



ET - 7564

CC

June 10, 2008

Ms. Catherine L. Glidden
Section of Environmental Analysis
Surface Transportation Board
1925 K Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20423-0001

SECTION 106 PROJECT CONSULTATION – IDENTIFICATION/EVALUATION
Project: 080515042F – Dakota, Minnesota and Eastern Railroad Corporation Powder River Basin Expansion Project Corridor – Burns & McDonnell Report (Project No. SD3)
Location: Multiple Counties
(STB)

Dear Ms. Glidden:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended). The South Dakota Office of the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) is currently unable to comment on the effect of your proposed undertaking on the non-renewable cultural resources of South Dakota.

On May 15, 2008, we received your letter and the survey report entitled “Level I and II Cultural Resource Survey and Site Testing and Evaluation for 317 Miles of Railroad Reconstruction From the Minnesota Border to Wall, South Dakota: DM&E Proposed Power River Expansion Project,” prepared by Burns & McDonnell. To assess the potential impacts of this project we request the following information be provided.

- Given that the report was prepared in July 2001, explain if an updated record search was completed for the project area of potential effects (APE), and if not why?
- Explain how all of the National Register Criteria were applied to the unevaluated and newly recorded sites. Sites containing unevaluated resources outside the project APE should be considered unevaluated for listing to the National Register of Historic Places.

Office of Tourism
Governor's Office of Economic
Development
Tribal Government Relations
711 E Wells Ave / Pierre, SD 57501-3369
Phone: 605-773-3301 / Fax: 605-773-3256
travelsd.com / sdgreatprofits.com /
sdtribalrelations.com

South Dakota Arts Council
800 Governors Dr. / Pierre, SD 57501-2294
Phone: 605-773-3131 or 1-800-423-6665 in SD
Fax: 605-773-6962
sdac@state.sd.us / sdarts.org

**South Dakota State
Historical Society**
900 Governors Dr. / Pierre, SD 57501-2217
Phone: 605-773-3458 / Fax: 605-773-8041
sdhistory.org

South Dakota Housing
Development Authority
PO Box 1237 / Pierre, SD 57501-1237
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sdhda.org



- Explain how the sites located within the project APE will be impacted by the project.
- Provide a determination of effect for National Register listed site 39HU0005.
- Five sites were identified as isolated finds in the table entitled “List of Identified Resources with Determinations of NRHP Eligibility and Effect”. These sites should be represented by the assigned Smithsonian Number. In addition, our records indicate that site 39HU0052 is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and site 39HU0097 is considered eligible for listing.
- Provide comments submitted by other consulting parties regarding the identification of historic properties and any concerns about the impacts of the project on those properties.
- Provide larger maps of the project APE including all known sites. The report indicates that 20 sites have been identified outside the project APE. Provide the approximate distance of each site from the project area.
- Explain what happened to the material collected by Burns & McDonnell.

Should you require additional information, please contact Paige Hoskinson Olson, Review and Compliance Coordinator, at (605) 773-6004. Your concern for the non-renewable cultural heritage of our state is appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jay D. Vogt
State Historic Preservation Officer



Paige Hoskinson Olson
Review and Compliance Coordinator

Cc: Mr. David Bibler, The Louis Berger Group Inc.
Mr. Randy Withrow, The Louis Berger Group Inc.