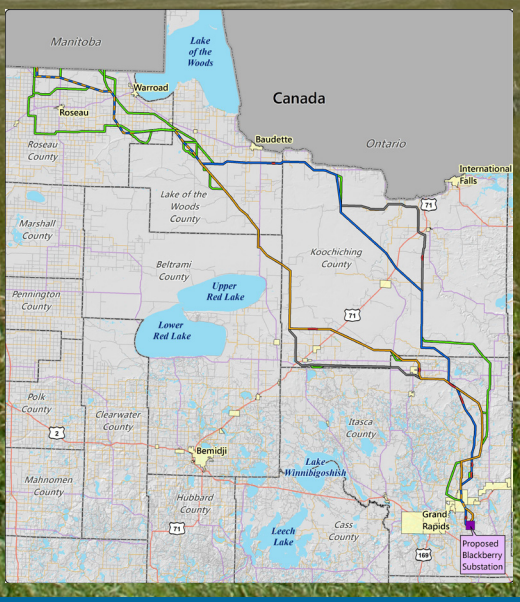
Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Volume II Appendices



DOE/EIS-0499
U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
Washington D.C.

E015/TL-14-21
Minnesota Department of Commerce
St. Paul, Minnesota

June 2015

Draft

Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement

Volume II: Appendices

U.S. Department of Energy
Office of Electricity Delivery
and Energy Reliability

Minnesota
Department of Commerce

Cooperating Agencies

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

June 2015

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Appendix A

Tribal Consultations

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

September 9, 2013

President Thomas Maulson
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambe
PO Box 67
603 Peace Pipe Rd.
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

RE: United States Department of Energy Early Tribal Outreach regarding Minnesota Power's Great Northern Transmission Line

Dear Honorable Leader,

The United States Department of Energy (the Department), in an effort to begin early government-to-government outreach and coordination with tribes that may be potentially affected by Minnesota Power's proposed Great Northern Transmission Line project, invites you to attend an upcoming outreach meeting scheduled for September 17, 2013 at the Sevens Clans Casino in Red Lake, Minnesota.

The Great Northern Transmission Line project is proposed by Minnesota Power to consist of two transmission lines: (1) a 500 kV transmission line from the Canadian border to Minnesota's Iron Range; and (2) a 345 kV double circuit transmission line from the Iron Range to near Duluth, Minnesota. While the Department is aware that Minnesota Power is currently moving forward with the routing, siting, and permitting process for the 500 kV line, it has not received an application requesting the issuance of a Presidential permit to allow the proposed project to cross the United States-Canadian international border. As such, the Department does not currently have a "federal undertaking" under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (36 CFR §800.16(y)), and is therefore not initiating formal Section 106 consultation activities (under 36 CFR §800.3) with any potential consulting party, including Tribes, at this time. Information about the proposed transmission line can be found at: www.mnpower.com.

Rather, the Department is exercising it authorities under Executive Order 13175 to coordinate early with Indian Tribes to foster true government-to-government relations with Indian tribes as early as possible in project development, and under Section 216(h) of the Federal Power Act to lead and coordinate interagency review and permitting efforts related to siting transmission line projects. As a part of this effort Department staff will be attending public open houses held by Minnesota Power at various locations throughout the proposed project area (see attached map provided to the Department by Minnesota Power). This will allow the Department to hear firsthand important input from tribes, landowners, stakeholders, and interested members of the public about the proposed project; information to be considered by Minnesota Power in the company's selection of routes to be considered for the state and Federal permitting processes.

The Department would more importantly like to use this authority and effort to invite you to come, meet and speak informally with our staff about your Tribe's thoughts or concerns about the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line project and the company's route selection process.

Department 216(h) Coordination Lead, Julie Ann Smith, will be in the proposed project area and will be available to meet with you on Tuesday, September 17, 2013, at the following location and time:

Seven Clans Casino
10200 Minnesota Hwy 89
Red Lake, MN 56671
12 noon – 3pm

Please do not hesitate to contact, Julie Ann Smith, at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov or 202-586-7668 should you have any questions about this early Tribal outreach and coordination effort for the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line project.

We look forward to meeting with you soon on this matter.

Respectfully,

Lamont Jackson
Tribal Liaison
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Efficiency

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

A.T. Rusty Stafne
Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation
501 Medicine Bear Road
PO Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

Dear Chairperson Stafne:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) is responding to Minnesota Power's application for a Presidential permit for the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) Project on April 15, 2014. Executive Order (E.O.) 10485, as amended by E.O.12038, requires that a Presidential permit be issued by DOE before electric transmission facilities may be constructed, operated, maintained, or connected at the U.S. international border. The potential issuance of a Presidential permit for the proposed GNTL Project would authorize Minnesota Power to construct an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV alternating current (AC) transmission line across the U.S.-Canadian border.

The proposed GNTL Project would cross the international border between the Province of Manitoba and the State of Minnesota, northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and would terminate at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The proposed transmission line would be located on all new right-of-way that would be approximately 200-feet wide. Steel lattice tower structure types and configurations would be considered for the proposed GNTL Project with approximately 4 to 5 structures per mile of transmission line with towers spaced roughly 1,000 to 1,450 feet apart, with shorter or longer spans as necessary. The type of structure in any given section of transmission line would be dependent on land type, land

use, and potential effect on the surrounding landscape, and would typically range in height from approximately 100 feet above ground to approximately 150 feet above ground. The proposed GNTL Project also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

Minnesota Power has proposed two alternative routes, with one route segment variation identified for each alternative route, which they identify as the "Blue Route," the "Orange Route," the "Segment C2," and the "Segment J2," respectively. The enclosed map shows the alternative routes, route segments, and the locations of nearby tribal lands. As proposed, neither route alternatives nor alternative route segments would cross tribal reservation lands; however, each route could have the potential to effect cultural resources of significance to your tribe.

The Minnesota Power application, including associated maps and drawings, can be viewed and downloaded in its entirety from the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability program Web site at: http://energy.gov/oe/downloads/application-presidential-permit-oe-docket-no-pp-398-great-northern-transmission-line. Scroll down to docket number PP-398 on this page to access this information. Information specific to cultural resources that was provided to the Department as part of the Minnesota Power application can be found in "Appendix G – Cultural Resource Report" of the application.

