



Catherine Glidden/STB

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To Brenda_Shierts@blm.com

cc rwithrow@louisberger.com, Michael.Madson@hdrinc.com

bcc

Subject STB Response to BLM comment on DM&E Report, SD1d

Dear Ms. Shierts:

Re: BLM 8100-R; STB Report SD1d, SHPO Project No. 99223006F

Thank you for your January 13, 2009 comment letter regarding the report, A Level III Cultural Resource Inventory of the Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation's Powder River Basin Expansion Project Corridor, Custer, Fall River, and Pennington Counties, South Dakota, Addendum 4 (STB SD1d)(Copy of your letter attached below). We will continue to ensure that you are included in discussions regarding Site 39PN1783, which you stated in your comments is "potentially eligible" for listing in the National Register of Historic Places pending tribal input.

We have included this site on a list that we have compiled of sites that require further tribal consultation. This consultation will follow the steps outlined in a tribal study that we are conducting to further assess unevaluated sites for which tribal input is needed. We are currently in the process of developing an archival study to summarize the existing literature regarding stone circles, cairns and alignments and to develop a typology based both on archaeological and tribal principles. We anticipate having a tribal meeting sometime at the end of April to kick off the remainder of the study that will include tribal interviews and also field visits.

If you have any questions regarding our planned next steps for additional tribal input, please feel free to give me a call.

Catherine Glidden
Environmental Protection Specialist
Surface Transportation Board
Section of Environmental Analysis
Washington, DC 20423-0001
Phone: (202) 245-0293
Fax: (202) 245-0454



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