

Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc.

525 20th Avenue Southwest - Minot, ND 58701

Phone 701/852-4407 – Headquarters Fax 701/852-4401 – Operations & Engineering Fax 701/852-4402

www.centralpwr.com

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative

March 8, 2012

Mary Podoll State Conservationist U.S. Dept.of Agriculture P.O. Box 1458 Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

> Re: North Dakota 42, Ward Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. Lallie Substation Environmental Review (ER)

Dear Ms. Podoll,

Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. (CPEC) is requesting ER approval for the relocation of a substation near Lallie, North Dakota. This request is due to rising ground and surface water near the current Lallie Substation. This project is being submitted to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) for possible funding consideration under the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HGMP). The construction area is indicated on the enclosed map for your use in reviewing any environmental concerns, which Central Power may need to address.

Due to foundation jacking issues that are believed to be associated with Devils Lake Basin hydrology, Northern Plains Electric Cooperative (NPEC) and CPEC are planning for the relocation of the Lallie Substation. The newly proposed substation would be located on an elevation of approximately 1563 feet.

This construction does not require an Environmental Impact Statement; however Central Power's use of federal funding requires an ER to be filed with the Rural Utilities Services (RUS) and FEMA. Please inform us of any specific environmental impediment or special requirements of which we should be aware.

DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT

The substation is projected to be in the E1/2 Section 15, Township 152 North, Range 67 West. The graded substation pad is approximately 100 feet by 150 feet (0.34 acres).

Northern Plains intends to bore underground 3 phase 4/0 conductor from the proposed substation site to an existing circuit located on the east side of US Highway 281. Two circuits would be bored beneath US Highway 281. Due to costs, the underground conductor will not require and RUS Environmental review.

Construction of the proposed substation, upon approval by FEMA, would likely begin in 2013 with site grading and concrete foundation placements. The targeted completion would be in 2013.

These proposals are predicated as engineering evaluations to determine the best possible location with intentions to minimize impact to all entities and to provide for the most efficient use of existing distribution lines.

We request your review and approval of this construction at your earliest opportunity. Central Power is required to submit this ER to RUS (formerly REA) for their approval. Please submit your comments to our office in writing.

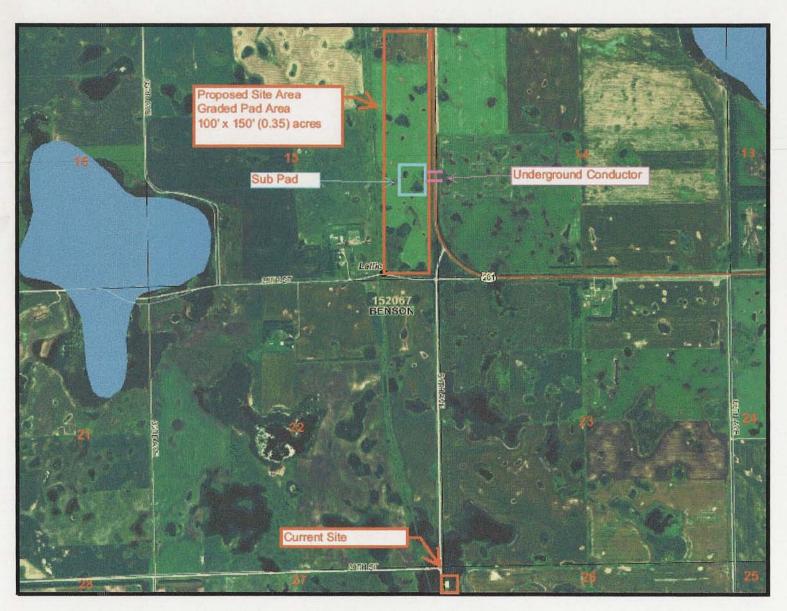
If no reply is received from your office within 45 days, we will assume there is no conflict with your agency and will proceed with further processing accordingly. If you have any questions, please contact myself, Jerry Zainhofsky, or Ryan Callahan at Central Power, (701) 852-4407, Fax (701) 852-4402 or email dallash@centralpwr.com, jerryz@centralpwr.com, jerryz@centralpwr.com,

Sincerely,

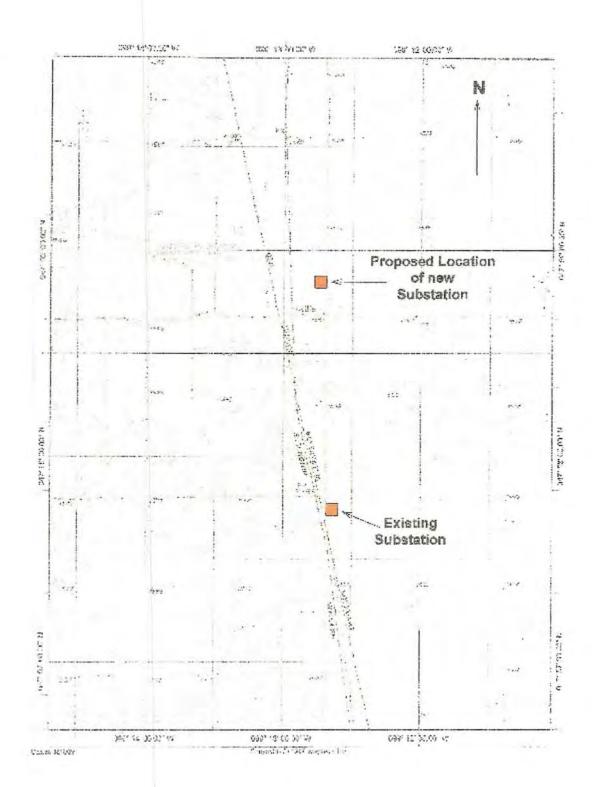
Dallas Hager Project Engineer

Enclosure

CC: Mr. Tim Bohan, RUS



Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. Lallie Substation – FEMA HGMP



The attached letter was sent to the following on March 8, 2012

Mr. Daniel E. Cimarosti Regulatory Program Manager Dept. of Army Corps of Engineers 1513 S. 12th Street Bismarck, ND 58504