The Department is preparing the GNTL EIS in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), and the DOE NEPA implementing regulations (10 CFR Part 1021), with the Army Corps of Engineers - St. Paul District (Department of the Defense), as cooperating agency. The EIS will be a joint Federal-State document with Minnesota Department of Commerce acting as state co-lead.

The EIS will describe all potential impacts of the proposed project on the environment and will identify possible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate those impacts. The EIS will describe the potentially affected environment and the impacts that could result to:

- Land Use and Recreation
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- Water Use and Water Quality
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- Socioeconomics
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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

The Department would also like to extend an invitation to you to meet with DOE senior staff in person on two dates in the month of July in order to formally initiate government-to-government consultations between the Department and your tribe regarding this federal undertaking. We have made the following arrangements for two tribal-only consultation meetings within the proposed GNTL Project area expressly for this purpose:

- Tuesday, July 15, 2014; Seven Clans Red Lake Casino, 10200 Hwy. 89, Red Lake, MN, 56671; 12:00 pm;
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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Darrell "Curley" Youpee
Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation
501 Medicine Bear Road
PO Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

Dear Mr. Youpee:

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Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Edith Leoso
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the Bad Ri
PO Box 39
Odanah, WI 54861

Dear Ms. Leoso:

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Michael Wiggins, Jr.
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa Indians of the Bad Ri
Chief Blackird Center, 72682 Maple Street
Odanah, WI 54861

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Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Bill Latady
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians
1500 Bois Forte Road
Tower, MN 55790

Dear Mr. Latady:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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approximately 100 feet above ground to approximately 150 feet above ground. The proposed GNTL Project also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Kevin Leecy
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa Indians
5344 Lakeshore Drive
PO Box 16
Nett Lake, MN 55772

Dear Chairperson Leecy:

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Dave Larson
Bois Forte Tribal Government-Nett Lake
2364 Indian Service Road 9
Nett Lake, MN 55772

Dear Mr. Larson:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Kevin Keckler
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
2001 N. Main Street
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

Dear Chairperson Keckler:

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Steve Vance
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
PO Box 590
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

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- Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation, including protected Critical Habitat
- Socioeconomics
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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

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Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Brandon Sazue, Sr.
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe of the Crow Creek Reservation
100 Drifting Goose Street
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

Dear Chairperson Sazue, Sr.:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Anthony Reider
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
603 West Broad Avenue
Flandreau, SD 57028

Dear President Reider:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

James B. Weston
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
PO Box 285
Flandreau, SD 57028

Dear Mr. Weston:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Sean Copeland
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Dear Mr. Copeland:

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June 27, 2014

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LeRoy Defoe
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Karen Diver
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
Found du Lac Center,
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

Dear Chairperson Diver:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Melissa Cook
Forest County Potawatomi Community WI
8130 Mishkoswen Drive, PO Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520

Dear Ms. Cook:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Harold Frank
Forest County Potawatomi Community WI
5416 Everybody's Road
Crandon, WI 54520

Dear Chairperson Frank:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Mary Ann Gagnon
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
PO BOX 428
Grand Portage, MN 55605

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Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Kenneth Meshigaud
Hannahville Indian Community Michigan
N14911 Hannahville B1 Rd.
Wilson, MI 49896

Dear Chairperson Meshigaud:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Warren Schwartz Jr.
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community Michigan
16429 Beartown Road
Baraga, MI 49908

Dear President Schwartz Jr.:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Michael "Mic" Isham
Lac Courte Orilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
13394 West Trepania Road
Building #1
Hayward, WI 13394

Dear Chairman Isham:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Thomas Maulson
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambe
418 Little Pines Road
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

Dear President Maulson:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Melinda Young
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambe
PO Box 67
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

Dear Ms. Young:

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

James Williams Jr.
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians Michigan
East Pow Wow Trail Road
PO Box 249
Watersmeet, MI 49969

Dear Chairperson Williams Jr.:

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Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Gina Lemon
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
115 6th Street NW
Suite E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Ms. Lemon:

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Carrie Jones
Leech Lake Band of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe MN
115 6th Street NW
Suite E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Chairwoman Jones:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Robbie M. Howe-Bebeau
Leech Lake Reservation
6530 US Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Representative Howe-Bebeau:

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June 27, 2014

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Arthur Rose
Leech Lake Reservation
6530 US Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Enclosed:
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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Steve White
Leech Lake Reservation
6530 US Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear Representative White:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Eugene Whitebird
Leech Lake Reservation
6530 US Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Michael Jandreau
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation
187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

Dear Chairperson Jandreau:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Grace Goldtooth-Campos
Lower Sioux Indian Community of Minnesota
32469 County Highway 2
Morton, MN 56270

Dear Ms. Goldtooth-Campos:

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We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Denny Prescott
Lower Sioux Indian Community of Minnesota
39527 Res. Highway 1
PO Box 308
Morton, MN 56270

Dear President Prescott:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Natalie Weyaus
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe MN
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Dear Ms. Weyaus:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Melanie Benjamin
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe MN
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

Dear Chief Executive Benjamin:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Norman Deschampe
Minnesota Chippewa Tribe MN
15542 State 371 NW
PO Box 217
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Dear President Deschampe:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Wilmer Mesteth
Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Pine Ridge Reservation
PO Box 419
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

Dear Mr. Mesteth:

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

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Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Bryan Brewer
Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Pine Ridge Reservation
Highway 18 Main Street
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

Dear President Brewer:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Audrey Bennett, NAGPRA
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55809

Dear Ms. Bennett:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Whitney White
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

Dear Ms. White:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

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Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Larry Balber
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians WI
88385 Pike Road Highway 13
Bayfield, WI 54814

