



A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative 

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Grand Forks, ND 58201  
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[www.minnkota.com](http://www.minnkota.com)

September 23, 2021

Susan Quinnell  
Review and Compliance Coordinator  
Archaeology and Historic Preservation Division  
State Historical Society of North Dakota  
612 East Boulevard Avenue  
Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

**RE: Class I Literature Review & Field Survey – Request for Concurrence  
Proposed Line 12C Structure Replacement Project**

Dear Ms. Quinnell,

Minnkota Power Cooperative, Inc. (“Minnkota”) is planning to replace four HVTL structures (#596-598 & 643) of our existing Line 12C HVTL. These two structures are located as shown on the attachments in Walsh County, ND. Replacement of the structures is necessary due to failing inspection criteria to maintain the safety and reliability of Minnkota’s and the region’s power grid.

**Area of Potential Effect (APE):**

Juniper, LLC (Juniper) on behalf of Barr, and thus Minnkota conducted a Class I Literature Review of the State Historical Society of North Dakota’s site and manuscript files for a one-mile radius study area around the subject structure locations (APE) in September, 2021. In addition, Juniper also conducted field survey work associated with this project, in September. The field portion of the survey work included assessment within a 350 foot radius of the four structures referenced. The only finding was of a cairn (stone pile) located approximately 304 feet ESE of structure 643. Juniper provided to Barr, who provided to Minnkota (via Email) the results of their findings (attached).

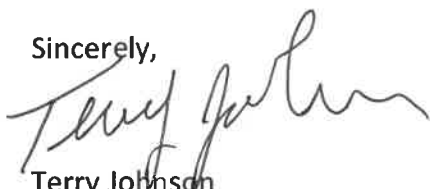
**Preliminary determination of effect on historic properties:**

Due to the time of year, the formal report from Juniper will not be available until likely after snow cover. Therefore, based upon Juniper’s review and experience in the region, they communicated that this review constitutes a reasonable and good faith effort to identify cultural resources within the APE for the proposed Project, and that the proposed Project is not likely to impact cultural or historical resources.

Since the HVTL structures will be replaced within an area that has been previously disturbed, and because of the low potential to encounter new cultural resources, Minnkota considers that that no cultural or historical features will be impacted (affected) by this proposed project. Therefore, Minnkota requests SHPO concurrence of no effect to cultural or historical features by the proposed Project. Due to restrictive time constraints associated with this proposed project in trying to get these HVTL structure replacements done within the window of a major outage (currently underway), Minnkota requests the SHPO to perform a timely review in the effort to accomplish this project.

If you require additional information regarding the proposed Project to facilitate your review, please contact me via email at [tjohnson@minnkota.com](mailto:tjohnson@minnkota.com) or by phone at (701) 795-4293.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Terry Johnson", written in a cursive style.

Terry Johnson

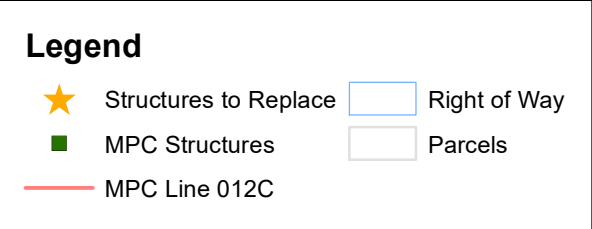
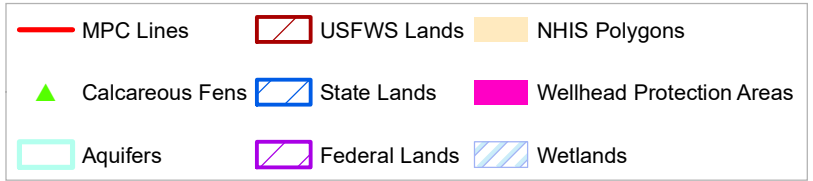
Environmental Engineer

Attachments

# 012C Structure Replacement

STR #: 012C0597 / Valley City Outpost

Stutsman County, ND

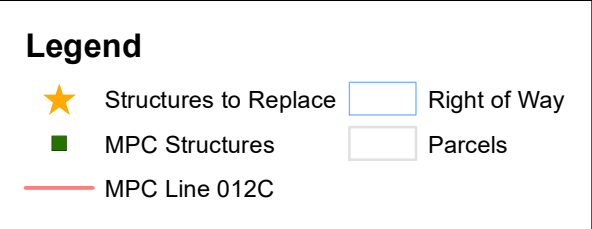
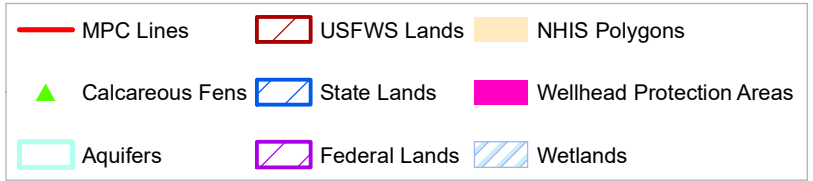




# 012C Structure Replacement

STR #: 012C0643 / Valley City Outpost

Stutsman County, ND



## Terry Johnson

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**From:** Terry Johnson  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 09, 2021 4:02 PM  
**To:** 'Amanda Gravseth'  
**Cc:** Jason Westbrook; John T. Lee  
**Subject:** RE: Line 12C Project

Thanks

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**From:** Amanda Gravseth <AGravseth@barr.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 09, 2021 4:01 PM  
**To:** Terry Johnson <tjohnson@minnkota.com>  
**Cc:** Amanda Gravseth <AGravseth@barr.com>; Jason Westbrook <JWestbrock@barr.com>; John T. Lee <JLee@barr.com>  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Line 12C Project

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Hi Terry,

We recently discussed the Line 12C literature review with Juniper. We learned that **Juniper found nothing in the literature reviews near the four structures (two locations) of the Line 12C Project that would warrant additional fieldwork.** Per our proposal, we will provide the final draft report for your review and comment within five weeks of authorization (no later than October 12, 2021).

If you have any questions, please let us know.

Thank you,

Amanda Gravseth

Environmental Permitting and Compliance Engineer  
Bismarck, ND office: 701.221.5424  
[AGravseth@barr.com](mailto:AGravseth@barr.com)  
[www.barr.com](http://www.barr.com)

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## Terry Johnson

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**From:** Amanda Gravseth <AGravseth@barr.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, September 20, 2021 9:39 AM  
**To:** Terry Johnson  
**Cc:** Amanda Gravseth; Jason Westbrook  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] RE: structure locations for Line 12C

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Hi Terry,

Juniper has completed the Line 12C field survey for the four (4) tower locations. Tower locations 596, 597, 598 did not have any cultural material associated with them. One site was recorded at tower location 643. The site appears to be a cairn (man-made pile (or stack) of stones) and is located approximately 304 feet to the east/southeast of the tower. A more formal report will follow.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

Amanda Gravseth

Environmental Permitting and Compliance Engineer  
Bismarck, ND office: 701.221.5424  
AGravseth@barr.com  
[www.barr.com](http://www.barr.com)



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**From:** Terry Johnson <tjohnson@minnkota.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 16, 2021 8:18 AM  
**To:** Amanda Gravseth <AGravseth@barr.com>  
**Subject:** RE: structure locations for Line 12C

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Our ROW agent is making the final landowner contacts to let them know the consultant will be out tomorrow. If there is any special notes, I will pass that along.