



February 25, 2019

Mr. Scott Phillips
SWCA Environmental Consultants
295 Interlocken Blvd. Suite 300
Broomfield, CO 80021

RE: SDCL 1-19A-11.1 Consultation

Project: 150904001S – Historic Architectural Resources Assessment, Crowned Ridge Transmission Line – SWCA Project No. 42659.01 – SWCA Cultural Resources Report No. 18-321
Location: Multiple Counties
(PUC)

Dear Mr. Phillips:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project pursuant to South Dakota Codified Law (SDCL) 1-19A-11.1. The South Dakota Office of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) would like to provide the following comments concerning the effect of the proposed project on the non-renewable cultural resources of South Dakota.

On February 19, 2019, we received the October 2018 “Historic Architectural Resources Assessment for the Crowned Ridge Transmission Line, Codington and Grant Counties, South Dakota,” prepared for Crowned Ridge Wind, LLC, by SWCA Environmental Consultants. The report indicates that there are 102 architectural resources with “potentially sufficient line of sight to result in the intrusive visibility of the Project structure.” Of those 102 resources, three are listed in or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP): the Brown Earth Presbyterian Church (GT00000021); a segment of the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul & Pacific Railroad (39GT2007); and a newly-recorded segment of the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad (39GT2000).

Based on the information provided in the report, the Brown Earth Presbyterian Church is NRHP-listed for its significance in the areas of early settlement and architecture. The church is located at the 1-mile limit from the project centerline and will be largely obstructed from view. Therefore, the project will not result in alterations that will diminish the qualities that make the building eligible for the NRHP.

The two railroad resources, 39GT2007 and 39GT2000, are NRHP eligible for their roles in the context of regional transportation history, South Dakota settlement, and early commerce. Although the proposed project will span both railroad segments, it will not physically alter the resources and will not affect either resource’s integrity of location, design, materials, workmanship or association.

Given the above, we have determined that the proposed project will not encroach upon, damage or destroy any architectural property that is listed in the State or National Register of Historic Places or the environs of such property pursuant to SDCL 1-19A-11.1.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Kate Nelson at Kate.Nelson@state.sd.us or (605) 773-6005.

Sincerely,

Jay D. Vogt
State Historic Preservation Officer



Kate Nelson
Restoration Specialist

cc: Jane Watts and Renee Boen, Archaeological Research Center
Dianne Desrosiers, Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Erich Longie, Spirit Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office
Kip Spotted Eagle, Yankton Sioux Tribal Historic Preservation Office