



September 19, 2019

Ms. Mandy Bohnenblust
Avangrid Renewables, LLC
120 S. 6th Street, Suite 1725
Minneapolis, MN 55402

RE: SDCL 1-19A-11.1 Consultation

Project: 190507003S – Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC - PUC Docket No. EL19-026
Location: Deuel County
(PUC)

Dear Ms. Bohnenblust:

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 would like to provide the following comments concerning the effect of the proposed project on the non-renewable cultural resources of South Dakota.

On September 11, 2019, we received your email and link to the following documents: “Level III Intensive Archaeological Survey for the Tatanka Ridge Wind Project, Deuel County, South Dakota,” “Tatanka Ridge Wind, LLC – Site Evaluation Testing Plan” and “Cultural Resource Unanticipated Discovery Plan, Construction of the Tatanka Ridge Wind Project, Deuel County, South Dakota, September 2019”. According to the report, six new archaeology sites were recorded, and eight previously recorded sites were revisited during the survey of the project area.

Based on the information provided, we agree with the following determinations of eligibility:

- Four newly recorded sites, 39DE0146, 39DE0147, 39DE0148 and 39DE0149, and two previously recorded sites, 39DE0102 and 39DE0107, were determined to be isolated finds, and as such, are **not eligible** for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.
- Newly recorded sites 39DE0150 and 39DE0151 were not evaluated for listing in the National Register and should be avoided by all ground disturbing activities.

- Previously recorded sites 39DE0049, 39DE0092, 39DE0097, 39DE0101, 39DE0108 and 39DE109 are still considered unevaluated for the National Register and should be avoided by all ground disturbing activities.

Given the above, we have determined that the proposed project will not encroach upon, damage or destroy any 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. We recommend implementing the avoidance measures outlined in the survey report for eligible and unevaluated sites including the unrecorded stone features mentioned in the report.

In addition, we concur with the strategy proposed in the Site Evaluation Testing Plan for evaluating sites 39DE0097, 39DE0150 and 39DE0151 for listing in the National Register.

Finally, thank you for providing a copy of the unanticipated discovery plan. We recommend providing a copy of the plan to the state archaeologist for review. We also recommend including additional clarification to Section 3.0 "Procedures for Discovery of Human Remains".

- Notify **law enforcement officer** within **48 hours** of discovery, SDCL 34-27-25.
- Once law enforcement officer has determined that the remains are not associated with any crime, the **state archaeologist** must be notified within **15 days**, SDCL 34-27-28.

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above documents. We look forward to reviewing the results of the evaluation efforts. Should you require additional information, please contact Paige Olson at Paige.Olson@state.sd.us or (605) 773-6004.

Sincerely,

Jay D. Vogt
State Historic Preservation Officer



Paige Olson
Review and Compliance Coordinator

cc: Jane Watts and Renee Boen, Archaeological Research Center
Jon Thurber, South Dakota Public Utility Commission