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**RESEARCH DESIGN
FOR CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS
FOR THE CUSHING EXTENSION
OF THE TRANSCANADA KEYSTONE PIPELINE,
WASHINGTON, CLAY, DICKINSON, MARION, BUTLER,
AND COWLEY COUNTIES, KANSAS**

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INTRODUCTION

ENSR AECOM has contracted with Geo-Marine, Inc., to produce a research design for a Phase II cultural resources survey and archaeological inventory of the proposed 292.8-mi (471.2 km) long TransCanada Keystone Pipeline Cushing Extension. Current plans call for the construction and operation of an approximately 1,845-mi (2,969.2-km) long interstate crude oil transmission system from an oil supply hub near Hardisty, Alberta, Canada to destinations in the Midwestern United States. The Kansas segment of the proposed Cushing Extension corridor runs directly north-south through the central portion of the state in Washington, Clay, Dickinson, Marion, Butler, and Cowley counties to the Oklahoma state border for 210.1 mi (338.1 km).

This research design is the result of a thorough records review of all sites and surveys recorded within 1.0 mi (1.6 km) of the proposed pipeline centerline, all historic standing structures and districts recorded within a (91.4-m) 300-ft-wide corridor centered on the proposed pipeline centerline , and the construction of a GIS data layer including topographic features, identified sites and surveys, and probability modeling.

The objective of the research design is to produce a preliminary methodology for a Phase II cultural resources survey and archaeological inventory that has been developed with the involvement of the Kansas State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) staff, who provided guidance on state standards for archaeological research and assisted with Section 106 compliance. Preparing the research design

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involved identification of sites that are potentially eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), as well as sites that have not yet been evaluated for eligibility. The previously identified sites were used to provide recommendations for avoidance of certain areas, and previously conducted surveys indicated where sites were not likely to be found. The resulting research design was developed as a synthesis of these data, in relation to the cultural questions and issues of focus within the prehistoric and historic management regions in which the pipeline falls.

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