

August 13, 2020

Public Service Commission  
600 East Boulevard Dept. 408  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0480

Re: Basin Electric Power Cooperative-Lonesome Creek Station Phases III Project

Dear Public Service Commission:

The North Dakota Parks and Recreation Department has reviewed the above referenced proposed for the Basin Electric Power Cooperative-Lonesome Creek Station Phases III Project located in McKenzie County, North Dakota.

NDPRD's scope of authority and expertise covers properties that our agency owns, leases or manages, state-wide properties that are protected under Section 6(f) of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) and rare plants and ecological communities established through the Natural Heritage Program. The project as defined does not affect state lands under NDPRD's jurisdiction.

The North Dakota Natural Heritage biological conservation database has reviewed the project to determine if any current or historical plant or animal species of concern or other significant ecological communities are known to occur within an approximate one-mile radius of the project area. Based on this review, we have no rare species or significant ecological community documented within or adjacent to the site. The absence of data may indicate that the project area has not been surveyed, rather than confirm that the area lacks natural heritage resources.

We appreciate your commitment to rare plant, animal and ecological community conservation, management, and inter-agency cooperation to date. For additional information, please contact me at (701) 220-3377 or [kgduttenhefner@nd.gov](mailto:kgduttenhefner@nd.gov). Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed project.

Sincerely,



Kathy Duttenhefner  
Coordinator/Biologist II, Natural Resources Division

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Agency correspondence  
North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department  
Kathy Duttenhefner

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