Dear Mr. Balber:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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The proposed GNTL Project would cross the international border between the Province of Manitoba and the State of Minnesota, northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and would terminate at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The proposed transmission line would be located on all new right-of-way that would be approximately 200-feet wide. Steel lattice tower structure types and configurations would be considered for the proposed GNTL Project with approximately 4 to 5 structures per mile of transmission line with towers spaced roughly 1,000 to 1,450 feet apart, with shorter or longer spans as necessary. The type of structure in any given section of transmission line would be dependent on land type, land use, and potential effect on the surrounding landscape, and would typically range in height from

approximately 100 feet above ground to approximately 150 feet above ground. The proposed GNTL Project also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Rosemary Soulier
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians WI
88385 Pike Road Highway 13
Bayfield, WI 54814

Dear Chairperson Soulier:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Kathryn Beauleiu
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota
PO Box 297
Red Lake, MN 56671

Dear Ms. Beauleiu:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Floyd Jourdain
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota
Highway 1 East, 24200 Council St
Red Lake, MN 56671

Dear Chairman Jourdain:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Cyril Scott
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation
11 Legion Avenue
Rosebud, SD 57570

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We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Russell Eagle Bear
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation
PO Box 809
Rosebud, SD 57470

Dear Mr. Eagle Bear:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Richard Thomas
Santee Sioux of Nebraska
108 Spirit Avenue West
Niobrara, NE 68760

Dear Mr. Thomas:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Roger Trudell
Santee Sioux of Nebraska
108 Spirit Ave West
Niobrara, NE 68760

Dear Chairperson Trudell:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Charles Vig
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community MN
2330 Sioux Trail NW
Prior Lake, MN 55372

Dear Chairman Vig:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Diane Desrosier
Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation
PO Box 907
Sisseton, SD 57262

Dear Ms. Desrosier:

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Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Robert Shepherd
Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation
100 Veterans Memorial Drive
Agency Village, SD 57262

Dear Chairperson Shepherd:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Chris McGeshick
Sokaogon Chippewa Community WI
3051 Sand Lake Rd.
Crandon, WI 54520

Dear Chairperson McGeshick:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Roger Yankton, Sr.
Spirit Lake Tribe North Dakota
816 3rd Avenue North
Fort Totten, ND 58335

Dear Chairperson Yankton, Sr.:

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Darrell Smith
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GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Waste'Win Young
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
PO Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

Dear Mr. Young:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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The proposed GNTL Project would cross the international border between the Province of Manitoba and the State of Minnesota, northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and would terminate at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The proposed transmission line would be located on all new right-of-way that would be approximately 200-feet wide. Steel lattice tower structure types and configurations would be considered for the proposed GNTL Project with approximately 4 to 5 structures per mile of transmission line with towers spaced roughly 1,000 to 1,450 feet apart, with shorter or longer spans as necessary. The type of structure in any given section of transmission line would be dependent on land type, land use, and potential effect on the surrounding landscape, and would typically range in height from

approximately 100 feet above ground to approximately 150 feet above ground. The proposed GNTL Project also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

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DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential

permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

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Charles Murphy
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
North Standing Rock Avenue, Building 1
Fort Yates, ND 58538

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Elgin Crows Breast
Mandan, Hidatso & Arikara Nation
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763

Dear Mr. Crows Breast:

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RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Tex Hall
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763

Dear Chairperson Hall:

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PO Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316

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We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Merle St. Clair
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
PO Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316

Dear Chairperson St. Clair:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) is responding to Minnesota Power's application for a Presidential permit for the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) Project on April 15, 2014. Executive Order (E.O.) 10485, as amended by E.O.12038, requires that a Presidential permit be issued by DOE before electric transmission facilities may be constructed, operated, maintained, or connected at the U.S. international border. The potential issuance of a Presidential permit for the proposed GNTL Project would authorize Minnesota Power to construct an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV alternating current (AC) transmission line across the U.S.-Canadian border.

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Kevin Jensvold
Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota
5738 Highway 67 East
PO Box 147
Granite Falls, MN 56241

Dear Chairperson Jensvold:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Marlow LaBatte
Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota
PO Box 147
Granite Falls, MN 56241

Dear Mr./Ms. LaBatte:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Dennis Gill
Wahpekute Band of Dakota
3322 Gill Road
Waubay, SD 57501

Dear Dennis Gill:

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June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Renee Lampi
White Earth Band of MN Chippewa Tribe MN
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

Dear Ms. Lampi:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Erma Vizenor
White Earth Band of MN Chippewa Tribe MN
5500 Eagle View Road
White Earth, MN 56591

Dear Chairperson Vizenor:

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Robert Flying Hawk
Yankton Sioux Tribe
P.O. Box 1153
Wagner, SD 57380

Dear Chairperson Flying Hawk:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Thurman Cournoyer
Yankton Sioux Tribe
800 Main Avenue SW
Wagner, SD 57380

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Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

Dear Sir or Madam,

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE or the Department) is initiating the consultation process on a proposed undertaking to determine any potential adverse effects on Tribal properties of traditional religious and cultural significance. DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. As a part of its NEPA analysis, DOE is conducting public scoping for this proposed project. A copy of the Department's Notice of Intent for the *Great Northern Transmission Line Project EIS* (79 FR 36493; July 27, 2014) (GNTL EIS) containing information specific to the public scoping meetings is included with this letter.

DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) is responding to Minnesota Power's application for a Presidential permit for the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) Project on April 15, 2014. Executive Order (E.O.) 10485, as amended by E.O.12038, requires that a Presidential permit be issued by DOE before electric transmission facilities may be constructed, operated, maintained, or connected at the U.S. international border. The potential issuance of a Presidential permit for the proposed GNTL Project would authorize Minnesota Power to construct an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV alternating current (AC) transmission line across the U.S.-Canadian border.

The proposed GNTL Project would cross the international border between the Province of Manitoba and the State of Minnesota, northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and would terminate at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. The proposed transmission line would be located on all new right-of-way that would be approximately 200-feet wide. Steel lattice tower structure types and configurations would be considered for the proposed GNTL Project with approximately 4 to 5 structures per mile of transmission line with towers spaced roughly 1,000 to 1,450 feet apart, with shorter or longer spans as necessary. The type of structure in any given section of transmission line would be dependent on land type, land use, and potential effect on the surrounding landscape, and would typically range in height from approximately 100 feet above ground to approximately 150 feet above ground. The proposed GNTL Project also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series

Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

Minnesota Power has proposed two alternative routes, with one route segment variation identified for each alternative route, which they identify as the "Blue Route," the "Orange Route," the "Segment C2," and the "Segment J2," respectively. The enclosed map shows the alternative routes, route segments, and the locations of nearby tribal lands. As proposed, neither route alternatives nor alternative route segments would cross tribal reservation lands; however, each route could have the potential to effect cultural resources of significance to your tribe.