Mr. David Glatt, Chief North Dakota State Dept. of Health Environmental Health Service 918 East Divide Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501-1947

Mr. Dale L. Frink Research Analyst ND State Water Commission 900 E. Boulevard Ave. Bismarck, ND 58505-0850

Mr. Jeffery Towner Field Supervisor U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 3425 Miriam Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501

Mr. David Davidson Benson County Commissioner 7833 37th St NE St. Michael, ND 58370-9064 Mr. Terry Steinwand Chief Conservation & Com. Division North Dakota Game and Fish 100 N. Bismarck Expressway Bismarck, ND 58501-5095

Mr. Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr., SHPO ND Historical Society ND Heritage Center 612 East Boulevard Ave. Bismarck, ND 58505-0830

Mary Podoll State Conservationist U.S. Dept.of Agriculture P.O. Box 1458 Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

Ms. Patricia Dressler Federal Aviation Administration Bismarck Airports District Office 2301 University Drive, Bldg. 23B Bismarck, ND 58504

Mr. Ronald Henke Office of Project Development Department of Transportation 608 East Boulevard Avenue Bismarck, North Dakota 58505-0700 From: Myers, Richard

To: "admin@spiritlakenation.com"; "oliverjr@spiritlakenation.com"

Cc: Jones, Daniel; "jerryz@centralpwr.com"

Subject: Proposed FEMA-funded project - Lallie ND

Date: Thursday, July 18, 2013 15:14:00

Attachments: <u>Lallie Aerial Site Map.pdf</u>

Lallie proposed topo.pdf
Lallie photos.pdf

This is to advise you that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is considering funding a project in the vicinity of Lallie ND and within the boundaries of the Spirit Lake Sioux Reservation. The purpose of my inquiry is to identify any specific concerns or special requirements the Spirit Lake Tribe might have about the proposed project described below.

The Central Power Electric Cooperative (applicant) has identified the need to protect the function of the existing electric substation, located near the intersection of 38th Street North and County Road 0329 (Lat. 47.96266, Long. -99.211720) and ancillary power-distribution system against periodic flooding and long-term inundation due to rising water levels in the surrounding Devils Lake basin. The proposed project will relocate the existing substation to a new site 2 acre site 1.3 miles north of its present location. The proposed relocation site is located in the SE ¼ of the SE ¼ of Section 15; Township 152N; Range 67W, Benson County, North Dakota at Latitude 47.981253; Longitude -99.212460. The proposed route of the electrical transmission line will parallel the west side of U.S. Highway 281 from the new location and extend northward for approximately one half mile until intersecting an existing Central Power Electrical Cooperative transmission line. The existing facility will be dismantled and disposed of according to all applicable federal, tribal, state and local requirements. Consultation with the Spirit Lake Sioux Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) has been completed, and THPO concurred with FEMA's determination of 'no historic properties affected' for the relocation site on March 3, 2013.

The proposed project does not affect any Waters of the U.S. (including wetlands) and a Clean Water Act Sec. 404 permit is not required. However, as a condition of the FEMA grant, the applicant must obtain and comply with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local water quality and storm-water management permits, including the Sec. 401 (CWA) water quality certification and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit from the US EPA, as delegated to the Spirit Lake Tribal EPA. Standard construction best management practice (BMP) for erosion control and sedimentation must be implemented. The applicant must also implement standard BMP to reduce emissions, fugitive dust, fuel leaks and spills, noise, etc. and comply with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local requirements. In addition, all debris and waste material generated during demolition and construction, including hazardous materials must be managed in compliance with applicable federal, tribal, state and local requirements, including those of the U.S. EPA, the Spirit Lake Tribe EPA and the North Dakota Department of Health. No waste material may be placed in

floodplains or wetlands.

I have attached an aerial overview and topographical map of the project site, along with some photographs for your review. Please advise of any specific concerns or special requirements the Spirit Lake Tribe might have about the proposed project at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions or need additional information, please don't hesitate to contact me. Thank you.

Richard Myers

Deputy Regional Environmental Officer FEMA Region VIII DFC, Building 710, Box 25267 Denver, CO 80225-0267 Office (303) 235-4926 Cell (720) 412-3672 Fax (303) 235-4849 richard.myers2@fema.dhs.gov

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service P.O. Box 1458 Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

April 16, 2012

Dallas Hager Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. 525 20th Avenue Southwest Minot, ND 58701

RE:

North Dakota 42, Ward

Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Lallie Substation

Environmental Review (ER)

Dear Mr. Hager:

The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) has reviewed your letter dated March 8, 2012, and acknowledge your request concerning the relocation of a substation near Lallie, North Dakota.

Important Farmlands - NRCS has a major responsibility with Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) in documenting conversion of farmland (i.e., prime, statewide, and local importance) to non-agricultural use when the project utilizes federal funds. Your proposal includes development of a new substation site and underground conductor. The underground conductor does not remove farmland from production; therefore, FPPA does not apply to this part of the project. The new substation may remove farmland from production and may be subject to FPPA. Please complete the Form AD-106 for further evaluation of the substation site.

Enclosed is a Form AD-1006 or you may utilize a fillable, web based form at http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Programs/fppa/pdf files/AD106.PDF to record the following. Please complete Part I and Part III and return to Jon Stika, Area Resource Soil Scientist, 135 Sims Street, Suite 210, Dickinson, ND, 58601 or call 701-225-5113 ext. 107. If applicable, you may email the information to jon.stika@nd.usda.gov. We will also need a map of the site at an appropriate scale so we can accurately assess the area (e.g., 1:20,000 or 1:24,000). If the farmland (i.e., prime, statewide, and local importance) is determined to be subject to the FPPA, we will then complete Parts II and IV. NRCS will measure the relative value of the site as farmland on a scale of 0 to 100, according to the information sources listed in CFR, Sec. 658.5(a). If FPPA applies to this site, Form AD-106 will be returned to your agency for completion of Part VI, Site Assessment Criteria.

