



February 10, 2026

Melinda McCarthy  
Burns and McDonnell Engineering Company  
3255 Greensboro Drive  
Suite 104  
Bismarck, ND 58503

**SHSND Ref.: 26-9019 Bison Substation Fiber Installation in portions [T140N R51W Sections 11-12] in Cass County, North Dakota**

Dear Melinda,

From your submission on behalf of Minnkota Power Cooperative, it is our understanding that SHSND Ref: 26-9019 involves installation of a fiber-optic line connection to the Bison Substation along the location of three existing transmission line poles. It is our determination that there are no significant sites affected by this project provided it takes place in the location and in the manner described in the documentation.

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 Preservationist at [lbmeidinger@nd.gov](mailto:lbmeidinger@nd.gov) or (701) 328-2089.

Sincerely,

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

26-9019