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of Museums

January 24, 2007

Amy Bleier
Staff Archaeologist
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Bismarck, ND 58502-2154

Kim Munson, Anthropologist
Project Manager
ENSR International
1601 Prospect Parkway
Fort Collins, CO 80525

**NDSHPO REF. : 06-0088b PSC/ Department of State/ENSR
TransCanada Keystone Pipeline: 2006 Class I-III Cultural Resource
Investigations Report**

Dear Ms. Bleier and Ms. Munson:

We have reviewed project report: "Keystone Pipeline Project: Class I, II, and III Investigations in Eastern North Dakota," by Amy Bleier and Ed Stine (Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, December 2006) and attached are comments regarding it. The Class I CRI (File and Records Search) detailed in the report fulfills information needs regarding the project area. We concur with the level and scope of Class III CRI identification and evaluation efforts undertaken thus far in the TransCanada Keystone project area, as reported. The unanticipated discovery plan as outlined is acceptable.

Also, if you are seeking concurrence on NRHP determinations of eligibility on behalf of the federal lead agency (Department of State), described herein, please provide that request in writing. Finally, we look forward to reviewing the forthcoming report(s) covering the remaining 2007 investigations and other addenda, as outlined on the attached.


Thank you for the opportunity to review, and to further consultation on, the project. If you have questions please contact either Paul Picha at (701) 328-3574 or Susan Quinnell at (701) 328-3576.

Sincerely,

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)
and
Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota
enc. as stated
c: Susan E. Wefald, Commissioner, PSC

CONFIDENTIAL

NDSHPO Ref.: 06-0088b

Paul R. Picha 

January 24, 2007

"Keystone Pipeline Project: Class I, II, and III Investigations in Eastern North Dakota," by Amy Bleier and Ed Stine (Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, December 2006)

General Comments:

The report is well written and nicely organized and formatted for the reader/reviewer. The report is acceptable, and it fulfills the identified objectives set forth in the project "Research Design," as provided in Appendix 1.

As indicated on page 28, the USFWS should be consulted regarding their recommendations on/for listed easement parcels. USFWS contact person in Denver is: Margaret VanNess, Federal Preservation Officer. She may be reached at Meg_VanNess@fws.gov or at (303) 236-8103.

Also, we look forward to reviewing the report covering the forthcoming 2007 investigations as treated and described on pp. 29-30 and Table 8.

Finally, we look forward to reviewing the forthcoming report covering the NRHP evaluation of sites 32RM160 and 32RMx89 as referred to and mentioned on page 38.

Specific Comments:

Page	Para/Line	Comment
18	2/7	Likely should be: 1937
38		See comment above
56	last	Please add: are followed, <u>as applicable</u> . NAGPRA applies on federal lands. North Dakota Century Code (NDCC chapter 23-06-27) and its implementing rules, North Dakota Administrative Code (NDAC chapter 40-02-03) applies on state and private lands.
Appendix B		Please provide a color code identification for black, blue, and red, respectively, on the project route maps. This information will greatly assist in GIS mapping efforts and will be much appreciated.
Appendix 2		We look forward to receiving the forthcoming Appendix 2 addendum with reported radiocarbon assays from the geomorphological sample contexts discussed herein.