



**STATE  
HISTORICAL  
SOCIETY  
OF NORTH DAKOTA**

Jack Dalrymple  
*Governor of North Dakota*

March 22, 2013



**North Dakota  
State Historical Board**

Mr. Thomas M. Janssen  
Senior Analyst  
Merjent  
800 Washington Avenue North, Suite 315  
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Gereld Gerntholz  
*Valley City - President*

**ND SHPO REF: 13-0702 PSC/Minnesota Power Bison 4 Wind Energy Conversion Project, Oliver, Morton and Mercer Counties, North Dakota**

Calvin Grinnell  
*New Town - Vice President*

Dear Mr. Janssen,

A. Ruric Todd III  
*Jamestown- Secretary*

We reviewed your preliminary information on ND SHPO REF: 13-0702 PSC/Minnesota Power Bison 4 Wind Energy Conversion Project, Oliver, Morton and Mercer Counties, 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, and ND DOT regarding any Scenic Byways.

Albert I. Berger  
*Grand Forks*

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), with a Class III (pedestrian) survey for those in the APE and over 50 years of age or older. 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.

Diane K. Larson  
*Bismarck*

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](mailto:squinnell@nd.gov)

Chester E. Nelson, Jr.  
*Bismarck*

Sincerely,

Margaret Puetz  
*Bismarck*

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.  
State Historic Preservation Officer (North Dakota) and  
Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota

Sara Otte Coleman  
*Director  
Tourism Division*

Kelly Schmidt  
*State Treasurer*

Alvin A. Jaeger  
*Secretary of State*

C: Patrick Fahn, PSC

Mark Zimmerman  
*Director  
Parks and Recreation  
Department*

Grant Levi  
*Acting Director  
Department of Transportation*

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.  
*Director*

*Accredited by the  
American Alliance  
of Museums since 1989*