The Minnesota Power application, including associated maps and drawings, can be viewed and downloaded in its entirety from the DOE Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability program Web site at: http://energy.gov/oe/downloads/application-presidential-permit-oe-docket-no-pp-398-great-northern-transmission-line. Scroll down to docket number PP-398 on this page to access this information. Information specific to cultural resources that was provided to the Department as part of the Minnesota Power application can be found in "Appendix G – Cultural Resource Report" of the application.

The Department is preparing the GNTL EIS in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) NEPA regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500 through 1508), and the DOE NEPA implementing regulations (10 CFR Part 1021), with the Army Corps of Engineers - St. Paul District (Department of the Defense), as cooperating agency. The EIS will be a joint Federal-State document with Minnesota Department of Commerce acting as state co-lead.

The EIS will describe all potential impacts of the proposed project on the environment and will identify possible mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate those impacts. The EIS will describe the potentially affected environment and the impacts that could result to:

- Land Use and Recreation
- Visual Resources
- Water Use and Water Quality
- Surface Water Features including Rivers, Floodplains, and Wetlands
- Fish, Wildlife, and Vegetation, including protected Critical Habitat
- Socioeconomics
- Historic and Cultural Resources
- Soils and Mineral Resources
- Human Health and Safety
- Air Quality
- Construction-related Impacts, including Road Clearing, Traffic, and Noise

DOE has also determined that its response to Minnesota Power's application for the Presidential permit is a "federal undertaking" under the Section 106 of the NHPA, and is inviting you to participate as a consulting party in this process by providing information to aid in the preparation of the EIS and to meet DOE's obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic

Preservation Act, as well as the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

The Department would also like to extend an invitation to you to meet with DOE senior staff in person on two dates in the month of July in order to formally initiate government-to-government consultations between the Department and your tribe regarding this federal undertaking. We have made the following arrangements for two tribal-only consultation meetings within the proposed GNTL Project area expressly for this purpose:

- Tuesday, July 15, 2014; Seven Clans Red Lake Casino, 10200 Hwy. 89, Red Lake, MN, 56671; 12:00 pm;
- Tuesday, July 22, 2014; White Oak Inn and Suites, 201 4th Avenue NW, Deer River, MN, 56636; 12:00 pm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

June 27, 2014

RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project Environmental Impact Statement (DOE/EIS-0499) – Tribal Consultation

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We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would welcome information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any traditional cultural properties or other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in the proposed project area. Please respond within 30 days of receipt of this letter to ensure DOE can promptly begin to address your comments or concerns and to facilitate the consultation process.

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- Tuesday, July 22, 2014; White Oak Inn and Suites, 201 4th Avenue NW, Deer River, MN, 56636; 12:00 pm.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you, or your staff, have any questions or concerns about the project, the EIS, or the above proposed tribal consultation meetings. The primary point of contact for this effort is me, Julie Ann Smith, Federal Document Manager. I may be reached at 202-586-7668, or by email at juliea.smith@hq.doe.gov. We look forward to consulting with you in this review effort.

Sincerely,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Federal Document Manager
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability

Enclosed:
GNTL Notice of Intent
GNTL Alternatives Map with Tribal lands

From: Edith Leoso [mailto:THPO@badriver-nsn.gov]
Sent: Friday, July 11, 2014 05:18 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Smith, Julie A (OE)
Subject: RE: Great Northern Transmission Line Project, Tribal Consultation meetings reminder and update

Dear Ms. Smith,

Thank-you for the invitation to consult. I will be in attendance at the above referenced meeting and look forward to assisting your agency in their efforts to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If a meeting agenda is available, please forward it at your convenience.

Miigwech (Thank-you),

Edith Leoso, THPO
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of the Chippewa

From: Smith, Julie A (OE) [mailto:JulieA.Smith@hq.doe.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2014 5:55 PM
Cc: Jackson, Lamont
Subject: Great Northern Transmission Line Project, Tribal Consultation meetings reminder and update
Importance: High

Dear Honorable Leader:

This email is in follow up to our June 27, 2014, letter inviting you and your tribe to formally consult with DOE under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding Minnesota Power's application to DOE for a Presidential permit, which would authorize Minnesota Power to construct an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV alternating current (AC) transmission line between the U.S.-Canadian border. DOE's Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability (OE) received Minnesota Power's application for the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) Project on April 15, 2014.

I and other DOE senior staff will be available on two dates this month to meet with you

in person in order to formally initiate government-to-government consultations regarding this federal undertaking under Section 106 of the NHPA. The Department has made arrangements for two tribal-only consultation meetings within the proposed GNTL Project area expressly for this purpose at the following:

- Tuesday, July 15, 2014; Seven Clans Red Lake Casino, 10200 Hwy. 89, Red Lake, MN, 56671; 12:00 pm.
- Tuesday, July 22, 2014; White Oak Inn and Suites, 201 4th Avenue NW, Deer River, MN, 56636; 12:00 pm.

We would very much like to hear from you about any concerns or issues you may have regarding the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project, and any information you could share with us regarding possible cultural resource concerns. Of particular interest would be mitigation measures you would propose for construction projects that could affect cultural properties that you consider important. If available, we would very much welcome your participation in the above scheduled meeting locations. *Minnesota Power is willing to provide expense reimbursement for these Section 106 Tribal consultation meetings, and the necessary reimbursement forms will be provided at the meetings for these purpose*s.

I would also like to inform you ahead of these consultation meetings of the DOE's intention to have a contractor staff member present at the tribal consultation meetings only for purposes of taking meeting notes for our record. As a non-sovereign entity, this scribe would not participate in any way in the government-to-government consultation discussion. If you are uncomfortable or do not wish to have this assisting staff present for any reason, please let me know and alternative arrangements will be made for note-taking.

I very much look forward to meeting you in the next couple of weeks in northern Minnesota.

Sincerely – Julie Ann

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Electricity Policy Analyst
National Electricity Delivery Division (OE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20590
Office: 202-586-7668
BB: 240-252-0332

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On July 17, 2014 at 6:57 PM "Smith, Julie A (OE)" <JulieA.Smith@hq.doe.gov> wrote:

Good day, Mr. Fisher. I am so pleased that you are interested in and willing to participate in our Section 106 Tribal consultation on the Great Northern project. Our next consultation meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 22nd at 12 (noon) at White Oak Inn and Suites, 201 4th Avenue NW, Deer River, MN, 56636. Minnesota Power has offered to reimburse your travel expenses and the necessary paperwork will be provided at the meeting. Please let me know if you need and further information. I am looking forward to our conversation and learning about your Tribal culture, history, and traditional resources. Thank you for your help in this matter - Julie

From: Conrad Fisher [mailto:conrad.fisher@cheyennenation.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 06:32 PM Eastern Standard Time
To: Smith, Julie A (OE)
Subject: Presidential Permit on Minnesota Transmission line

Dear Ms. Smith:
The Northern Cheyenne Tribe of Montana is interested in participation in the consultation process regarding the Presidential Permit of a transmission line in Minnesota. We are originally from the Minnesota Wisconsin area and definitely have ancestry lands there. If you could email me the next consultation I would really appreciate it. My phone number is 406-477-4839. Thank you.

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From: Dianne Desrosiers [mailto:DianneD@SWO-NSN.GOV]
Sent: Thursday, July 17, 2014 5:41 PM
To: Smith, Julie A (OE)
Subject: Great Northern Trans Project.

Good afternoon,

I am the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer for the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate in NE South Dakota. We are interested in the consultation meeting which is taking place in Deer River Mn. I am planning to send 2 of my staff to this important meeting. The Transmission line route encompasses areas which are of importance to the Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate as these are, our aboriginal lands. My staff will be driving up on Monday and spending the night to attend the meeting on Tuesday as it is 550 miles. Will travel reimbursements be made available? Just would like to know in advance. We will plan to be in on Monday evening. Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Dianne Desrosiers
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate
P.O. Box 907
Sisseton, SD 57262
(605) 698-3584 office

"Every part of this Earth is sacred to my people. We are part of the earth and it is part of us".-Chief Seattle,1854

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From: Terence Clouthier
Sent: Monday, July 21, 2014 8:39 AM
To: 'julieasmith@hq.doe.gov'
Cc: Waste'Win Young (wyoung@standingrock.org)
Subject: Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Good Morning Julie,

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Tribal Historic Preservation Office would like to consult with your agency on this project. Unfortunately, our office is unable to attend the meeting on July 22, 2014 due to previous commitments however we would like any notes that are taken for this meeting including any discussions for addressing tribal concerns for sites of tribal significance and any recommendations made.
Our office can be reached at (701) 854-2120 or emailed at Waste'Win Young (wyoung@standingrock.org) and Terry Clouthier (tclouthier@standingrock.org).

We look forward to consulting with your agency on this project.

Thank you for considering our traditional and sacred sites in your agency decision making process.

Sincerely,
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Terry Clouthier
Tribal Archaeologist

Message scanned by the Symantec Email Security service. If you suspect that this email is actually spam, please send it as an ATTACHMENT to spamsample@messagelabs.com

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

A.T. Rusty Stafne
Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation
501 Medicine Bear Road
PO Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Stafne,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

As you are aware from DOE's tribal government-to-government consultation letters for the proposed GNTL project dated June 27, 2014, and November 26, 2014, Minnesota Power applied to DOE for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV AC transmission line between the Minnesota - Manitoba border crossing northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and terminating at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Minnesota Power's proposal also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the

undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Darrell "Curley" Youpee
Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation
501 Medicine Bear Road
PO Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Darrell "Curley" Youpee,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Edith Leoso
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa
1 Maple Lane
PO Box 39
Odanah, WI 54861

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Edith Leoso,

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As you are aware from DOE's tribal government-to-government consultation letters for the proposed GNTL project dated June 27, 2014, and November 26, 2014, Minnesota Power applied to DOE for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV AC transmission line between the Minnesota - Manitoba border crossing northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and terminating at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Minnesota Power's proposal also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the

undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Mike Wiggins, Jr.
Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa
1 Maple Lane
PO Box 39
Odanah, WI 54861

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear ChairmanWiggins, Jr.,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Bad River Band of the Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

William Latady
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
1500 Bois Forte Road
Tower, MN 55790

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Latady,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Kevin Leecy
Bois Forte Band of Chippewa
PO Box 16
Nett Lake, MN 55772

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Leecy,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Bois Forte Band of Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Dave Larson
Bois Forte Tribal Government-Nett Lake
2364 Indian Service Road 9
Nett Lake, MN 55772

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Larson,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Bois Forte Tribal Government-Nett Lake is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Harold Frazier
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
PO Box 590
2001 Main Street
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Frazier,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Steven Vance
Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe
PO Box 590
Eagle Butte, SD 57625

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Vance,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Roxanne Sazue
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
PO Box 50
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairwoman Sazue,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Darrell Zephier
Crow Creek Sioux Tribe
PO Box 50
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Zephier,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Crow Creek Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Energy Reliability
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Anthony Rider
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
PO Box 283
603 W. Broad Avenue
Flandreau, SD 57028

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Rider,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Sam Allen, Sr.
Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota
PO Box 285
Flandreau, SD 57028

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Allen, Sr.,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe of South Dakota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Julie A Smith

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Principal NEPA Document Manager
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Sean Copeland
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Copeland,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Leah Savage
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Savage,

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Karen Diver
Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairwoman Diver,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Melissa Cook
Forest County Potawatomi Community WI
PO Box 340
8130 Mishkoswen Drive
Crandon, WI 54520

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Cook,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Forest County Potawatomi Community WI is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the

undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Harold Frank
Forest County Potawatomi Community WI
PO Box 340
Crandon, WI 54520

