

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

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF CROWNED RIDGE WIND, LLC FOR A FACILITY PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A 230 KV TRANSMISSION LINE AND ASSOCIATED FACILITIES FROM CODINGTON COUNTY TO THE BIG STONE SOUTH SUBSTATION)))))))	ORDER GRANTING MOTION TO RELEASE BOND EL17-050
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On December 5, 2017, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a facility permit application from Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC (Crowned Ridge). Crowned Ridge proposed to construct a new reactive power compensation substation and an approximately 34-mile 230-kilovolt generation tie line that connects two 300-megawatt wind projects (Crowned Ridge Wind and Crowned Ridge Wind II) to the Big Stone South substation owned by Otter Tail Power Company. Together the new reactive power compensation substation and 34-mile generation tie line are the project. The planned Crowned Ridge Wind facilities were permitted separately and are not included as a part of the project. The generation tie line is located in Codington and Grant counties, South Dakota, while the new reactive compensation substation will be located in Grant County. On November 21, 2018, the Commission issued an order approving the settlement stipulation and granting a permit to construct the transmission facility. Crowned Ridge filed a License and/or Permit Continuous Bond, Bond No. 9307918, on June 18, 2019, in accordance with Condition 11(h) of the Permit. The Project began commercial operations on December 30, 2019. On November 29, 2023, Crowned Ridge filed a Motion to Release Bond that requests an order from the Commission releasing Bond No. 9307918.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-38.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 26, 2024, the Commission considered this matter. After reviewing the confirmations of road repairs from Grant and Codington counties and Stockholm, Troy, Waverly, Alban, Madison, Big Stone, Grant Center and Leola townships, the Commission voted unanimously to grant Crowned Ridge's Motion to Release Bond. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Crowned Ridge's Motion to Release Bond is hereby granted and the Executive Director or Commission Counsel is authorized to execute any necessary documents to release Fidelity and Deposit Company of Maryland Bond No. 9307918.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 27th day of March 2024.

<p>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><i>[Signature]</i></u></p> <p>Date: <u>27th Mar 2024</u></p>

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
 KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
 GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
 CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner