

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

**IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION)
OF CROWNED RIDGE WIND II, LLC FOR)
A FACILITY PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT A)
230-KV TRANSMISSION LINE AND)
ASSOCIATED FACILITIES IN)
CODINGTON COUNTY)**

**ORDER ASSESSING
FILING FEE; AUTHORIZING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO ENTER
INTO CONSULTING CONTRACTS**

EL18-019

On April 11, 2018, the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) received a facility permit application (Application) from Crowned Ridge Wind II, LLC (Crowned Ridge II). Crowned Ridge II proposes to construct an approximately 7-mile 230-kilovolt generation tie line and associated facilities (Project) that will connect with the 300-megawatt Crowned Ridge Wind II facility to the Crowned Ridge Wind facility collector substation. The planned Crowned Ridge Wind facilities will be permitted separately and are not included as a part of the Project. The generation tie line will be located in Codington County, South Dakota. The Project is expected to be in service by December 31, 2019. Crowned Ridge II estimates the total construction cost to be approximately \$10 million.

SDCL 49-41B-12 authorizes the Commission to assess a maximum fee not to exceed one-quarter of one percent for the first one hundred million dollars of the estimated construction costs of the Project 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 eight thousand dollars. 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 Chapters 1-26 and 49-41B and ARSD Chapter 20:10:22.

At its regularly scheduled meeting on April 20, 2018, the Commission considered this matter. Commission staff requested that the Commission assess a filing fee not to exceed \$25,000 with an initial deposit of \$8,000 and to authorize the executive director to enter into consulting contracts needed for review of the Application. Crowned Ridge II stated it did not object to the fee assessment. The Commission voted unanimously to assess Crowned Ridge II a filing fee in an amount not to exceed \$25,000, with a minimum filing fee of \$8,000 to account for actual expenses incurred in the review of the Project commencing from the filing date. The Commission further voted unanimously to authorize the executive director to enter into necessary consulting contracts. It is therefore

ORDERED, that Crowned Ridge II shall be assessed a filing fee not to exceed \$25,000 for the Project. It is further

ORDERED, that Crowned Ridge II shall be assessed a filing fee in the amount of the minimum filing fee of \$8,000 and shall from time to time make such additional payments 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.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 26th day of April 2018.

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: Karen E. Cremer

Date: 04/26/18

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

Kristie Fiegen
KRISTIE FIEGEN, Chairperson

Gary Hanson
GARY HANSON, Commissioner

Chris Nelson
CHRIS NELSON, Commissioner