

EAST RIVER
ELECTRIC POWER COOPERATIVE
121 Southeast First St. P.O. Box 227
Madison, SD 57042 Telephone (605) 256-4536

ORIGINAL FILED

March 27, 2008

Attn: Paige Hoskinson
Section 106 Review and Compliance
South Dakota State Historical Society
Cultural Heritage Center
900 Governors Drive
Pierre, SD 57501-2217

RE: PS-20 115 kV Transmission Line and Substation

Dear Ms. Hoskinson:

Enclosed you will find maps and supportive information concerning the proposed PS-20 115 kV Transmission Line to be constructed by East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc.

East River Electric Power Cooperative is planning to construct a new 115 kV electric transmission line that will exit the existing Western Area Power Administration substation located in Section 18 (Township 122N, Range 60W) south of Groton, South Dakota, and will terminate at a new 115 to 4.16 kV substation in Section 17 (Township 121N, Range 59W). The new line will be approximately 13 miles in total length, and it's anticipated that construction will start in the fall of 2008 and be completed by the summer of 2009.

The line will be built above ground along the township and county roads. Some tree trimming or removal will need to be done to meet National Electrical Code. The typical structure used for this line will be a single wood pole with stand off insulators. The average height of the poles will be 65' and set into the ground 8.5'. The proposed project would require approximately 17 to 20 structures per mile.

The proposed PS-20 Transmission Line is required by our member, Northern Electric, to meet the demands of new electrical loads being added in this area with the TransCanada Keystone pipeline.

Wildlife in the area include, but are not limited to, deer, rabbit, coyote, badger, skunk, raccoon, mink, fox, gopher, and many species of birds.

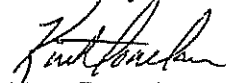
EXHIBIT 16

Based on the findings of Archeology Laboratory at Augustana College in a report titled A Level III Cultural Resources Survey of East River Electric Power Cooperative's Keystone Transmission Line-Pumping Stations #20 and #21, Brown, Day and Beadle Counties, South Dakota, East River Electric Power Cooperative, Inc. concurs with the findings of "a determination of No Adverse Effect is recommended for the project" and cultural resources clearance for the proposed project is recommended.

I would appreciate receiving your comments based on this information.

If any additional information is required, do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



Kurt Donelan
Land Agent

KD/jc

Enc. (original and one copy of the report)

cc: Jim Haug (one copy of the report)

SECTION 106 DETERMINATION

Based upon the information provided to the South Dakota State Historic Preservation Office on 4/3/08, we concur with your agency's determination of "No Adverse Effect" for this undertaking.

Gary D. Vogt
State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)
By: Amy Ruben
4/3/08 080331008F
Date SHPO Project #

Pursuant to 36 CFR part 800.13, if historic properties are discovered or unanticipated effects on historic properties found after the agency official has completed the Section 106 process, the agency official shall avoid, minimize or mitigate the adverse effects to such properties and notify the SHPO/THPO, and Indian tribes that might attach religious and cultural significance to the affected property within 48 hours of the discovery.

SECTION 106 CONSULTATION

Concurrence of the State Historic Preservation Office does not relieve the federal agency official from consulting with other appropriate parties, as described in 36 CFR Part 800.2(c).