Helping People Help the Land
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Mr. Hager Page 2

Wetlands – The Wetland Conservation Provisions of the 1985 Food Security Act, as amended, provide that if a USDA participant converts a wetland for the purpose of, or to have the effect of, making agricultural production possible, loss of USDA benefits could occur. NRCS has developed the following guidelines for the installation of buried utilities. If these guidelines are followed, the impacts to the wetland(s) will be considered minimal allowing USDA participants to continue to receive USDA benefits. Following are the requirements: 1) Disturbance to the wetland(s) must be temporary, 2) no drainage of the wetland(s) is allowed (temporary or permanent), 3) mechanized landscaping necessary for installation is kept to a minimum and preconstruction contours are maintained, 4) temporary side cast material must be placed in such a manner not to be dispersed in the wetland, and 5) all trenches must be backfilled to the original wetland bottom elevation.

NRCS would recommend that impacts to wetlands be avoided. If the alignment of the project requires passage through a wetland, NRCS can complete a certified wetland determination, if requested by the landowner/operator. If you have additional questions please call Steve Sieler, State Soil Liaison, NRCS, Bismarck, ND, (701) 530-2019.

Sincerely,

MICHAEL G. ULMER

State Soil Scientist/MO 7 Leader (Acting)

Enclosure

cc:

Jon Stika, ARSS, NRCS, Dickinson, ND

cc: w/o encl.

Jerald Wingenbach, DC, NRCS, Minot, ND

Terrance Gisvold, ASTC (FO), NRCS, Dickinson, ND



U.S. Department of Homeland Security Federal Emergency Management Agency Region VIII Denver Federal Center Building 710, PO Box 25267 Denver, Colorado 80225-0267

May 22, 2013

Mr. Jeffrey Towner Field Supervisor, Ecological Services U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 3425 Miriam Avenue Bismarck, North Dakota 58505

Dear Mr. Towner:

Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. has requested funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to relocate a substation near Lallie, North Dakota. The proposed project will move the existing Lallie substation to a location 1.3 miles north of its present location. Relocating the substation will resolve hydraulic jacking issues presently occurring at the existing substation site. The location of the new substation lies in the SE¼, SE¼ of Section 15; Township 152N, Range 67W, Benson County, North Dakota (Latitude: 47.981253, Longitude: -99.212460). Approximately two acres of land will be purchased as part of the proposed project. The substation and associated equipment will be constructed on a graded pad measuring approximately 100 feet by 150 feet. The cooperative will bore underground 3 phase 4/0 conductor from the new substation site to an existing circuit located on the east side of US Highway 281.

FEMA has determined that relocating the substation will have "no effect" on the piping plover or designated critical habitat due to the nearest habitat being Cranberry Lake approximately 30 miles away. There will be no direct effects of the project on whooping cranes. Indirect effects include construction noise disturbance on migratory species within in the area, thus the project will be conditioned that if whooping cranes are sited within one mile of the construction area, construction must cease until the birds have migrated. Based on the previous condition, FEMA has determined that relocating the substation "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" the whooping crane, and requests FWS concurrence with this determination.

It is noteworthy to mention that Central Power Electric Cooperative will install approximately 0.5 miles of 69 KV transmission line in order to connect the relocated substation to existing power infrastructure. The new transmission line will parallel the west side of US Highway 281 in Section 15; Township 152N, Range 67W. Although not a FEMA funded action as part of the submitted HMGP Grant, it has been determined as a connected action and thus FEMA has made a determination of effect. FEMA has determined that installing the transmission line will have "no effect" "on the piping plover or designated critical habitat due to the nearest habitat being Cranberry Lake approximately 30 miles away. Direct effects on the whopping crane by the transmission line installation will be mitigated by conditioning that Central Power Electric Cooperative follow the recommended guidelines documented in the "2006 Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines" publication. Furthermore, to increase power line visibility, it will be conditioned that the power line construction be modified according to the guidelines recommended in the "Mitigating Bird Collisions with Power Lines: The State of the Art in 1994" publication. Indirect effects include construction noise disturbance on migratory species within in the area, thus the project will be conditioned that if whooping cranes are sited within one mile of the

construction area, construction must cease until the birds have migrated. Based on the previous conditions, FEMA has determined that installation of the transmission line "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" the whooping crane, and requests FWS concurrence with this determination.

Sincerely,

Daniel N. Jones Environmental Protection Specialist FEMA Region VIII

Desk: (303) 231-1887

Daniel.Jones5@fema.dhs.gov

Attachments: project maps

Myers, Richard

From: Myers, Richard

Sent: Wednesday, July 10, 2013 15:49

To: Myers, Richard

Subject: RE: Lallie Substation Relocation FWS concur_7-2-13

From: Terry Ellsworth [mailto:terry_ellsworth@fws.gov]

Sent: Tuesday, July 02, 2013 11:35 AM

To: Jones, Daniel

Cc: Jeffrey Towner; Kari Thorsteinson; Matt Sprenger

Subject: RE: FEMA Section 7 Consultation - Lallie Substation Relocation

Hi Daniel,

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) has reviewed the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA), determination of effects related to the Central Power Cooperative's (CPC) proposed relocation of the Lallie substation and construction of 0.5 mile of 69kV electric transmission line as described in your June 28, 2013, email and the attached May 22, 2013, letter. The proposed project is located in T. 152, N., R. 67 W., Section 15, SE1/4SE1/4, Benson County, North Dakota. The FEMA is considering funding for the project through the Hazard Mitigation Grand Program and is thus the federal action agency. The following comments and recommendations are offered under the authority of and in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)(ESA).

In accordance with section 7 of the ESA, you requested U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) concurrence with your determinations that the Project "may affect, not likely to adversely affect" the endangered whooping crane (*Grus americana*). Based upon the project description and analysis of potential effects included in the June 28, 2013 email, and May 22, 2013, letter the Service has concluded that the effects to the whooping crane are either insignificant or discountable. Thus, the Service concurs with your determination that the effects of the proposed project "may affect, is not likely to adversely affect" this federally-listed species.

The June 28, 2013, email and the May 23, 2013, letter also indicates "no effect" determinations for the threatened piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and designated piping plover critical habitat. There is no requirement under the implementing regulations of the ESA (50 CFR Part 402) for action agencies to receive Service concurrence with "no effect" determinations, therefore the responsibility for "no effect" determinations remains with the FEMA. We recommend you document your determination for the piping plover and designated piping plover critical habitat, and retain the documentation in your decision record.

The Service's concurrence is based on the information contained within the June 28, 2013, email and the May 22 2013, letter. Pursuant to the implementing regulations of the ESA (50 CFR) 402.13), this letter concludes informal consultation on the subject action. This action should be reanalyzed if: (1) new information reveals effects of the action that may affect listed species or critical habitat in a manner or to an extent not considered in this consultation; (2) the action is subsequently modified in a manner that causes an effect to the listed species or critical habitat that was not considered in the consultation; or (3) a new species is listed or critical habitat is designated that may be affected by this Project.

We appreciate your efforts to ensure the conservation of trust species as part of our joint responsibilities under the Act.

The Service administers Waterfowl Production Areas owned in fee title as well as wetland and grassland easements throughout North Dakota. A review of Service realty records indicates that Service property interests may be affected by the proposed project. Service wetland easements are located in:

• T 152 N., R. 67 W., Section 15, SE¹/₄, SE¹/₄, Benson County, North Dakota

Easement protected wetlands within this area are managed as a waterfowl production area. Wetlands within the easement area are protected from being drained or filled with earth or any other material. Depending on the location of the 100' x 150' graded pad, protected wetlands may be impacted. We recommend that Central Power Electric Cooperative Inc. contact Matt Sprenger, Wildlife Refuge Manager, Devils Lake Wetland Management District, PO Box 908, Devils Lake, ND 58301-0908; Phone: (701)662-8611; Email: matt_sprenger@fws.gov, to arrange a site visit to ensure that easement protected wetlands are not impacted by the project.

Terry Ellsworth U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Ecological Services 3425 Miriam Avenue Bismarck, ND 58501 (701) 355-8505

From: Jeffrey Towner [mailto:jeffrey_towner@fws.gov]

Sent: Friday, June 28, 2013 4:27 PM

To: Terry Ellsworth

Subject: FW: FEMA Section 7 Consultation - Lallie Substation Relocation

Terry,

Could your respond to Mr. Jones with an estimated response date, if possible?

Thx, Jeff From: Jones, Daniel [mailto: <u>Daniel.Jones5@fema.dhs.gov</u>]

Sent: Friday, June 28, 2013 4:03 PM

To: 'Jeffrey_Towner@fws.gov'

Cc: Myers, Richard

Subject: RE: FEMA Section 7 Consultation - Lallie Substation Relocation

Good Afternoon Mr. Towner:

I am following up on the below consultation regarding the Lallie Substation Relocation project being funded through FEMA's Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. If I can provided any additional information to assist in finalizing your review please let me know.

Sincerely,

Daniel N. Jones

Environmental Specialist FEMA Region VIII Denver Federal Center Bldg 710, Box 25267 Denver CO 80225-0267

Desk: (303) 231-1887 Cell: (303) 515-1921

Daniel.Jones5@fema.dhs.gov

From: Jones, Daniel

Sent: Wednesday, May 22, 2013 4:44 PM

To: 'Jeffrey_Towner@fws.gov'

Subject: FEMA Section 7 Consultation - Lallie Substation Relocation

Dear Mr. Towner:

Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. has requested funding through the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) to relocate a substation near Lallie, North Dakota. The proposed project will move the existing Lallie substation to a location 1.3 miles north of its present location. Relocating the substation will resolve hydraulic jacking issues presently occurring at the existing substation site. The location of the new substation lies in the SE¼, SE¼ of Section 15; Township 152N, Range 67W, Benson County, North Dakota (Latitude: 47.981253, Longitude: -99.212460). Approximately two acres of land will be purchased as part of the proposed project. The substation and associated equipment will be constructed on a graded pad measuring approximately 100 feet by 150 feet. The cooperative will bore underground 3 phase 4/0 conductor from the new substation site to an existing circuit located on the east side of US Highway 281.

FEMA has determined that relocating the substation will have "no effect" " on the piping plover or designated critical habitat due to the nearest habitat being Cranberry Lake approximately 30 miles away. There will be no direct effects of the project on whooping cranes. Indirect effects include construction noise disturbance

on migratory species within in the area, thus the project will be conditioned that if whooping cranes are sited within one mile of the construction area, construction must cease until the birds have migrated. Based on the previous condition, FEMA has determined that relocating the substation "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" the whooping crane, and requests FWS concurrence with this determination.

It is noteworthy to mention that Central Power Electric Cooperative will install approximately 0.5 miles of 69 KV transmission line in order to connect the relocated substation to existing power infrastructure. The new transmission line will parallel the west side of US Highway 281 in Section 15; Township 152N, Range 67W. Although not a FEMA funded action as part of the submitted HMGP Grant, it has been determined as a connected action and thus FEMA has made a determination of effect. FEMA has determined that installing the transmission line will have "no effect" " on the piping plover or designated critical habitat due to the nearest habitat being Cranberry Lake approximately 30 miles away. Direct effects on the whopping crane by the transmission line installation will be mitigated by conditioning that Central Power Electric Cooperative follow the recommended guidelines documented in the "2006 Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines" publication. Furthermore, to increase power line visibility, it will be conditioned that the power line construction be modified according to the guidelines recommended in the "Mitigating Bird Collisions with Power Lines: The State of the Art in 1994" publication. Indirect effects include construction noise disturbance on migratory species within in the area, thus the project will be conditioned that if whooping cranes are sited within one mile of the construction area, construction must cease until the birds have migrated. Based on the previous conditions, FEMA has determined that installation of the transmission line "may affect, but not likely to adversely affect" the whooping crane, and requests FWS concurrence with this determination.

An electronically signed copy of this consultation has been attached to this email along with project maps of the new substation location and transmission line.

