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February 24, 2012

Dr. Kimball M. Banks
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ND SHPO Ref: 11-0238b PSC/BLM BakkenLink Pipeline Reporting;
Class II/Class III CRI Report; Scope-of-Work for Evaluating Three Sites

Dear Kimball:

We have received and reviewed 11-0238b BSC/BLM Bakken Link Pipeline Reporting documentation: "BakkenLink Pipeline: A Class II and Class III Cultural Resources Inventory in Billings, Stark, Dunn, McKenzie and Williams County, North Dakota," by Andrea Kulevsky and Ed Stine (MAC, February 2012) and find it acceptable. Second, for the three unevaluated sites where avoidance has not been achieved, we find the accompanying scope-for-work pertaining to their National Register evaluation for significance in "Site Testing Plans: 32MZ2303, 32MZ2304, and 32MZ1461 BakkenLink Pipeline," by (MAC, February 2012) acceptable. Third, as discussed (pp. 87-91) and summarized in Table 4 (attached), where cultural resource management recommendations for avoidance and monitoring (p. 91) are followed we find these proposed recommendations acceptable, if consulted by a federal agency, and provided the project is of the nature stated and it takes place in the locations plotted and mapped in the report and project documentation. Fourth, compliance with lead federal agency (e.g., BLM) regulations and attendant federal agency review, comment, recommendations, and permitting also is a contingent condition that applies in this case, and that action awaits agency determination of project effect and SHPO concurrence on findings. Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. Please include the ND SHPO reference number listed above in future correspondence for this specific project. If you have any questions, please contact either Paul Picha at (701) 328-3574 or ppicha@nd.gov or Susan Quinnell at (701) 328-3576 or squinnell@nd.gov

Sincerely,

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

and

Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota
c: Patrick Fahn, North Dakota Public Service Commission
c: Jame Todd, Bartlett & West, Bismarck
c: Justin Peters, BLM-Dickinson
enc. as stated