



December 3, 2024

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

SHSND Ref.: 25-9008, PU-24-311

Dear Sir or Madam,

We received the Notice of Filing and Notice of Public Hearing for Case No. PU-24-311 and downloaded the application from your website. In reviewing the application, we found that the application by Carlson McCain made false claims about cultural resources and submitted our review of SHSND Ref. 23-0271, Case No. PU-24-219, inferring by its inclusion that it was part of this project under SHSND Ref.: 25-9008, Case No. PU-24-311.

- Section 3.1.6 (page 8) claims our office concurred with the Class I and Class III cultural report and conclusions. As the letter for that report clearly states (digital page 241), our acceptance of the report for filing “does not constitute concurrence with the determinations therein.”
- When we review projects for the effects on cultural resources, we are looking at the effects of the actions that are specific to the project. A determination of no significant sites affected for one project does not transfer to any other project. As stated in the excerpt from the report on digital page 240, and our letter on digital page 242 regarding the effects for SHSND Ref. 23-0271, Case No. PU-24-219, the project we reviewed stated there would be no construction. Having no construction is why our determination for that project was that there were no significant sites affected.

The application now says that there will be construction as part of SHSND Ref.: 25-9008, Case No. PU-24-311, the installation of a new valve. We request that a map with the location of the new valve and associated construction area, along with a description of the construction, be sent to our office for review of its potential to affect cultural resources. If you have any questions please contact Lorna Meidinger, Lead Historic Preservation Specialist at (701) 328-2089 or lbmeidinger@nd.gov.

Sincerely,

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

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Agency Correspondence

State Historical Society of North Dakota (SHS)
William Peterson, Director

25-9008