Sincerely,

Daniel N. Jones

Environmental Specialist FEMA Region VIII Denver Federal Center Bldg 710, Box 25267 Denver CO 80225-0267

Desk: (303) 231-1887 Cell: (303) 515-1921

Daniel.Jones5@fema.dhs.gov



Jack Dairymple Governor of North Dakota

March 28, 2012

North Dakota State Historical Board

Gereld Gerntholz Valley City - President

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Department

Francis Ziegler Director Department of Transportation

> Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr. Director

Accredited by the American Association of Museums since 1989 Mr Dallas Hager Project Engineer Central Power Electric Cooperative 525 20th Ave SW Minot, ND 58701

ND SHPO REF.:12-5842, Lallie, North Dakota substation relocation, in portions of [T152N R67W Section 15], Lallie, Benson County, North Dakota

Dear Mr. Hager,

We reviewed ND SHPO REF.:12-5842, Lallie, North Dakota substation relocation, in portions of [T152N R67W Section 15], Lallie, Benson County, North Dakota and if consulted by a federal agency we would concur with a "No Historic Properties Affected" determination provided the project is of the nature specified, and is restricted to the specific areas described in the correspondence dated March 8, 2012.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this project. Please include the ND SHPO Reference number listed above in further correspondence for this specific project. If you have any questions please contact Lisa Steckler, Preservation Planner at (701) 328-3577, lsteckler@nd.gov

1

Sincere

Merlan E. Paaverud, Jr.

State Historic Preservation Officer

(North Dakota) and Director

State I-listorical Society of North Dakota

Manuscript Data Record Form

1. THPO Reference: Not yet assigned

2. Author: Charles A. Bello (FEMA)

3. Title: Class III Cultural Resources Inventory – Proposed Central Power Electrical Cooperative 69 KV Transmission Line, Lallie Township (T152N; R67W; Sec 15), Benson County, North Dakota

4. **Report Date:** May 12, 2013

5. Number of Pages: 10

6. Type: Class III

7. Dimensions of Project: ca. 2,500 Linear Feet

8. Legal Location: The proposed route of the electrical transmission line will parallel the west side of U.S. Highway 281, beginning near the southeast corner of Section 15 and extending northward for approximately one half mile until intersecting an existing Central Power Electrical Cooperative (CPEC) transmission line. The legal location occupies a portion of the southeast side of Section 15, (T152N; R67W) Benson County, North Dakota. The project site lies within the boundaries of the Spirit Lake Sioux Reservation.

Small Survey Report

Submitted by:

Charles A. Bello, M.A., RPA Environmental Planning / Historic Preservation Section Federal Emergency Management Agency, Region VIII Box 25267 Denver, Colorado 80225-0267

cell: 701-625-8514; desk: 303-235-4968

Charles.Bello@FEMA.DHS.Gov

Report Title: Class III Cultural Resource Inventory - Proposed Central Power Electrical Cooperative 69 KV

Transmission Line, Lallie Township (T152N; R67W; Sec 15), Benson County, North Dakota

Author: Charles A. Bello

Report Date: May 12, 2013

Fieldwork Date: May 5, 2013

Acreage: ca. 2,500 Linear Feet

Project Sponsor: Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Denver, Colorado

Historic Context (Study Unit): Sheyenne River (12)

Legal Description/Location of Project Area: T152N; R67W; Sec 15

Description of Project: The Central Power Electrical Cooperative, Inc. (CPEC) proposes to construct a 69 KV electrical transmission line that will parallel the west side of U.S. Highway 281, beginning near the southeast corner of Section 15 and extending northward for approximately one half mile until intersecting an existing CPEC transmission line (see attached maps). The project site lies within the boundaries of the Spirit Lake Sioux Reservation.

The proposed transmission line segment will be installed on wooden poles located three feet on the west side of the Highway's right-of-way line. CPEC will attempt to obtain private right-of-way access. If private access cannot be obtained, CPEC will obtain the necessary permits from NDDOT and the line will be located within the state right-of-way.

The alignment cuts through glaciated upland terrain of low rolling hills. The existing right-of-way is disturbed. The fields immediately west are under cultivation. The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to administer assistance to the Central Power Electrical Cooperative, Inc. through the Hazard Mitigation Assistance Program. The Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) project will relocate an existing (ca. 1977) electrical substation near the town of Lallie due to rising ground water and foundation jacking issues. The Electrical Cooperative proposes to abandon the existing Lallie Substation and relocate the

facility 1.3 miles to the north onto higher ground. Two acres of agriculture land will be required for the new substation site and the project has received approval (dated February 2013) from the Cultural Advisor of the Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe - with a determination of "No Historic Properties Affected". When consulted, the Tribe's Cultural Advisor (Mr. Darrell Smith), identified the area as possessing low sensitivity for the presence of historic or archaeological sites. The factors in this decision were the lower elevation of the substation and the extent of agriculture.

The proposed transmission line will bring power from the new site of the substation north to an existing connection. When consulted about this aspect of the overall project Mr. Smith asked for a Class III Cultural Resource Inventory – as the proposed route will traverse slightly higher and level elevations (ca. 1572+ feet above sea level (a.s.l)) in a setting typically used for Native American burials in the past.

Records Search: A file search was conducted at the State Historic Preservation Office (Bismarck) to determine the extent of previous cultural surveys in the area surrounding the proposed transmission route and the presence of previously recorded archaeological sites in that area.

Three surveys have been previously conducted close to the proposed project site. The first occurred approximately one mile north and was conducted by D. Hiemstra (Metcalf Archaeological Consultants, Bismarck) in 2005 and was reported in *A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for the Round Lake and Josephine Substations and Pipelines, Benson County, North Dakota* (ND-SHPO Ms. 009169). No historic or cultural properties were identified.

The second survey was conducted by Metcalf Archaeological Consultants in 2008 a short distance north and west of the report just referenced: A Class III Cultural Resource Inventory for the North Central Water Consortium REAP Zone 1, Rural Water Supply Project, Benson and Wells Counties, North Dakota (ND-SHPO Ms. 010759). No historic or cultural properties were identified in the portion of this survey nearest to the proposed Lallie project.

