



# STANDING ROCK SIOUX TRIBE

## TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

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Martha Chieply/Aaron Sandline  
Omaha District- Regulatory  
Regulatory Branch  
Army Corps of Engineers  
1616 Capitol Avenue  
Omaha, NE 68102-4901

February 25, 2015

Dear Ms. Chieply,

On February 12, 2015 the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe- Tribal Historic Preservation Office (SRST THPO) received an email from Richard Harnois (ACOE) regarding soil bore testing for the Dakota Access Pipeline Project (DAPL). In response the SRST THPO sent a letter dated February 18, 2015 to Mr. Richard Harnois regarding the proposed soil bore testing (please see attached). There are unresolved issues regarding the DAPL soil bore testing project. Please see the attached correspondence.

The Dakota Access Pipeline is proposed to cross the Missouri River just north of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe at Cannonball Ranch. The previous easement for an existing pipeline was permitted based on the results of a Class III inventory that occurred prior to the establishment of the 1992 National Historic Preservation Act amendments--which established Tribal Historic Preservation Offices. Thus, there was no tribal involvement on surveys for this initial pipeline, nor did it include consultation with regional tribes who consider this project area and river crossing a historical and cultural property. SRST oral traditions and historical records tell us of the occupations that were present along the Missouri River. There are documented Dakota, Cheyenne, and Arikara camp sites, sacred sites and burials located within the direct path of the ROW. The SRST THPO asserts that any dredging of the river bottom or placement of pipe in the existing ROW will further disturb the integrity of the site.

The Cannonball Ranch is the crossing point for the Dakota Access Pipeline. The Cannonball Ranch is eligible for inclusion to the National Register of Historic Places. There are six burials of notable residents of Standing Rock, including the Galpins and Mrs. Van Solen located here.

There are nine unevaluated sites within the permitting area. Section 110(k) of the NHPA requires all sites to be evaluated. There is one site located here that is eligible for inclusion on the NRHP.

As was stated previously, tribal participation is needed on the Class III survey to define the sites accurately and to delineate the boundaries. SRST oral traditions and historical records tell us of occupations that were present along both sides of the river. There are documented Dakota, Cheyenne and Arikara camp sites and burials within the direct path of the proposed ROW. Site degradation and desecration from proposed dredging along the river bottom at the crossing point will impact the burial sites that exist within the corridor. Our cultural resources will be impacted directly by any kind of activity

be that soil bore testing, dredging, and (or) shovel probes on the land directly on the banks within the area of potential effect (APE).

The Environmental Assessment is outdated and since the DAPL is a proposed crude oil pipeline there will be different types of environmental impacts to historical and cultural properties that are significant to the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe.

The SRST THPO is requesting that an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) be completed. The SRST is committed to participating in these efforts. The SRST THPO recommends a full TCP (Traditional Cultural Property) and archeological Class III Cultural Resource Survey be completed prior to any mitigation that would take place. I would recommend 100% monitoring by the SRST's preferred contractor, Makoche Wowapi during all and any work to be done pre-assessment and during pipeline construction if the pipeline gets built.

Thank you for contacting the SRST THPO. We look forward to future consultation *prior* to any survey work being completed. We also look forward to playing a primary role in any and all survey work and monitoring.

If you have any questions or comments please feel free to contact me at the SRST THPO at 701-854-2120.

Sincerely,



Wašče Win Young

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Tribal Historic Preservation Officer