

**AN ADDENDUM TO:**

**CLASS III CULTURAL RESOURCES INVENTORY**  
**OLIVER III WIND ENERGY CENTER**

**MORTON COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA**



**Prepared for:**



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## MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

This addendum report presents the findings of a Class III Cultural Resources Inventory for the updated 48 megawatt (MW) Oliver III Wind Energy Center (the Project) located 20 miles (mi) northwest of Bismarck, in Morton County, North Dakota. Work was performed by Tetra Tech under contract to NextEra Energy Resources LLC (NextEra). The Project includes the construction of 30 1.6-MW General Electric (GE) turbines, associated service roads, electrical collection system, and substation. The Oliver III Wind Energy Center will connect to the Square Butte facilities east of Nelson Lake in the southeast quarter of Section 33, Township 142 North, Range 83 West via the proposed 9.2 mi Oliver III Transmission Line.

The Project requires a Certificate of Site Compatibility from the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) (Case No. PU-11-561); therefore, the Project is subject to review by the State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHSND) under the North Dakota Century Code 55-02-07. Tetra Tech, on the behalf of NextEra, submitted and received SHSND concurrence for a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for the Oliver III Wind Project to the SHSND in December 2011.

In summer 2012, NextEra indicated a longer blade would be utilized for the proposed turbines which required a minor redesign of the proposed turbine, service road, and collection line layout. While nearly all the Project facility shifts are located within the previously surveyed portions of the area of potential effects (APE), some Project facilities areas do extend beyond the previously surveyed areas. Portions of the APE located within previously unsurveyed areas are known as the survey corridor. This investigation provides the necessary information for the SHSND's review by confirming the presence or absence of cultural resources within the survey corridor.

The literature review identified two previously documented archaeological sites and one site lead within the survey corridor. Sites 32MO1088 and 32MO1089 (Native American stone feature sites) are located within the survey corridor between Turbines 29 and 30. Site Lead 32MOx0354, a Euro-American coal mine, is reportedly located in the survey corridor north of Turbine 24.

Tetra Tech documented one new archaeological site (32MO1411) during the field survey. The site, a potential Euro-American quarry site, consists of two shallow depressions excavated in a siltstone bedrock outcropping. No culturally diagnostic artifacts were associated with the depressions; however, the present landowner indicated the depressions may have been associated with past property owners attempting to use local bedrock for building material.

Upon completing the field survey, Tetra Tech provided NextEra with the avoidance buffers for previously documented Sites 32MO1088 and 32MO1089 and newly documented Site 32MO1411 and recommendations for site avoidance. NextEra has indicated they would be able to work around the documented sites and avoidance buffers with only minor shifts in the proposed service road and collection layout. Since shifts to the proposed service road and collection line are within

areas Tetra Tech has previously surveyed, no additional field survey was required. No evidence of Site Lead 32MOx0354 was observed within the survey corridor in the vicinity of Turbine 24 during the pedestrian survey; therefore, Tetra Tech does not recommend shifting Project facilities in the vicinity of Turbine 24 to avoid the reported boundaries of the site lead.

Since previously documented Sites 32MO1088 and 32MO1089 and newly documented Site 32MO1411 has been avoided through Project re-design, Tetra Tech recommends a determination of *No Historic Properties Affected*. Recommendations for site avoidance also include associated activities such as surveying and staking the proposed layout prior to construction. Tetra Tech recommends delineating the site avoidance buffers prior to construction with orange snow fence. This will reduce the potential that this site will be inadvertently disturbed.

If areas beyond the currently surveyed APE are to be utilized during construction, then Tetra Tech recommends that a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory be conducted to determine the presence of cultural resources within these areas. Tetra Tech recommends on-site monitoring by an archaeologist during the initial construction activities and the development of an unanticipated discoveries plan. Tetra Tech recommends that the results of this investigation be shared with regional Native American tribes.