The third survey was an addendum to the 2008 report cited above and was conducted by Metcalf Archaeological Consultants in 2010 (ND-SHPO Ms. 011358). No historic or cultural properties were identified in the portion of this survey nearest to the proposed Lallie project.

Field Personnel: Charles A. Bello, M.A., RPA – Principal Investigator. Background research was also conducted by Charles A. Bello.

Field Methods and Conditions: Fieldwork occurred over a 3-hour period on Sunday, May 5, 2013 (overcast weather). Mr. Darrell Smith (Cultural Advisor of the Spirit Lake Reservation) visited the site in the company of the archaeologist (Bello) the same day.

Proposed construction may occur within a mostly previously undisturbed upland setting at an elevation of ca. 1572+ feet above sea level. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) is defined as 2,500 feet long and has been only slightly disturbed by previous framing. The APE was recently harvested (corn) and quite a few areas also existed within and adjacent to the right-of-way where the ground surface was otherwise well exposed – estimated visibility of ca. 80% of the total project site. The Principal Investigator walked the entire APE twice and also inspected wider areas of tilled soil a little farther to the west of the proposed alignment. All locations of exposed ground such as animal burrows and recently removed fence posts were closely examined. Two,

15-inch diameter shovel / auger tests were excavated along the edges of the proposed roadway at approximately the center of the alignment.

No cultural material was identified and the general stratigraphic integrity of the APE was confirmed as a result of fieldwork. No flakeable lithic material, bone or other cultural material was noted anywhere during the field examination. The soil profiles examined each exhibited a normal A-B/C soil sequence consisting of an upland (3-6% slope) very dark brown silty clay (glacial till) topsoil ca. 23 cm. thick that overlay and graded into a well-drained grayish brown clay with no pebble content – conforming to that outlined in the county soil survey (Svea-Barnes-Aberdeen Association) (United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey of Benson County, Strum et al. 1979).

Field notes, maps, GPS readings, and photographs are on file at the FEMA Environmental & Historic Preservation Section Office, Denver.

Results and Recommendations: A finding of **No Historic Properties Affected** is recommended for the proposed undertaking as reported in this document.

DR-1981-ND-28R Lallie Substation The Po convenience.



SPIRIT LAKE TRIBE

DATE: 03-11-13

Send to: CHARLES A BELLO

Attention:

Office Location: DENVER, QUORADO

Fax Number: 303-274-0514

From: DARRELL SMITH

Office Location: FORT TOTTEN, N.D.
Phone Number: 701-381-9082
Number of Pages, Including Cover:

☐ URGENT ☐ REPLY ASAP ☐ FOR YOUR INFORMATION

☐ PLEASE COMMENT

☐ PLEASE REVIEW

Spirit Lake Tribe
P.O. Box 359 Fort Totten, ND 58335
701-766-1220 phone number | fax number 701-766-4126

Two Class III Cultural Resource Inventories were conducted between two to three miles north of the proposed sub-station relocation (attached): Round Lake and Josephine Substations and Pipelines (BIA Permit # AAO-1215/FT/05) - prepared by Metcalf Archaeological Consultants (Bismarck) for Central Power Electric Cooperative (Minot), 2005. A total of ca. 44 acres was examined at two separate locations - no cultural material was identified.

The North Dakota State Historic Preservation Office was contacted on March 08, 2012 by the project engineer. A determination and sign-off of "No Historic Properties Affected" was made by that office (ND-SHPO Ref. 12-5842, March 28, 2012). I am in agreement with the SHPO determination with regards to the low archaeological sensitivity of the project site. In accordance with Section 106 Review Procedures for Federal Undertakings under the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulation (36 CFR Part § 800.3 (a) (1)), I am seeking your opinion as to whether construction at this site might have the potential to adversely affect historic, archeological, or traditional cultural properties that I am unaware of.

FEMA respectfully requests your review of the proposed construction location as soon as possible. If you have any questions or comments please contact me at (720) 626-8514 or by email at Charles Bello@FEMA.gov.

Charles A. Bello, M.A., RPA Environmental Planning / Historic Preservation Section, FEMA, Region VIII Denver Federal Center, Building 710, Box 25267 Denver, Colorado 80225-0267	
cell: 720-626-8514; fax: 303-274-0514; desk: 303-235-4968	
Charles.Bello@FEMA.DHS.Gov	
cc: Daniel Jones, FEMA Region VIII	
I concur that the project as proposed will have will have "No Historic Properties Affected"	
I do not concur that the project as proposed will have "No Historic Properties Affected for the following reason:	ď"
Date 03-11-13	•

Mr. Darrell Smith

Cultural Advisor Cultural Preservation Office, Spirit Lake Sioux Tribe



SPIRIT LAKE TRIBE PLANNING OFFICE

421 2nd Avenue North PO Box 359 Ft. Totten, ND 58335 Phone 701-766-1706 Fax 701-766-1713

Charles Bello Fema EIHP

I have Read and Reviewed:

Class III Co I find Resources Inventory - Pegeosed

Contrad Power Electrical Cogenative 69 KV transmission

Cine, Callie hyp., Benson Co., North Dallata.

I concen with the determination of "No historic

Properties offected."

Daniell E. Smith

06-12-13



North Dakota State Water Commission

900 EAST BOULEVARD AVENUE, DEPT 770 • BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58505-0850 701-328-2750 • TDD 701-328-2750 • FAX 701-328-3696 • INTERNET: http://swc.nd.gov

March 29, 2012

Dallas Hager Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. 525 20th Avenue SW Minot, ND 58701

Dear Mr. Hager:

This is in response to your request for review of environmental impacts associated with the North Dakota 42, Ward, Lallie Substation located in Benson County, ND. The substation is projected to be in the E1/2 Section 15, Township 152 North, Range 67 West.

The proposed project has been reviewed by State Water Commission staff and the following comments are provided:

- There are no floodplains identified and/or mapped where this proposed project is to take place. The area is designated as a Zone C. It is also believed that the project will not affect an identified floodplain as identified by the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).
- It is the responsibility of the project sponsor to ensure that local, state and federal agencies are contacted for any required approvals, permits, and easements.
- All waste material associated with the project must be disposed of properly and not placed in identified floodway areas.
- No sole-source aquifers have been designated in ND.

