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October 19, 2011

Ms. Irina Gumennik
Tetra Tech, EC Inc.
160 Federal Street, 3rd Floor
Boston, MA 02110

ND SHPO REF: 12-0084 PSC/Next Era Resources Wilton IV Wind Energy Center,
Burleigh County, North Dakota

Dear Ms. Gumennik,

We reviewed your preliminary information on ND SHPO REF: 12-0084 PSC/Next Era Resources Wilton IV Wind Energy Center, Burleigh County, North Dakota. There is potential for unrecorded and recorded cultural resource properties in a variety of physiographic settings in the overall project area. If the project requires permits issued by a federal and/or state agency (e.g., WAPA, RUS, COE, USFWS, BOR) then the respective agencies are to be consulted regarding their recommendations on the project. As a potential federal undertaking, we encourage agency consultation as part of the review process. Consultation should also include tribal nations, North Dakota Indian Affairs, ND DOT regarding any Scenic Byways, and managers or owners of properties maintained for recreational or scenic value.

We recommend a Class I Cultural Resource Inventory (file and records search with project maps) submittal. A Class II (reconnaissance) survey is warranted for standing structures in the visual Area of Potential Effect (APE). Staff from this office can assist with narrowing the visual APE. Class III (pedestrian) surveys will be warranted for all areas directly impacted by the project, including crane paths, access roads, transmissions lines and turbine pads. We encourage that tribal monitors be invited to survey the APE. As part of the Class III Inventory, NDCRS site updates should be submitted on all sites resurveyed.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project to date. We look forward to further review of cultural resource surveys and site forms. If you have any questions please contact Paul Picha, Chief Archaeologist (701) 328-3574 or Susan Quinnell, Review and Compliance Coordinator at (701) 328-3576, e-mail 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, PSC

RECEIVED

OCT 19 2011

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