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October 5, 2015

Mr. Darrell Nitschke  
Executive Secretary  
North Dakota Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Avenue, Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480



ND SHPO Ref.: 14-1208, PSC PU-14-842 Dakota Access Project, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Nitschke,

We have received two multi-volume reports on the Dakota Access Project, "2014 Dakota Access Class II/III Cultural Resources Inventory," prepared by Merjent, Minneapolis, MN and "2015 Lakota Access Class II/III Cultural Resources Inventory," also prepared by Merjent. These volumes represent a tremendous effort in cultural resources identification to date, and we are in contact with Merjent and Gray & Pape, Inc. (Cincinnati, Ohio) regarding general progress in survey efforts. We want to express the desire that survey efforts, identification of archaeological and historic sites, and recommendations for avoidance of significant resources be given sufficient time to be completed. We would prefer that our office be able to review all reports and addendums prior to the issuance of the Certificate of Site Compatibility and Route Permit to ensure that the cultural resources of this state are protected.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment. If you have any questions please contact Susan Quinnell, Review and Compliance Coordinator at (701) 328-3576, e-mail [squinnell@nd.gov](mailto:squinnell@nd.gov)

Sincerely,

Claudia J. Berg  
Director  
State Historical Society of North Dakota and  
State Historic Preservation Officer, North Dakota

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Letter re progress of archaeological and historic sites recommendations

State Historical Society of North Dakota

Claudia Berg, Director

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