



## Memo

Date: Wednesday, June 03, 2015

Project: Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory: History Structures Inventory and Evaluation, Big Stone South to Ellendale 345 kV Transmission Line Project, Dickey County, North Dakota to the South Dakota Border; Addendum 1

To: Susan Quinnell, State Historical Society of North Dakota

From: Michelle Porwoll, HDR

Subject: Big Stone South to Ellendale Project Route Shift Addendum 1

Figure 1 contains sensitive information and has been redacted from this version of the report.

### Introduction

In October 2014, HDR Engineering Inc. (HDR) on behalf of Montana-Dakota Utilities Co. and Otter Tail Power Company (jointly, the Owners), completed a historic structures inventory and evaluation for the North Dakota portion of the Big Stone South to Ellendale 345 kilovolt (kV) Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project consists of a new 345 kV substation (Ellendale 345kV Substation) and an approximately 160 to 170-mile-long 345 kV transmission line between the new Ellendale 345kV Substation in Dickey County, North Dakota, and the Big Stone South Substation near Big Stone City in Grant County, South Dakota. The North Dakota portion of the Project (North Dakota Facility) consists of the new Ellendale 345kV Substation and tie line, modifications of the existing Ellendale 230kV Substation, and an approximately 10-mile-long 345 kV transmission line between the Ellendale 345kV Substation and the North Dakota-South Dakota border. The North Dakota Facility includes a 150-foot-wide transmission line right-of-way (ROW).

The Owners submitted a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit application to the North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC), pursuant to North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-22 in October 2013. The PSC issued a Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and a Route Permit on July 10, 2014. The approval process for the Certificate of Corridor Compatibility and Route Permit included comments from the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). In a letter dated July 9, 2013, SHPO requested a Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory, including a historic structures inventory, be completed for the North Dakota Facility. The Class III



Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory: History Structures Inventory and Evaluation report was submitted to SHPO on May 13, 2015.

This memo documents the results of the Class III Intensive Cultural Resources Inventory for Historic Structures-Route Shift Addendum 1. This addendum covers a route alignment shift between transmission line structures 4 and 8 in Section 10, Township 129N, Range 63W (Figure 1 [redacted]).

## Methods

The proposed route alignment shift and May 2015 Study Area was reviewed using ESRI® ArcGIS® and viewed over an aerial photography map, most recently updated in May 2015. In addition, field notes from the historic structures inventory and evaluation, conducted October 2014, were consulted to verify that no historic structures were noted within the May 2015 Study Area.

## Results of Investigations

In May 2015, a route alignment shift was issued for the North Dakota segment of the Project. The shift affected transmission line structures 4 through 8 in the southwest quarter of Section 10, Township 129N, Range 63W. As a result, the one-mile wide Study Area was expanded to include a segment of land that had not been previously inventoried, approximately 3.3 acres in size.

Field survey of the original Study Area for the Project was conducted on October 15, 2014, and resulted in the identification of eight building clusters and two railroad grades. Desktop analysis of the May 2015 Study Area was conducted on June 3, 2015. No additional historic structures were identified during the desktop analysis within the May 2015 Study Area, and as such, no field review was conducted.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

No historic structures were identified during the desktop analysis of the route shift. HDR recommends that construction activities proceed in this area without further historic structures considerations.



Figure containing sensitive material has been redacted.