



March 27, 2024

Chad Tucker
WEST
4007 State Street, Suite 109
Bismarck, ND 58503

SHSND Ref: 23-5553 BEPC Basin Electric Power Cooperative Kummer Ridge, PU-23-361, Dunn and McKenzie Counties, North Dakota

Dear Chad,

We have reviewed additional information for SHSND Ref: 23-5553 BEPC Basin Electric Power Cooperative Kummer Ridge, Dunn and McKenzie Counties, North Dakota under the federal project NDSHPO Ref: 24-0135 where the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is the lead agency.

Based on the additional information, we understand that sites 32DU356 and 32DU2432 have had additional work completed and we agree are not significant.

Sites 32DU342, 32DU1492, 32DU1500(32DU2209), 32DU1884, 32DU2575, 32DU2576, 32DU2577, and 32DU3500 will be protected by mats and only the existing road will be driven on when it is dry.

Sites 32DU2306, 32DU2435, 32DU2573, and 32DU2574 will be avoided.

In the additional information, it is stated that tree removal within the sites 32DU1253 and 32DUX1429 is being proposed. There would be no adverse effect to these sites if the stipulations below are followed.

- 32DU1253: Trees are cut as close to the ground as possible, subsurface stumps are left in place, and no power poles are placed within the site. In addition, cultural resource monitoring of the pole installation adjacent to the site boundary to the north and south of the site.
- 32DUX1429: Features are avoided during tree removal, trees are cut as close to the ground as possible, and subsurface stumps are left in place. In addition, power poles are placed outside the site boundary.

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Agency Correspondence

State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHS)

William Peterson, Director

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Thank you for the opportunity to review this project under North Dakota cultural resources consultation. This letter does not serve as federal agency consultation or SHPO consultation for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, (36 CFR Part 800), or the National Environmental Policy Act, as amended, (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4347).

If you have any questions, please contact Lorna Meidinger, Lead Historic Preservation Specialist at lbmeidinger@nd.gov or (701) 328-2089.

Sincerely,



for William D. Peterson, PhD
Director, State Historical Society of North Dakota

Cc: ND Public Service Commission

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