1, 49-41B-4, 49-41B-22, 49-41B-25 and ARSD 20:10:01:19 and Chapter 20:10:22.

On November 1, 2018, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the Petition and the intervention deadline of December 26, 2018, to interested individuals and entities on the Commission's PUC Weekly Filings electronic listserv. A public input hearing was held on December 19, 2018, in Summit, South Dakota. No applications for Party Status were received by the Commission. On February 7, 2019, Dakota Range and Commission Staff (Staff) filed a Joint Motion for Approval of a Settlement Stipulation, a Settlement Stipulation and Attachment 1 to the Settlement Stipulation. On February 8, 2019, Staff filed a Memorandum Supporting Settlement Stipulation. On February 22, 2019, the Commission issued an Order Granting Joint Motion of Approval of Settlement Stipulation and Granting Permits to Construct Facilities (Permit). On January 27, 2020, Dakota Range filed a Letter and Affidavit of Jonathan Koehn requesting Commission approval of a turbine model change. Specifically, Dakota Range requested the Commission approve a material change pursuant to Condition 22 of the Permit and allow the use of the Nordex N149-4.8 turbine model.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on February 18, 2020, the Commission considered this matter. Staff did not object to Dakota Range's request. Hearing no objection from Staff, the Commission voted unanimously to grant Dakota Range's request for a material change and allow the requested turbine model change.

It is therefore

ORDERED, that Dakota Range's Request for a turbine model change is hereby granted.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 19th day of February 2020.

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.

By: Adam deHueck

Date: 2/19/20

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner