

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

One Natural Resources Way Springfield, Illinois 62702-1271
www.dnr.illinois.gov

JB Pritzker, Governor
Colleen Callahan, Director

Authorization for Incidental Take and Implementing Agreement

Pursuant to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act (Act) (520 ILCS 10/5.5) and the regulations adopted to implement the Act (17 Ill. Adm. Code 1080), authorization is hereby granted to California Ridge Wind Energy, LLC (hereinafter referred to as California Ridge) for the incidental take of the Federally- and State-endangered Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) and Federally- and State-threatened Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*). California Ridge is located nine miles northwest of Danville in Vermilion County and approximately 16 miles northeast of Urbana in Champaign County. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (hereinafter referred to as the Department) has determined that the taking is incidental to activities associated with the operation of the California Ridge Wind Project in Champaign and Vermilion Counties, Illinois.

This authorization is in addition to the Incidental Take Authorization issued previously to California Ridge for Black-billed Cuckoo (ITA file #140 executed April 20, 2017). That authorization remains in full effect through April 20, 2042 and is not modified by this document.

Procedural History

The Department received a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) prepared by Stantec Consulting Services Inc., on behalf of California Ridge on June 3, 2020, as a request for authorization for the incidental take of Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat. Little Brown Bat (*Myotis lucifugus*) and Tricolored Bat (*Perimyotis subflavus*) were included in the HCP, as they are under review for federal listing. **The Department is not authorized to issue an ITA for these two species, as they are not officially listed as threatened or endangered.** Should a federal listing decision be made, it is possible that this ITA may be amended pursuant to the Act (520 ILCS 10/7) and Ill. Admin Code 1080. The California Ridge HCP was approved by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and a federal Incidental Take Permit was issued on August 6, 2021. Pursuant to Ill. Adm. Code 1080.10, the approved HCP was accepted as complete in lieu of a State of Illinois conservation plan on February 2, 2021. The public notice period will be detailed under #6 of the Compliance section below.

Compliance with the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act

The Act includes six criteria that must be satisfied for the authorization of incidental take of an endangered or threatened species. These criteria and the Department's determination for each are listed below.

1. The taking will not be the purpose of, but will only be incidental to, the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity:

The stated and apparent purpose of this proposed action is the continued operation of 134 GE 1.6 100-MW wind turbines (each turbine is capable of producing 1.6 megawatts (MW)) generating up to 214.4 MW of electricity when operating at manufacturer's cut-in speed (the wind speed at which the turbines begin to generate power to send to the grid) of 3 meters/second (m/s) or 7 miles per hour (mph). Each turbine tower stands 100 meters high (328 feet high) at hub height with highest blade tip position at 150 meters high (492 feet high). The project also includes an operations and maintenance (O&M) facility, access roads, an underground electrical collection line system, overhead transmission lines, a substation, and two permanent meteorological towers. Approximately 38 miles of access roads were installed for access to turbines. **The project has been operational since December 2012.** Including a 1-kilometer buffer around the outermost turbines, the project area envelops **35,270.2-acres**. California Ridge anticipates that the continued operation of this project will not directly impact any Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat summer maternity habitat or winter hibernacula. Take of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat could occur as a result of direct collision with, or barotrauma (injury caused by the sudden pressure changes near turbine blades) caused by, active wind turbines, particularly during spring and fall migration seasons. Indirect take may occur through potential disturbance/displacement of bats due to turbine presence. The take of Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat that could result from this project is not the purpose of California Ridge's activities but is incidental to the carrying out of an otherwise lawful activity.

2. The parties to the HCP will, to the maximum extent practicable, minimize and mitigate the impact caused by the taking:

Proposed minimization and mitigation measures were included in California Ridge's HCP.

To meet the "maximum extent practicable" standard, additional minimization and/or mitigation measures may be required beyond those proposed by California Ridge, based on the life history needs of the Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat.

All required minimization and mitigation measures are presented under the Authorization section below.

3. The parties to the HCP will ensure that adequate funding for the HCP will be provided:

California Ridge states that they will provide funding to implement the conservation and monitoring program outlined in the HCP. Funding assurance will be provided in the form of a Letter of Credit from a financial institution acceptable to the USFWS for those portions of the conservation program that are not yet implemented. The Letter of Credit will be in the initial amount of up to \$1,329,761 (depending on the amount needed at that time, e.g., if all the initial mitigation is in place, the necessary amount of the Letter of Credit will be less) and will be secured within 30 days of issuance of the ITP. California Ridge understands that if any additional activities are planned at the facility that may affect Indiana Bats, Northern Long-eared Bats, or other endangered or threatened species, coordination with the Department will be required.

It is the Department's opinion that California Ridge's stated commitment to funding their proposed minimization and mitigation measures is sufficient to satisfy this criterion.

4. Based on the best available scientific data, the Department has determined that the taking will not reduce the likelihood of survival or recovery of the endangered species or threatened species in the wild within the State of Illinois, the biotic community of which the species are a part, or the habitat essential to the species' existence in Illinois:

Indiana Bat (*Myotis sodalis*) is a Federally-endangered and State-endangered flying mammal species.

Habitat: Indiana Bat hibernates in the winter, primarily in caves and abandoned mines. The species prefers the coldest part of the cave, where they are found huddled in large clusters of 500-1000 bats. In the summer, preferred habitat for this nocturnal insectivore consists of wooded areas, often near streams. The species is typically found beneath the exfoliating bark of trees.

Distribution: Their overall range covers much of the eastern United States. Populations migrate as far south as Georgia and Alabama. They are found as far north as Michigan, Vermont, and New York. The species has disappeared from most of its former range in the northeastern United States.

Migration: The species is migratory, traveling up to 300 miles between winter and summer habitats. Migrants will leave hibernation sites in March and April. They return to hibernacula in August or September. Staging or swarming occurs in September and October at the mouths of caves.

Reproduction: Mating occurs from late August to early October, prior to hibernation. Females store sperm through the winter and ovulation takes place in the spring. Females give birth to a single pup in June or July. Young can fly at 25-37 days.

Population: Indiana Bats hibernate in large groups, making them highly susceptible to white-nose Syndrome (confirmed in Illinois in 2013) during the winter months. The low reproductive rate of bats coupled with the vulnerability to disease afflicting the species at hibernacula is a cause of concern for potentially severe population level declines. Human disturbance in caves may disrupt

hibernation, causing unnecessary burning of fat reserves that bats need to get through the winter. Removal of forested summer habitat may also lead to population decline.

Range in Illinois: Indiana Bats are extant (found in the last 10 years) in 42 of 102 Illinois counties. There are currently 76 extant Element Occurrence Records for Indiana Bats in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database. These records include both hibernacula and locations at which bats have been captured during surveys conducted during the summer breeding season. Data reflect the presence of Indiana bats at Illinois maternity colonies and/or day roosts as early as April 12 and as late as October 6. Locations are scattered across much of the southern ¾ of Illinois.

Incidental Take Authorizations: The Department has eleven (11) pending or authorized Incidental Take Authorizations for Indiana Bats. Previous projects have included electric transmission lines, a mine, a pipeline, and windfarms. This is the second authorization granted for the potential take of Indiana Bat in Vermilion County, and the first authorization for the potential take of Indiana Bat in Champaign County.

Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*) is a Federally-threatened and State-threatened flying mammal species.

Habitat: Northern Long-eared Bat hibernates in the winter, primarily in caves and abandoned mines. The species prefers cold, humid areas. They are most likely to be found in cracks or crevices, rather than huddled in large groups. In the summer, preferred habitat for this nocturnal insectivore consists of large, contiguous forested areas. The species roosts in live and dead trees, and occasionally in human structures such as bridges and barns.

Distribution: They are distributed in patches in eastern and north-central United States and southern Canada. The overall summer and winter ranges are the same.

Migration: Northern Long-eared Bat is commonly a local migrant, only traveling up to 50 miles between winter and summer habitats.

Reproduction: Mating occurs in late summer or early fall, prior to hibernation. Females store sperm through the winter, though some females may mate again at spring emergence. Females give birth to a single pup between May and July, depending on the location (typically late June to early July in Illinois).

Population: Northern Long-eared Bat hibernates in caves where the fungus that causes White-nose Syndrome is found. The low reproductive rate of bats coupled with the vulnerability to disease afflicting the species at hibernacula is a cause of concern for potentially severe population level declines. Northern Long-eared Bat is sensitive to disturbance during hibernation, which causes bats to deplete their energy reserves. Habitat fragmentation of mature forest habitat is also a threat.

Range in Illinois: Northern Long-eared Bat is extant in 38 of 102 Illinois counties. There are currently 64 extant Element Occurrence Records for Northern Long-eared Bat in the Illinois Natural Heritage Database. These occurrences include both summer locations of roost and/or maternity colonies and winter

hibernacula. Data reflect the presence of Northern Long-eared Bat at Illinois maternity colonies and/or day roosts as early as April 16 and as late as October 3. Locations are scattered across the entire state

Incidental Take Authorizations: The Department has six (6) pending or authorized Incidental Take Authorizations for Northern Long-eared Bats for a pipeline and wind farms. This is the second authorization to be granted for potential take of Northern Long-eared Bats in Vermillion County, and the first for Champaign County.

Based on the amount of habitat impacted by this project, the number of known occurrences of the endangered and threatened species in Illinois, an assessment of the potential effect of this project on the listed species in the project footprint, the conservation measures included in this authorization for incidental take, and the understanding that vulnerability and recovery information on the species remains limited; the Department has concluded that the taking proposed herein will not reduce the likelihood of survival or recovery of the Indiana Bat or the Northern Long-eared Bat in the wild within the State of Illinois, the biotic community of which the species are a part, or the habitat essential to the species' existence in Illinois.

5. Any measures required under Section 5.5(b)(6) of the Act will be performed:

These measures are listed below under "Authorization." This authorization is, by definition, subject to those terms and conditions and the signature of a representative of California Ridge indicates their commitment to performing those measures.

6. The public has received notice of the application and has had the opportunity to comment before the Department made any decision regarding the application:

Public notice of California Ridge's request for authorization of incidental take was published in the *Breeze Courier* (official state newspaper) on March 3, 2021, and in the (Champaign-Urbana) *News-Gazette* on March 3, March 10, and March 18, 2021. A copy of the HCP was deposited at the St. Joseph Public Library and the Oakwood Public Library, where it was available for public review. The deadline for public comment was April 18, 2021. One public comment was received by the Department. The comment was transmitted to California Ridge on April 16, 2021. An analysis of the comment was received by the Department on April 29, 2021. No changes to the HCP were performed based on public comment.

Authorization

It is the determination of the Department that the measures that will be implemented by California Ridge will adequately minimize and mitigate the anticipated taking of Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat incidental to activities associated the operation of the California Ridge Wind Project in Champaign and Vermilion Counties, Illinois. Further, the Department has concluded that the take authorized herein will not reduce the likelihood of survival or recovery of the Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat in the wild within the State of Illinois, the biotic community of which the species are a part, or the habitat essential to the species' existence in Illinois.

All terms and conditions included in the aforementioned HCP submitted by California Ridge to the Department are incorporated into this agreement by reference and are made a part thereof.

Pursuant to Section 5.5 of the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Act [520 ILCS 10/5.5] and the Administrative Rules for the Incidental Taking of Endangered and Threatened Species [Ill. Adm. Code 1080.40(b)], this authorization is issued subject to the following terms and conditions, which may include additions or modifications to the minimization and mitigation measures proposed by California Ridge in the HCP:

1. This authorization is effective upon the signature of the Department and shall remain in effect for a period of **twenty (20) years** (expiration 2041) from the date of the Department signature, unless terminated by written agreement of both parties. The term of this authorization is synchronized with the USFWS Incidental Take Permit. **This agreement does not authorize take of any species except the Indiana bat and the Northern Long-eared bat.**

Notwithstanding the above paragraph, due to the length of this Authorization, the Department reserves the right to reassess the terms of this Authorization every five years. If during reassessment, the Department determines that the Indiana Bat or Northern Long-eared Bat have become more imperiled than when the species and impact analyses were initially conducted, the Department may request an amendment to this Authorization or additional minimization or mitigation by California Ridge. Further, if during reassessment the Department determines that the level of minimization and mitigation no longer meets the requirement of 520 ILCS 10/5.5 for minimization and mitigation to the maximum extent practicable for the potential take, the Department may request an amendment to this Authorization or additional minimization or mitigation by California Ridge.

If the Department and California Ridge cannot reach an agreement, this Authorization will be terminated. Termination of this Authorization under this provision does not prevent California Ridge from applying for a new Incidental Take Authorization for this project.

This authorization may be revoked pursuant to the Act and Ill. Adm. Code 1080.80(b) if the Department finds that California Ridge has failed to comply with any of these terms and conditions or has been responsible for the taking of Indiana Bats or Northern Long-

eared Bats beyond that which is incidental to activities associated with the operation of the California Ridge Wind Project in Champaign and Vermilion Counties, Illinois.

2. The effective period of this authorization may be altered by mutual written agreement between California Ridge and the Department. The Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board shall be notified of any such alteration.
3. Any substantive changes, including but not limited to a change in the project footprint or a change in the State-listed species which could potentially be affected, will require that a new conservation plan be submitted to the Department to initiate the review and public notice process as required by the Act. **For the purposes of this authorization, an increase in the turbine cut-in speed implemented based on mortality or estimated mortality of Indiana bats and/or Northern Long-eared bats in accordance with the adaptive management provisions of this Authorization, as well as the introduction of acoustic deterrents, as approved by the Department, shall not be considered a substantive change.**
4. This authorization may only be transferred upon approval and written authorization by the Department.
5. Notification to all on-site personnel shall be provided on the Indiana Bat and the Northern Long-eared Bat in the area, the identification of these species, regulations protecting the species, where the species might be found, avoidance areas, travel restrictions for equipment and vehicles, how to report sightings or incidents that may involve take, and the importance of avoiding take of the species. **California Ridge shall submit a copy of the education materials to the Department.**
6. The Department reserves the right of entry by its staff or representatives to inspect species, potential habitat within the area under lease-control by California Ridge, species management and preservation practices, and data collection methodologies. California Ridge's health and safety protocol shall be strictly adhered to. California Ridge shall make pertinent records and materials relating to this permit available to the Department for examination on the premises or via electronic mail at reasonable times upon request by the Department or as otherwise authorized by law.
7. Biological consultants employed by California Ridge shall be qualified in working with these species and hold the necessary permits for work with non-listed and listed species; these include an Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Scientific Collection Permit as authorized under 17 Illinois Administrative Code 520, and an IDNR Endangered Species Permit as authorized under 17 Illinois Administrative Code 1070.
8. Any discoveries of additional State-listed species beyond those identified in this agreement shall be reported to the Department within 48 hours of the discovery of such State-listed species carcass accompanied by location information (map and GPS coordinates) and photographs. If mortality has occurred, the carcass shall be retained and labeled if possible.

9. Copies of any reports, updates, modifications, or other project documentation required by the USFWS Incidental Take Permit (ESPER0018464) issued on August 6, 2021, shall be provided concurrently to the Department. Likewise, all reports under this authorization shall be provided to the USFWS unless USFWS determines in writing that such submissions are not necessary. This includes but is not limited to reports of fatalities of any Indiana Bats or Northern Long-eared Bats **within 48 hours of discovery** of a carcass of one of those species. Per the HCP, Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat carcasses shall be turned over to the USFWS; provided, however, that in the event that USFWS does not have interest in such carcasses, the Illinois Bat Conservation Program (hereinafter referred to as IBCP) shall be notified and given the opportunity to collect such carcasses prior to their disposal by California Ridge. Prior to disposal of any *Myotis* carcass, IBCP shall be contacted and given ninety (90) days to collect the carcass from California Ridge.
10. California Ridge shall submit an **annual project status report** to the Department by January 31 of each year this authorization is in effect summarizing the implementation or status of minimization, monitoring, adaptive management, and mitigation measures and evaluating the effectiveness of those measures. California Ridge shall submit the same report to both USFWS and the Department. The report shall also include a map, GPS coordinates, and photographs of any listed species found within the project footprint, description of any injuries or mortalities, and the disposition of any individuals that were injured or killed.
11. California Ridge shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, the following **minimization measures** throughout the duration of operation of the wind energy facility:
 - a. Turbines were sited using a 1,000-foot setback from bat foraging habitat of the Middle Fork of the Vermillion River.
 - b. Any tree clearing or trimming to occur for California Ridge operations or maintenance on trees with a diameter at breast height (DBH) of 3 inches or more shall take place between November 1 and March 31.
 - c. Turbine blades shall be feathered to 5.0 meters-per-second (m/s) during peak Fall migration period (August 1 – October 15) from sunset to sunrise when the air temperature is above 50°F.
 - d. Turbine blades shall be feathered below manufacturer's cut-in speed of 3.0 m/s during the rest of the bats' active period (between March 15- July 31) or when temperatures are below 50°F in fall.
12. California Ridge shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, the following **mortality monitoring** efforts for bat fatalities around turbines:
 - a. Mortality monitoring shall continue to be conducted by a qualified consultant according to the protocol established in the HCP. Year numbers are understood to be synchronized with monitoring requirements under the USFWS Incidental Take Permit. Actual protocols may vary based on bias correction trial results, but

monitoring will be designed to achieve the detection probabilities outlined in the HCP.

- i. In **Years 1 through 20**, annual monitoring shall take place once per week from August 1 to October 15 (during any year intensive monitoring is not occurring). All 134 turbines' roads and pads (95-meter-radius from turbine) shall be searched for carcasses during annual monitoring surveys.
 - ii. In **Years 2 and 10**, intensive full monitoring shall take place twice per week from April 1 to October 15. This monitoring shall occur at 70% roads and pads and 30% full plots (equal to 94 road and pad plots, and 40 full plots).
 - iii. In **Years 5 and 15**, intensive fall monitoring shall take place twice per week August 1 to October 15. This monitoring shall occur at 70% roads and pads and 30% full plots. In **Years 1 through 20**, adaptive management monitoring, if triggered, shall occur seasonally, as required, targeting a detection probability equal to the "intensive monitoring" years ($g \geq 0.2$).
 - b. Mortality monitoring shall also include search efficiency and carcass removal/persistence trials as described in the HCP. These shall use non-listed bat carcasses from onsite or veterinary labs, or brown mice or small black rats if 40 bat carcasses are not available.
 - c. **All carcasses of *Myotis* species found during standardized searches or incidentally shall be retained and reported to the Department within 48 hours of carcass discovery.** Prior to disposal of any *Myotis* carcass, the Department shall be contacted and given ninety (90) days to collect the carcass. If identification of a *Myotis* carcass is uncertain, the carcass shall be submitted to ICBP for DNA analysis and identification.
 - d. **Samples of wing tissue and hair from all Hoary Bats, Eastern Red Bats, and Silver-haired Bats** shall be preserved per ICBP protocol and submitted to their bat genomics laboratory until such time that the lab is no longer conducting population genetic studies on these species.
 - e. **The Department reserves the right to compel California Ridge to preserve and submit tissue samples and metadata to IBCP for future genetic studies which may be performed.**
 - f. **A report including, but not limited to, the bat survey methodology utilized, maps of turbines searched, and all fatalities observed, shall be submitted to the Department by January 31 summarizing the monitoring results from the previous year.** For each bat fatality, the following data shall be included: turbine location (turbine number and GPS coordinates), distance and bearing to turbine, species, sex, adult/juvenile, reproductive status, the potential date of fatality, wind speed profile sunset to sunrise during night preceding potential date of fatality, weather conditions, power production profile for the responsible turbine on estimated date of fatality, and photographs of the carcass.
13. California Ridge shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, the following adaptive management measures in the event that take of **Indiana Bats** may be exceeding the USFWS-authorized take limit of 100 individuals over the permit term:

- a. If during the first five (5) years of monitoring more than two (2) Indiana Bats, are found, or if during years 6 through 20 the estimated annual take rate is greater than one (1) Indiana bat per year, the response will include:
 - i. California Ridge shall recalculate the amount of mitigation required for the life of the permit based on the projected level of take for each species.
 - ii. California Ridge shall increase the amount of the Surety, if necessary, to account for an increase in the projected costs of additional mitigation that would be needed for the remaining life of the project (based on revised estimated take rate).
 - iii. Implement additional mitigation to account for the projected level of take for at least the following 5 years OR increase cut-in speed by 0.5 m/s or implement deterrent technology or smart curtailment strategy and conduct two additional years of intensive monitoring.
- b. If during years six through 20 of monitoring the estimated average take rate is greater than five (5) Indiana Bats per year **and** the total estimated mortality of Indiana Bats is still below the authorized limit:
 - i. California Ridge shall increase cut-in speed by 0.5 m/s or implement deterrent technology or a smart curtailment strategy and conduct two additional years of intensive monitoring
- c. If an Indiana Bat carcass is found **AND** the estimated fatality of the species is greater than 5 bats/year **AND** total estimated take is at the authorized level, adaptive management shall be implemented which includes an increase of cut-in speeds to 6.9 m/s and adaptive mitigation for unmitigated take based on cumulative take estimate at the time of take.

14. California Ridge shall conduct, or cause to be conducted, the following adaptive management measures in the event that take of **Northern Long-eared Bats** may be exceeding the USFWS-authorized take limit of 280 individuals over the permit term:

- a. If during the first five (5) years of monitoring, more than 4 Northern Long-eared Bat carcasses are found, or if during years 6 through 20 the estimated annual take rate is greater than 2 Northern Long-eared Bats per year, the response will include:
 - i. California Ridge shall recalculate the amount of mitigation required for the life of the permit based on the projected level of take for each species.
 - ii. California Ridge shall increase the amount of the Surety, if necessary, to account for an increase in the projected costs of additional mitigation that would be needed for the remaining life of the project (based on revised estimated take rate).
 - iii. Implement additional mitigation to account for the projected level of take for at least the following 5 years OR increase cut-in speed by 0.5 m/s or implement deterrent technology or smart curtailment strategy and conduct two additional years of intensive monitoring.
- b. If during the years six through 20 of monitoring the estimated average take rate is greater than fourteen (14) Northern Long-eared Bats per year, **and** the total

estimated mortality of Northern Long-eared Bats is still below the authorized limit:

- i. California Ridge shall increase cut-in speed by 0.5 m/s or implement deterrent technology or a smart curtailment strategy and conduct two additional years of intensive monitoring
- c. If a Northern Long-eared Bats carcass is found AND the estimated fatality of the species is greater than 14 bats/year AND total estimate take is at the authorized level, adaptive management shall be implemented which includes an increase of cut-in speeds to 6.9 m/s and adaptive mitigation for unmitigated take based on cumulative take estimate at the time of take.

15. Mitigation to the maximum extent practicable is required by the Act. Mitigation requirements for this authorization are as follows:

In consultation with USFWS, California Ridge conducted a Resource Equivalency Analysis, identifying the restoration of at least 101.3 acres of habitat-appropriate compensation for the estimated level of potential take of Indiana Bat and Northern Long-eared Bat as a result of this project.

- a. California Ridge shall fund one 42-acre parcel conveyed to the non-profit land trust Grand Prairie Friends headquartered approximately 50 miles south of the windfarm. Grand Prairie Friends will place a perpetual conservation easement on the parcel and implement restoration, adhering to the terms of the HCP. The parcel will be part of a landscape scale conservation effort encompassing 3,900-acres of protected lands along 13 contiguous river miles of the Embarras River. This property will be enhanced for summer bat habitat through restoration efforts that may include tree planting, native grass planting, understory thinning, invasive species control, prescribed fire, and selective harvesting. The project will include the installation of at least three artificial roost structures.
- b. The purchase of an additional 60-acre parcel of summer habitat is under negotiation.

Proof of land acquisition of the 42-acre parcel shall be submitted to the Department within 90 days of execution of the agreement. Proof of acquiring the remaining 60-acre parcel shall be submitted within 12 months of agreement execution, or within 90 days of closing, whichever occurs first.

16. All reports, notifications, and other project documentation shall be submitted to:

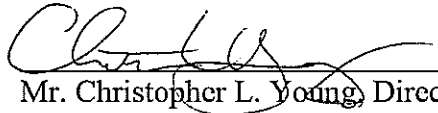
Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Office of Resource Conservation
Endangered Species Program – Incidental Take Authorization Coordinator
One Natural Resource Way
Springfield, IL 62702-1271

Or electronically to: DNR.ITAcordinator@illinois.gov

The Department's Endangered Species Program shall provide all reports required under this agreement to the Illinois Endangered Species Protection Board and to the Department's Natural Heritage Database.

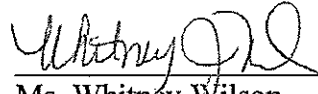
17. The California Ridge official identified below is authorized to execute this agreement. Execution by California Ridge indicates acceptance of all terms and conditions described in this authorization.
18. The execution of this agreement does not waive or excuse the responsibilities of California Ridge to comply with other Federal, State, or local regulations, including but not limited to obtaining any required permits for the execution of this project.

For the Illinois Department of Natural Resources:



Mr. Christopher L. Young, Director
Office of Resource Conservation

For California Ridge Wind, LLC:



Ms. Whitney Wilson
Vice President, Wind Operations

1/26/2022

Date

20 January 2022

Date

