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January 17, 2012

Stephen Sabatke
Archaeologist-Cultural resources Project Manager
HDR Engineering, Inc.
701 Xenia Avenue South Suite 600
Minnwapolis, Minnesota 55416-3636

RECEIVED

JAN 17 2012

PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

**NDSHPO REF.: 11-2553 PSC Basin Electric Cooperative Transmission Line
Project, Williams County, Class III Cultural Resources Report**

Dear Mr. Sabatke:

We have received and reviewed correspondence and documentation for: **11-2553 PSC Basin Electric Cooperative Transmission Line Project, Williams County, Class III Cultural Resources Report** : "Class III Archaeological Inventory for the Basin Electric Power Cooperative Transmission Line Project, Williams County, North Dakota," by Dylan Eigenberger and Stephen Sabatke (HDR, December 2011) and find it acceptable. If as recommended, the five (5) unevaluated sites: 32WI1192, 32WI1193, 32WI1194, 32WI1195, and 32WI1214 are avoided from impacts, we concur with **"No Historic Properties Affected"** and **"No Significant Sites Affected"** determinations provided the project is of the nature stated and it takes place in the location plotted in the project documentation. Likewise, we concur with the resource recommendations provided in Table 4 (p. 52) of the report. Thank you for the opportunity to review the project. If you have questions please contact either Susan Quinnell at (701) 328-3576 or squinnell@nd.gov or Paul Picha at 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

✓ c: Patrick Fahn, ND PSC, Bismarck

c: David Kluth, WAPA, Huron, South Dakota