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Frank,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Forest County Potawatomi Community WI is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Norman W. Deschampe
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
PO Box 428
Grand Portage, WI 55605

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Deschampe,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Mary Ann Gagnon
Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa
PO Box 428
Grand Portage, MN 55605

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Gagnon,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Grand Portage Band of Lake Superior Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Kenneth Meshiguad
Hannahville Indian Community Michigan
N14911 Hannahville B1 Rd.
Wilson, MI 49896

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Meshiguad,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Hannahville Indian Community Michigan is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Donald Shalifoe, Sr.
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Michigan
16429 Beartown Road
Baraga, MI 49908

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Shalifoe, Sr.,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Michigan is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Gary Loonsfoot, Jr.
Keweenaw Bay Indian Community - Michigan
16429 Beartown Road
Baraga, MI 49908

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO/Director Loonsfoot, Jr. ,

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Michael Isham, Jr.
Lac Courte Orilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
13394 W. Prapania Rd.
Hayward, WI 54843

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Isham, Jr.,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lac Courte Orilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Jerry Smith
Lac Courte Orilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin
13394 W. Prapania Rd.
Hayward, WI 54843

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Smith,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lac Courte Orilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Julie A Smith

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Thomas Maulson
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambe
PO Box 67
603 Peace Pipe Rd.
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Maulson,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Julie A Smith

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Melinda Young
Lac du Flambeau Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of the Lac du Flambe
PO Box 67
603 Peace Pipe Rd.
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the

undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

James Williams Jr.
Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians - Michigan
PO Box 249 East Pow Wow Trail Road
Watersmeet, MI 49969

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairperson Williams Jr.,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians - Michigan is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Amanda Burnette
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
115 6th Street NW
Suite E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Burnette,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Carrie Jones
Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe
115 6th Street NW
Suite E
Cass Lake, MN 56633

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairwoman Jones,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Michael Jandreau
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation
PO Box 187, Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Jandreau,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Clair Green
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation
PO Box 187, Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Green,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Scott Jones
Lower Brule Sioux Tribe of the Lower Brule Reservation
PO Box 187, Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Grace Goldtooth-Campos
Lower Sioux Indian Community - Minnesota
32469 County Highway 2
Morton, MN 56270

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Goldtooth-Campos,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lower Sioux Indian Community - Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Denny Prescott
Lower Sioux Indian Community - Minnesota
39527 Res. Highway 1
PO Box 308
Morton, MN 56270

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Prescott,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Lower Sioux Indian Community - Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Natalie Weyaus
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe - Minnesota
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Weyaus,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe - Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Melanie Benjamin
Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe - Minnesota
43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chief Executive Benjamin,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe – Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Dean Goggles
Northern Arapaho Tribe
P.O. Box 396
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Goggles,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Northern Arapaho Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Julie A Smith

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Darlene Conrad
Northern Arapaho Tribe
P.O. Box 396
Ft. Washakie, WY 82514

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Conrad,

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

James Walksalong
Northern Cheyenne Tribe
P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Walksalong,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Northern Cheyenne Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Mike CatchesEnemy
Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Pine Ridge Reservation
PO Box 419
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO CatchesEnemy ,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Pine Ridge Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Bryan V. Brewer
Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Pine Ridge Reservation
PO Box 2070
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Brewer,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Oglala Sioux Tribal Council of the Pine Ridge Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Audrey Bennett (NAGPRA)
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Bennett,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

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- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Whitney White
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. White,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Ronald Johnson
Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota
5636 Sturgeon Lake Road
Welch, MN 55089

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Johnson,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Prairie Island Indian Community in the State of Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Larry Balber
Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians - Wisconsin
88385 Pike Road, Highway 13
Bayfield, WI 54814

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Balber,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Red Cliff Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians - Wisconsin is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Kade Ferris
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota
PO Box 297
Red Lake, MN 56671

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Kade Ferris,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Kathryn Beauleiu (NAGPRA)
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota
PO Box 297
Red Lake, MN 56671

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Beauleiu,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
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U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Darrell G. Seki, Sr.
Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota
PO Box 550
Red Lake, MN 56671

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Seki, Sr.,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Cyril Scott
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation
PO Box 430
11 Legion Ave
Rosebud, SD 57570

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear President Scott,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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Enclosed:

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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Russell Eagle Bear
Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation
PO Box 809
Rosebud, SD 57570

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Eagle Bear,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Rosebud Sioux Tribe of the Rosebud Indian Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Richard Thomas
Santee Sioux of Nebraska
108 Spirit Lake Ave West
Niobrara, NE 68760

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Thomas,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Santee Sioux of Nebraska is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Roger Trudell
Santee Sioux of Nebraska
425 Frazier Ave N. Suite 2
Niobrara, NE 68760

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Trudell,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Santee Sioux of Nebraska is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Charles R. Vig
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community - Minnesota
2330 Sioux Trail NW
Prior Lake, MN 55372

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Vig,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community - Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Energy Reliability
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Leonard Wabasha
Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community MN
2330 Sioux Trail NW
Prior Lake, MN 55372

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Wabasha,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community MN is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Diane Desrosier
Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation
PO Box 907
205 Oak St. E. Suite 121
Sisseton, SD 57262

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Desrosier,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
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Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Robert Shepherd
Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation
PO Box 509
100 Veterans Memorial Drive
Agency Village, SD 57262

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Shepherd,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Sisseton- Wahpeton Oyate of the Lake Traverse Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the

undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Chris McGeshick
Sokaogon Chippewa Community - Wisconsin
3051 Sand Lake Rd.
Crandon, WI 54520

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman McGeshick,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Sokaogon Chippewa Community - Wisconsin is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Myra Pearson
Spirit Lake Tribe North Dakota
PO Box 359
Fort Totten, ND 58335

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairperson Pearson,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Spirit Lake Tribe North Dakota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Darrell Smith
Spirit Lake Tribe North Dakota
PO Box 475
816 3rd ave North
Fort Totten, ND 58335

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Smith,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Spirit Lake Tribe North Dakota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Waste'Win Young
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
PO Box D
Fort Yates, ND 0