There are no other concerns associated with this project that affect State Water Commission or State Engineer regulatory responsibilities.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide review comments. If you have any questions, please call me at 328-4967.

Sincerely,

Linda Weispfenning
Water Resource Planner

 $LW:dp/1570 \qquad \text{The special context}$

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TODD SANDO, P.E. SECRETARY AND STATE ENGINEER



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave. Bismarck, ND 58501-1947 701.328.5200 (fax) www.ndhealth.gov

March 22, 2012

Mr. Dallas Hager, Project Engineer Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. 525 20th Avenue Southwest Minot, ND 58701

Re: Relocation of Lallie Substation, Benson County

Dear Mr. Hager:

This department has reviewed the information concerning the above-referenced project submitted under date of March 8, 2012, with respect to possible environmental impacts.

This department believes that environmental impacts from the proposed construction will be minor and can be controlled by proper construction methods. With respect to construction, we have the following comments:

- 1. All necessary measures must be taken to minimize fugitive dust emissions created during construction activities. Any complaints that may arise are to be dealt with in an efficient and effective manner.
- 2. Care is to be taken during construction activity near any water of the state to minimize adverse effects on a water body. This includes minimal disturbance of stream beds and banks to prevent excess siltation, and the replacement and revegetation of any disturbed area as soon as possible after work has been completed. Caution must also be taken to prevent spills of oil and grease that may reach the receiving water from equipment maintenance, and/or the handling of fuels on the site. Guidelines for minimizing degradation to waterways during construction are attached.
- 3. Projects disturbing one or more acres are required to have a permit to discharge storm water runoff until the site is stabilized by the reestablishment of vegetation or other permanent cover. Projects disturbing less than one acre also are required to have a permit to discharge storm water runoff if the site is part of a larger common plan of development or sale, and the larger common plan will ultimately disturb equal to or greater than one acre. Further information on the storm water permit may be obtained from the Department's website or by calling the Division of Water Quality (701-328-5210).
- 4. Noise from construction activities may have adverse effects on persons who live near the construction area. Noise levels can be minimized by ensuring that construction equipment is equipped with a recommended muffler in good working order. Noise effects can also be

minimized by ensuring that construction activities are not conducted during early morning or late evening hours.

The department owns no land in or adjacent to the proposed improvements, nor does it have any projects scheduled in the area. In addition, we believe the proposed activities are consistent with the State Implementation Plan for the Control of Air Pollution for the State of North Dakota.

These comments are based on the information provided about the project in the above-referenced submittal. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers may require a water quality certification from this department for the project if the project is subject to their Section 404 permitting process. Any additional information which may be required by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under the process will be considered by this department in our determination regarding the issuance of such a certification.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please feel free to contact this office.

Sincerely,

L. David Glatt, P.E., Chief Environmental Health Section

LDG:cc Attach.



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SECTION
Gold Seal Center, 918 E. Divide Ave.
Bismarck, ND 58501-1947
701.328.5200 (fax)
www.ndhealth.gov

Construction and Environmental Disturbance Requirements

These represent the minimum requirements of the North Dakota Department of Health. They ensure that minimal environmental degradation occurs as a result of construction or related work which has the potential to affect the waters of the State of North Dakota. All projects will be designed and implemented to restrict the losses or disturbances of soil, vegetative cover, and pollutants (chemical or biological) from a site.

Soils

Prevent the erosion of exposed soil surfaces and trapping sediments being transported. Examples include, but are not restricted to, sediment dams or berms, diversion dikes, hay bales as erosion checks, riprap, mesh or burlap blankets to hold soil during construction, and immediately establishing vegetative cover on disturbed areas after construction is completed. Fragile and sensitive areas such as wetlands, riparian zones, delicate flora, or land resources will be protected against compaction, vegetation loss, and unnecessary damage.

Surface Waters

All construction which directly or indirectly impacts aquatic systems will be managed to minimize impacts. All attempts will be made to prevent the contamination of water at construction sites from fuel spillage, lubricants, and chemicals, by following safe storage and handling procedures. Stream bank and stream bed disturbances will be controlled to minimize and/or prevent silt movement, nutrient upsurges, plant dislocation, and any physical, chemical, or biological disruption. The use of pesticides or herbicides in or near these systems is forbidden without approval from this Department.

Fill Material

Any fill material placed below the high water mark must be free of top soils, decomposable materials, and persistent synthetic organic compounds (in toxic concentrations). This includes, but is not limited to, asphalt, tires, treated lumber, and construction debris. The Department may require testing of fill materials. All temporary fills must be removed. Debris and solid wastes will be removed from the site and the impacted areas restored as nearly as possible to the original condition.

100 NORTH BISMARCK EXPRESSWAY BISMARCK, NORTH DAKOTA 58501-5095 PHONE 701-328-6900 FAX 701-328-6952

April 18, 2012

Dallas Hager Project Engineer Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. 525 20th Avenue Southwest Minot, ND 58701

Dear Mr. Hager:

RE:

Lallie Substation ER

North Dakota 42, Ward

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department has reviewed this project for wildlife concerns.

The National Wetland Inventory indicates various wetlands within the proposed project area. We ask that steps be taken to protect any wetlands that cannot be avoided, above-ground appurtenances not be placed in wetland areas, and existing drainage patterns be maintained.

We do not believe this project will have any significant adverse effects on wildlife or wildlife habitat provided impacts to wetland areas are avoided or replaced in kind and disturbed areas are reclaimed to pre-project conditions.

Sincerely,

(for) Greg Link

Steve Ryke

Chief

Conservation & Communication Division

js

North Dakota Department of Transportation

Francis G. Ziegler, P.E. Director

Jack Dalrymple Governor

April 4, 2012

Dallas Hager Project Engineer Central Power Electric Cooperative, Inc. 525 20th Avenue Southwest Minot, ND 58701

ER APPROVAL FOR RELOCATION OF SUBSTATION, WARD COUNTY, MINOT, NORTH DAKOTA

We have reviewed your March 8, 2012, letter.

