

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

<b>IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION )</b>	<b>ORDER ASSESSING FILING FEE;</b>
<b>BY CROWNED RIDGE WIND II, LLC FOR )</b>	<b>ORDER AUTHORIZING</b>
<b>A PERMIT OF A WIND ENERGY )</b>	<b>EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO</b>
<b>FACILITY IN DEUEL, GRANT AND )</b>	<b>ENTER INTO CONSULTING</b>
<b>CODINGTON )</b>	<b>CONTRACTS; AND ORDER</b>
<b>)</b>	<b>GRANTING INTERVENTION</b>
<b>)</b>	
<b>)</b>	
<b>)</b>	<b>EL19-016</b>

On April 1, 2019, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received an Application for a Wind Energy Facility Permit (Application) from Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC (Crowned Ridge Wind or Applicant), a subsidiary of NextEra Energy Resources, LLC. Crowned Ridge Wind proposes to construct a wind energy facility to be located in Codington, Deuel, and Grant Counties, South Dakota (Project). The Project would be situated within an approximately 60,996-acre project area, located east of the City of Watertown (Project Area). The Project Area is in Waverly, Kranzburg, Troy, Rome, Goodwin, and Havana Townships. The total installed capacity of the Project would be approximately 300.6 MW of nameplate capacity. The proposed Project includes up to 132 wind turbine generators, access roads to turbines and associated facilities, underground 34.5 kV electrical collector lines, underground fiber-optic cable, a 34.5-kV to 230-kV collection substation, up to two permanent meteorological towers, and an operations and maintenance facility. The Project would interconnect to the electric grid at the Big Stone South 230-kV Substation using the Crowned Ridge II's 5-mile 230-kV transmission line that was approved in Docket EL18-018 and the Crowned Ridge 34-mile generation tie line that was approved in Docket EL17-050. The Project is expected to be completed in 2020. Applicant has executed a purchase and sale agreement with Northern States Power Company (NSP) to sell NSP the Project upon commercial operation. Applicant estimates the total construction cost to be \$425 million.

SDCL 49-41B-12 authorizes the Commission to assess a maximum fee not to exceed one-quarter of one percent for the first \$100,000,000 of estimated construction costs plus one-twentieth of one percent of all additional estimated construction costs of the Project, with a minimum total fee chargeable of not less than \$8,000. The fee shall be deposited in a subfund in the Commission's Regulatory Assessment Fee Fund to defray Commission expenses incident to analyzing and ruling upon the Application.

The Commission has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to SDCL Chapter 49-41B, specifically 49-41B-12, 49-41B-17, 49-41B-26, and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on May 2, 2019, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee not to exceed \$412,500 with an initial deposit of \$8,000, and to authorize the executive director to enter into consulting contracts needed for review of the Application. Applicant stated it did not object to the fee assessment. The Commission voted unanimously to assess Crowned Ridge a filing fee in an amount not to exceed \$412,500 with a minimum filing fee of \$8,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in review of this filing commencing from the filing date. The Commission further voted unanimously to authorize the executive director to enter into necessary consulting contracts. The Commission also voted unanimously to grant party status to those that had filed. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Crowned Ridge shall be assessed a filing fee not to exceed \$412,500 with an initial deposit of \$8,000 and shall from time to time make such additional deposits up to the total amount of the assessment as requested by the Commission's finance manager. It is further

ORDERED, that the executive director is authorized to enter into necessary consulting contracts. It is further

ORDERED, that party status is granted to Garry Ehlebracht, Steven Greber, Mary Greber, Richard Rall, Amy Rall and Laretta Kranz.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 2019.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE</b></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 DeHueck</u></p> <p>Date: <u>5/10/19</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">(OFFICIAL SEAL)</p>
---

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Gary Hanson  
GARY HANSON, Chairman

Chris Nelson  
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner

Kristie Fiegen  
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Commissioner