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Young,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Dave Archambault ll
Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
PO Box D
Fort Yates, ND 58538

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Archambault ll,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Elgin Crows Breast
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Crows Breast,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Mark Fox
Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation
404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND 58763

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Fox,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Archie Gronvold
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
PO Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Gronvold,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
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Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Richard McCloud
Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa
PO Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman McCloud,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Kevin Jensvold
Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota
PO Box 147
5722 Travers Lane
Granite Falls, MN 56241

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Jensvold,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Marlow LaBatte
Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota
PO Box 147
5722 Travers Lane
Granite Falls, MN 56241

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO LaBatte,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Upper Sioux Community of Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
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U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Dennis Gill
Wahpekute Band of Dakota
3322 Gill Road
Waubay, SD 57501

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Mr. Gill,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Wahpekute Band of Dakota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

DOE documented a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the *Federal Register* on June 27, 2014 (79 FR 36493), with an open public scoping period which ended on August 15, 2014. As a part of its scoping efforts, DOE held eight NEPA public scoping meetings from July 16 – July 24, 2014 (*see enclosed GNTL Regional Map)*. For more information on DOE's NEPA review and preparation of the EIS, please visit the DOE GNTL EIS website at http://www.GreatNorthernEIS.org. The GNTL Presidential permit application (including an initial cultural resources study), NOI and the *Great Northern Transmission Line Scoping Summary Report* (November 2014), can be viewed on this website. Future information from the DOE, relevant to the Section 106 consultation (once underway), will also be posted to this website.

If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Cayla Olson
White Earth Band of MN Chippewa Tribe MN
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Olson,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

As you are aware from DOE's tribal government-to-government consultation letters for the proposed GNTL project dated June 27, 2014, and November 26, 2014, Minnesota Power applied to DOE for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV AC transmission line between the Minnesota - Manitoba border crossing northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and terminating at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Minnesota Power's proposal also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you would like to participate in the Section 106 consultation process, please confirm within 30 calendar days of the date of this letter, by sending a letter accepting this invitation to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed GNTL project that identifies a primary point of contact for your Tribe, either as an attachment to an email at Juliea.Smith@hq.doe.gov, or by postal mail to 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C., 20585. Please also include information for a primary point of contact for your organization (as applicable) in your acceptance letter. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Erma Vizenor
White Earth Band of MN Chippewa Tribe MN
PO Box 418
White Earth, MN 56591

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairwoman Vizenor,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the White Earth Band of Minnesota Chippewa Tribe Minnesota is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

The DOE is meeting its obligations under the NHPA concurrently with the preparation of an environmental impact statement (EIS) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). Minnesota Power is also seeking authorizations from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – St. Paul District (USACE), a cooperating agency to DOE in the preparation of the above mentioned EIS. DOE is also acting as the lead federal agency for purposes of compliance with Section 106 for the NEPA cooperating agencies (per 36 CFR § 800.2(a)(2)).

As you are aware from DOE's tribal government-to-government consultation letters for the proposed GNTL project dated June 27, 2014, and November 26, 2014, Minnesota Power applied to DOE for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an approximately 220-mile, overhead, single-circuit 500 kV AC transmission line between the Minnesota - Manitoba border crossing northwest of Roseau, Minnesota, and terminating at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, Minnesota. Minnesota Power's proposal also includes associated substation facilities and transmission system modifications at the Blackberry Substation site, and construction of a new 500 kV Series Compensation Station (a structure which will house the 500 kV series capacitor banks necessary for reliable operation and performance of the proposed transmission line). A new Blackberry 500 kV Substation would be required for the proposed Project and would be constructed adjacent to and east of the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation.

Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie A Smith

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Robert Flying Hawk
Yankton Sioux Tribe
PO Box 1153
Wagner, SD 57380

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Chairman Flying Hawk,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Yankton Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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Under Section 106, the DOE must identify and consider the potential effects of its actions on historic properties through a collaborative framework (consultation) to identify historic properties potentially affected by the proposed project, assess its effects, and seek ways to avoid, minimize or mitigate any adverse effects to historic properties (36 CFR §800.1(a)). In addition to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), federally recognized Indian tribes, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), Section 106 consulting parties may include certain individuals and organizations with a demonstrated interest in the undertaking due to the nature of their legal or economic relation to the undertaking or affected properties, or their concern with the undertaking's effects on historic properties (36 CFR §800.2).

The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)

Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

January 15, 2015

Lana Gravatt
Yankton Sioux Tribe
Box 1153/ 800 Main Avenue SW
Wagner, SD 57380

SUBJECT: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear THPO Gravatt,

The purpose of this letter is to ensure that the Yankton Sioux Tribe is aware that the Department of Energy (DOE) is initiating the Section 106 consultation process on the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line (GNTL) project to determine any potential adverse effects on historic properties pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) and 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." The DOE invites you to consult with us, as provided for by Section 106 and its implementing regulations.

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The DOE would like to obtain information from you about historic properties, including those of traditional religious and cultural importance to your Tribe and its members, in or near the project area, and also to provide you an opportunity to identify your concerns about such properties, including the identification of potential mitigation measures. Your assistance in the identification and evaluation of historic properties will provide us the opportunity to work together to resolve any adverse effects this undertaking may have on these properties. If available, we would welcome any information on the location and importance of archaeological sites, historic structures, and any other localities of interest to you that are known to occur in or near the proposed project area.

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If you have questions regarding the DOE's on-going review of the proposed GNTL project, or your participation as a Section 106 consulting party, please contact me at any time at the above email address or (202) 586-7668.

Yours very truly,

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Enclosed:

- GNTL Project Regional Map (from GNTL Scoping Summary Report)
-

BAD RIVER BAND OF LAKE SUPERIOR TRIBE OF CHIPPEWA INDIANS

CHIEF BLACKBIRD CENTER P.O. Box 39 • Odanah, Wisconsin 54861

TRIBAL HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

February 13, 2015

Julie Ann Smith, Ph.D.
Electricity Policy Analyst
National Electricity Delivery Division (OE-20)
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, DC 20590

RE: GNTL Project

Dear Ms. Smith:

This letter is to confirm that, as it pertains to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa – Tribal Historic Preservation Office is interested in being a consulting party regarding the above referenced project.