This project should have no adverse effect on the North Dakota Department of Transportation highways.

However, if because of this project any work needs to be done on highway right-of-way, appropriate permits and risk management documents will need to be obtained from the Department of Transportation District Engineer Wayde Swenson at 701-665-5100.

Plobert tode

ROBERT A. FODE, P.E., DIRECTOR - OFFICE OF PROJECT DEVELOPMENT

57/raf/is

: Wayde Swenson, Devils Lake District Engineer

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h this PUBLIC NOTICE hild is FEMA-3318-EM-ND (Flooding) FEMA-1981-DR-ND (Flooding) more py of erk of FEMA-1986-DR-ND (Severe Winter Storm)
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Agency (FEMA) hereby gives notice to the public of its intent to reimburse eligible applicants for eligible costs to repair and/or replace facilities damaged by flooding and winter storms beginning April 4, 2011, and continuing. This notice applies to the Public Assistance (PA) and Hazard Mitigation Grant Programs (HMGP) implemented under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency

Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 5121-5206. Under one emergency declaration and two major disaster declarations (FEMA-3318-EM-ND; FEMA-1981-DR-ND; and FEMA-1986-DR-ND) signed by the President on April 04, 2011, May 10, 2011, and May 20, 2011, and FeMA-1981-DR-ND; and FEMA-1981-DR-ND; and FEMA-1986-DR-ND; and FEMA-1986-DR-ND; and May 20, 2011, and FEMA-1986-DR-ND; and May 20, 2011, and FEMA-1986-DR-ND; and FEMA-1986-DR-ND; and May 20, 2011, a 2011, the following counties have been designated as adversely affected by the flooding and storms and eligible for Public Assistance: Barnes, Benson, Billings, Bottineau, Burke, Burleigh, Cass, Cavalier, Dickey, Divide, Dunn, Eddy, Emmons, Foster, Grand Forks, Grant, Griggs, Kidder, LaMoure, Logan, Mercer, McHenry, McIntosh, McKenzie, McLean, Morton, Mountrail, Nelson, Oliver, Pembina, Pierce, Ramsey, Ransom, Renville, Richland, Rolette, Sargent, Sheridan, Steele, Stutsman, Towner, Traill, Walsh, Ward, Wells, and Williams Counties and the portions of the Spirit Lake, Fort Berthold, Turtle Mountain, and Standing Rock Sioux Reservations that lie within these counties. Additionally, all counties and Tribes in North Dakota have been designated as eligible for HMGP. Additional counties may be designated for assistance at a later date.

This public notice concerns activities that may affect historic properties, activities that are located in or affect wetland areas or the 100-year floodplain, and critical actions within the 500-year floodplain. Such activities may adversely affect the historic properties, floodplains or wetlands, or may result in continuing vulnerability to flood

Presidential Executive Orders 11988 and 11990 require that all federal actions in or floodplains or wetlands be reviewed for opportunities to relocate, and be evaluated for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Where there is no opportunity to relocate, FEMA is required undertake a detailed review to determine what measures can be taken to minimize future damages. The public is invited to participate in the process of identifying alternatives and analyzing their

FEMA has determined that for certain types of facilities there are normally no alternatives to restoration in the floodplain/wetland. These are facilities that meet all of the following criteria: I) FEMA's estimate of the cost of repairs is less than 50% of the cost to replace the entire facility, and is less than \$100,000; 2) the facility is not located in a floodway; 3) the facility is not located in a floodway; 3) the facility has not sustained major structural damage in a previous Presidentially declared flooding disaster or emergency; and 4) the facility is not critical (e.g., the facility is not a hospital, generating plant, emergency operations center, or a facility that contains dangerous materials, etc.). FEMA intends to provide assistance for the restoration of these facilities to their pre-disaster. of these facilities to their pre-disaster condition, except that certain measures to

mitigate the effects of future disaster events may be included in the work. For example, a bridge or culvert restoration may include a larger waterway opening to decrease the risk of future washouts.

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For routine activities, this will be the only public notice provided. Other activities and those involving facilities that do not meet the four above criteria are required to undergo more detailed review, including study of alternate locations. Subsequent public notices regarding such projects will be published, if necessary, as more specific information becomes available.

In many cases an applicant may have started facility restoration before federal involvement. Even if the facility must undergo detailed review and analysis of alternate locations, FEMA will fund eligible restoration at the original location if the facility is functionally dependent on its floodplain location (e.g., bridges and flood control facilities), or the project facilitates an open space use, or the facility is an integral part of a larger network that is impractical or uneconomical to relocate, such as a road. In such cases, FEMA must also examine the possible effects of not restoring the facility, minimize flood-plain/wetland impacts, and determine both that an overriding public need for the facility clearly outweighs the Executive Order requirements to avoid the floodplain/wetland, and that the site is the only practicable alternative. The State of North Dakota and local officials will confirm to FEMA that proposed actions comply with all applicable state and local floodplain management and wetland protection

requirements.
FEMA also intends to provide HMGP funding to the State of North Dakota to mitigate future disaster damages. These projects may include construction of new holder construction of existing, undamaged facilities, relocation of facilities out of floodplains, demolition of structures, or other types of projects to mitigate future disaster damages. In the course of developing project proposals, subsequent public notices will be published, if necessary, as more specific information becomes available.

The National Historic Preservation Act requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties. Those actions or activities affecting buildings, structures, districts, objects 50 years or older, or that affect archeological sites or undisturbed ground will require further review to determine if the property is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (Register). If the property is determined to be eligible for the Register, and FEMA's undertaking will adversely affect it, FEMA will provide additional public notices. For historic properties not adversely affected by FEMA's undertaking, this will be the only public notice. As noted, this may be the only public notice

regarding the above-described actions under the PA and HMGP programs. Interested persons may obtain information about these actions or a specific project by writing to the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Joint Field Office, 600 South 2nd Street, Bismarck, ND 58504 or by calling (701) 221-8640. Comments should be sent in writing to Willie G. Nunn, Federal Coordinating Officer, at the above address within 15 days of the date of this

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