



**STATE  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Jack Dalrymple  
*Governor of North Dakota*

**North Dakota  
State Historical Board**

Gereld Gerntholz  
*Valley City - President*

Calvin Grinnell  
*New Town - Vice  
President*

A. Ruric Todd III  
*Jamestown - Secretary*

Albert I. Berger  
*Grand Forks*

Diane K. Larson  
*Bismarck*

Chester E. Nelson, Jr.  
*Bismarck*

Margaret Puetz  
*Bismarck*

Sara Otte Coleman  
*Director  
Tourism Division*

Kelly Schmidt  
*State Treasurer*

Alvin A. Jaeger  
*Secretary of State*

Mark Zimmerman  
*Director  
Parks and Recreation  
Department*

Francis Ziegler  
*Director  
Department of  
Transportation*

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.  
*Director*

*Accredited by the  
American Association  
of Museums since 1989*

December 30, 2011

Mr. Mark S. Plank Director  
Engineering and Environmental Staff  
Rural Development-Rural Utilities Service  
United States Department of Agriculture  
1400 Independence Avenue SW  
Mail Stop 1571 Room 2244  
Washington, DC 20250-1571

NDSHPO REF.: 10-0173a USDA-RUS/PSC Center to Grand Forks 345 kV Transmission  
Line Project: Class III CRI Report

Dear Mr. Plank:

We have received and reviewed correspondence and documentation for: 10-0173a USDA-RUS/PSC Center to Grand Forks 345 kV Transmission Line Project: Class II CRI: "Class III Intensive Archaeological Resources Inventory Center to Grand Forks 345 kV Line," by Michael Justin and Ericka Eigenberger (HDR, August 2011). In accordance with the executed Programmatic Agreement (PA), a phased approach to identification, evaluation, and mitigation is acceptable. If as indicated, unevaluated and eligible sites are avoided as stated in the December 13<sup>th</sup> correspondence letter, we concur with "*No Historic Properties Affected*" and "*No Significant Sites Affected*" determinations. Likewise, we concur with the recommendations provided in Table 6 (pp. 131-133), Table 7 (134-136), and Table 8 (pp. 137-138) regarding Areas Remaining for (Inventory) Survey, Avoidance Areas, and National Register Status, respectively. Thank you for the opportunity to review the project, and we look forward to further consultation and to the review of (outstanding) project documentation on it. If you have questions please contact either Susan Quinnell at (701) 328-3576 or [squinnell@nd.gov](mailto:squinnell@nd.gov) or Paul Picha at [ppicha@nd.gov](mailto:ppicha@nd.gov) or (701) 328-3574.

Sincerely,

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.  
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota)  
and

Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota  
cc: Dennis Rankin, RUS, Washington, DC  
cc: Barry G. Williams, USFWS, Bismarck  
✓ cc: Patrick Fahn, ND PSC, Bismarck

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 03 2012**

**PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

**117 PU-09-670** Filed: 1/3/2012 Pages: 1  
**Letter concurrence - no historic properties and no significant sites affected**

State Historical Society of North Dakota  
Merlan Paaverud, Jr.