We recognize that this project may have significant impacts to listed historic properties, properties determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and significant cultural and environmental impacts that affect the Bad River Tribe. As such, we intend to participate in as many consultation meetings as possible, pertaining to this project.

We intend to participate in the upcoming Tribal Consultation in Shakopee, MN, March 24-26, 2015. Please keep us informed of any changes in the project and upcoming meetings.

Weweni (Sincerely),

Edith Leoso
Bad River Band of Lake Superior Tribe of Chippewa
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 39
Odanah, WI 54861
Ph: (715) 682-7123 ext. 1662
FAX: (715) 682-7118
Email: THPO@badriver-nsn.gov

ESL/cc: NRD Director; file

Project ID: Tower Notifications

Booshoo,

The Lac Vieux Desert Tribal Historic Preservation Office received your request for information related to properties of traditional religious and cultural significance within the vicinity of the proposed facility and any comments or concerns for affects to those properties as according to your obligations under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and the Native American Graves Protection Act.

The Ketegitigaaning Ojibwe Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office does not release information related to properties of traditional religious and cultural significance to anyone. However, through government-to-government consultation, the LVD THPO will review project documents to determine whether or not any of these sites exist within the Area of Potential Effects and if so what those effects may be. If we have identified any sites of concern in our research of the project area, we will notify you of the fact.

Please forward the following information: a short summary of the proposed ground disturbing activity, Legal Description of the Area of Potential Effects, Topo maps identifying the proposed area, and copies of any studies that have already been conducted regarding cultural resources and archaeology in their full format, including reports on archaeological and cultural sites identified.

To enable us to participate fully, t**he Ketegitigaaning Ojibwe Nations fee for such services is $300. $150.00 for historical/cultural records research and $150.00 for archaeological records review per section of land**. The fee must be submitted so that the research can be done. At that time we will review and make our determinations with the appropriate information that we have on file with our Tribe pertaining to this area.

All Collocation Projects will be handled in the same manner as new projects UNLESS the Ketegitigaaning Ojibwe Nation commented on the original project.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at 906-358-0137.

Miigwetch,

giiwegiizhigookway Martin, THPO

Fee can be sent along with the requested information to:
Make Check Payable to:
Ketegitigaaning Ojibwe Nation THPO
P.O. 249 (Post Office Mailing Address)
Watersmeet, Michigan 49969
Large Packets mailed by Fed Ex or UPS:
E23857 Poplar Circle
Watersmeet, MI 49969
Office: 906-358-0137 Fax: 906-358-4850 Email: gmartin@lvdtribal.com

LEECH LAKE BAND OF OJIBWE

Tribal Historic Preservation Office

***Amy Burnette**, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer*
***Sheila Gotchie**, Office Manager*

February 6, 2015 VIA INTERNET

Julie Ann Smith, Principal NEPA Document Manager
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Proposed Great northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Smith;

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above-referenced project. Pursuant to the responsibilities given the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1992 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36CFR800), the Leech Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office will consult in regard to the Presidential permits to construct, operate, maintain, and connect a 500kV AC transmission line between the Minnesota Manitoba border, terminating at existing Blackberry substation in Grand Rapids Minnesota, to include facility and transmission system modifications and new adjacently located substation. Inclusion in the Section 106 consultation process is important to our office, and we are willing to accept consultation for this project.

Sincerely,

Amy Burnette, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Leech Lake Tribal Historic Preservation Office – Established in 1996
An Office Within the Division of Resources Management
190 Sailstar Drive NE * Cass Lake, Minnesota 56633
(218) 335-2940 * FAX (218) 335-2974
amy.burnette@llojibwe.org

Lower Sioux Indian Community

P.O. Box 308 • 39527 Reservation Highway 1
Morton, MN 56270
Cansayapi Otunwe

February 12, 2015

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy
1000 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C., 20585

Re: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project

Dear Ms. Smith,

Thank you for initiating consultation with the Lower Sioux Indian Community Tribal Historic Preservation Office. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comment on your proposed undertaking.

We have reviewed your proposed project and have determined that we would like to act as a Section 106 consulting party for the proposed Great Northern Transmission Line project. The primary point of contact for the Lower Sioux Indian Community is Grace Goldtooth-Campos, THPO.

If you have any questions, contact me at (507) 697-6185, or by email at lowersiouxthpo@lowersioux.com.

Sincerely,

Grace Goldtooth-Campos

Grace Goldtooth-Campos, THPO
Lower Sioux Indian Community

MILLE LACS BAND OF OJIBWE

Executive Branch of Tribal Government

February 18, 2015

Julie Ann Smith, PhD
Principal NEPA Document Manager
National Electricity Delivery Division, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

Re: Section 106 NHPA, Tribal Review and Consultation:

DNR/THPO-15-0203-02: Invitation to Consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project: MN Power applied to DOE for a Presidential permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect an approximately 220 mile, overhead single-circuit 500 kV AC transmission line between the Minnesota- Manitoba border crossing northwest to Roseau, MN and terminating at the existing Blackberry 230/115 kV Substation near Grand Rapids, MN.

Dear Madam:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above referenced project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended in 1992 and the Procedures of the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (38CFR800).

I have reviewed the documentation: after careful consideration of our records, I have determined that the Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe (DNR/E) does have known recorded sites of religious or cultural importance in this area. The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe accepts the invitation to consult on the Proposed Great Northern Transmission Line Project.

Should any human remains or suspected human remains be encountered, all work shall cease and the following personnel should be notified immediately in this order: County Sheriff's Office and the Office of the State Archaeologist. If any human remains or culturally affiliated objects are inadvertently discovered this will prompt the process to which the Band will become informed.

Please note: The above determination does not "exempt" future projects from Section 106 review. In the event any other tribe notifying us of concerns for a specific project, we may re-enter into the consultation process.

You may contact my staff at (320) 532-7450 if you have questions regarding our review of this project. Please refer to the MLB-THPO Number as stated above in all correspondence with this project.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Klapel
Commissioner of Natural Resources

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