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November 7, 2018

Ms. Marsha Parlow Great River Energy 12300 Elm Creek Blvd Maple Grove, MN 55369-4718

RE:

Proposed Scenic 69 kV Transmission Line and Substation

Itasca County

SHPO Number: 2018-0261

Dear Ms. Parlow:

Thank you for continuing consultation on the above project. Information received in our office on 9 October 2018 has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Officer by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and implementing federal regulations at 36 CFR 800, and pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Office by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act and the Minnesota Field Archaeology Act.

As you are aware, we last commented on this project in a letter dated June 14, 2018 stating that we agreed that the proposed project would have no adverse effect on the National Register-listed Scenic State Park CCC/Rustic Style Service Yard, but recommended that a Phase I archaeological survey be completed prior to project construction.

We have now received and reviewed the Phase I survey report titled *Phase I Archaeological Reconnaissance Survey for the Scenic 69 kV Transmission Line, Itasca County, Minnesota* (September 2018, Wenck Associates). Based on the results of the survey, we have determined that **no historic properties will be affected** by the proposed project.

Implementation of the undertaking in accordance with this finding, as documented, fulfills the agency's responsibilities under Section 106. If the project is not constructed as proposed, including, but not limited to, a situation where engineering/design changes to the currently proposed project diverts substantially from what was presented at the time of this review, or engineering/design changes involving undisturbed new rights-of-way or easements are made for the undertaking following completion of this review, the agency will need to reopen Section 106 consultation with our office.

Please contact our Environmental Review Program at (651) 201-3285 if you have any questions regarding our review of this project.

Sincerely,

Sarang. Bamura

Sarah J. Beimers

Environmental Review Program Manager

cc:

Joe Hiller, MN Dept of Natural Resources