



August 26, 2013

Ms. Paige Olson
Review and Compliance Coordinator
South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office
900 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501

SUBJECT: Level III Archaeological Survey for the Brookings County Substation to SD/MN Border Segment of the CapX 2020 Brookings County, South Dakota to Hampton, Minnesota 345 Kilovolt Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Olson:

In November 2010, Great River Energy, as agent for Great River Energy; Central Minnesota Municipal Power Agency; Western Minnesota Municipal Power Agency; Otter Tail Power Company; and Northern States Power Company, a Minnesota corporation, d/b/a Xcel Energy (jointly "Applicant") filed a Facility Permit application with the South Dakota Public Utilities Commission (Commission) (Docket No. EL10-016) for the Brookings County Substation to SD/MN Border segment of the CapX 2020 Brookings County to Hampton 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line Project (The Project).

On June 17, 2011, the Commission issued an Order granting a joint motion for approval of the Settlement Stipulation and granting a permit to construct facilities. As a condition of the Settlement Stipulation, the Applicant agreed to sponsor an archaeological and historic structures inventory of the facility area in a manner consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards and Guidelines for Archaeology and Historic Preservation, the South Dakota State Historical Society Guidelines for Cultural Resource Surveys and Survey Reports (2005), and the South Dakota Historic Resource Survey Manual (2006).

To comply with the conditions for an archaeological inventory as set forth in the Settlement Stipulation, HDR, on behalf of the Applicant, conducted a Level III survey of the 10.3 mile transmission line right-of-way (ROW) in accordance with the South Dakota State Historical Society Guidelines for Cultural Resource Surveys and Survey Reports. To comply with the conditions for a historic structures inventory, HDR also conducted a historic structures inventory of the Study Area (defined as a one-mile buffer around the transmission line ROW in South Dakota) in accordance with the South Dakota Historic Resource Survey Manual.

Paige Olson
CapX 2020 Brookings County to Hampton 345 kV Transmission Line
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A copy of the Level III archaeological survey report is enclosed for your review. The intensive historic building survey and evaluation report will be submitted independently from this report. If you need any additional information for your review, please contact Dylan Eigenberger at 612-597-1589 (dylan.eigenberger@hdrinc.com) or Mike DeRuyter at 763-591-5479 (michael.deruyter@hdrinc.com).

Sincerely,

HDR Engineering, Inc.



Dylan Eigenberger,
Archaeology Project Director

Enclosures: Level III Archaeological Survey Report (1 copy)

Cc: Karen Cremer, South Dakota Public Utilities Commission