



Catherine Glidden/STB

05/04/2009 11:52 AM

To "Withrow, Randy" <rwithrow@louisberger.com>, "Alice Alexander" <aliceischaui@yahoo.com>, "Ambrose Littleghost" <littlego_172_1951@hotmail.com>, "Brady cc "Herb Jones" <hjones@cedaramerican.com>, <Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov>, "Withrow, Randy" <rwithrow@louisberger.com>

bcc

Subject Reminder- STB Request for Site Visit and Interview Information: DM&E Project

Hello All:

Thanks to all of you who have already responded to our request for input regarding your interest in participating in site visits etc. for the DM&E Project. For those of you that have not responded, please be advised that you have until this **Wednesday, May 6th**, to provide us with a list of sites that you would like to visit (if any). After that time, only tribes that have provided input will have the opportunity to conduct field visit to the project sites that remain unevaluated. I have attached the original email request below for your information.

As you know, the purpose of these visits is to ensure that the STB will be able to make its eligibility recommendations for these unevaluated sites based, in part, on tribal input. Thus it is paramount that the individuals that are conducting field visits be able to make National Register eligibility assessments on behalf of his/her tribe.

We will be contacting you shortly regarding scheduling and logistical considerations.

Thanks again!

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From: Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov [mailto:Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov]

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2009 2:15 PM

To: Withrow, Randy; Catherine.Glidden@stb.dot.gov

Subject: STB Request for Names of Sites and Interviewees: DM&E Project

Greetings All:

My thanks to those of you who attended the meeting at Wakpa Sica this week. I felt we had a very positive and

productive discussion and I was very pleased we had a chance to review some of the site information together.

As we discussed at the meeting, STB is asking for your help in evaluating stone feature sites located within the DM&E Project's Area of Potential Effects. We have suggested two ways for tribes to provide our agency with their input regarding the significance of these sites: (1) by identifying tribal members whom we might interview regarding the significance of these types of places; and (2) by identifying tribal members who are able to visit sites with us to determine their potential religious and cultural significance in accordance with the National Register criteria of evaluation.

Interviews: If you are interested in having STB interview members of your tribe regarding the religious/spiritual or cultural significance of these sites, we ask that you please confirm this in your response to this email and provide us with the name(s) of the individual(s) you would recommend we speak with. We would like to conduct these interviews sometime between May 1 and July 1, 2009. Please indicate specific dates within this time frame that would be most convenient for us to meet with you to conduct the interview(s) and where you would like us to meet with you.

Site Visits: Attached for your consideration is a list of 68 sites that include one or more stone features (this is the same list that was passed out at the meeting for those of you who were able to attend). Most of these sites (62 of 68) are located along the proposed right-of-way for new railroad construction in western South Dakota and eastern Wyoming. Since there is currently no existing railroad line along this portion of the project corridor, we ask that everyone bear in mind that some sites are easily accessible by vehicle, but others are not and may require walking over rugged terrain. We will certainly do everything we can to accommodate the special needs of elders during all site visits, but we ask that everyone recognize that it may not be possible for elders to visit all site locations due to the physical hardship of getting to remote sites. We also anticipate problems with lack of access to some sites located on private property (sites highlighted in red print on the attached table are not currently available for site visits). If you are interested in visiting any of these 68 sites with us, we ask that you confirm this in your response to this email and provide us with the name(s) of the individual(s) you would recommend participate on behalf of your tribal government. We would like to conduct these site visits between May 18th and June 19th.

Payment: We will provide a \$200/day honorarium and per diem expenses (meals, lodging, mileage) for one (1) elder or spiritual leader and for one (1) additional tribal member (assistant). As always we respect the importance of tribal sovereignty, but we ask that tribes work together to identify individuals who may be able to represent your interests as well as the interests of other tribes.

Please provide your responses regarding your interest in participating in either the site visits or interviews by Wednesday May 6th. We will need you to provide us with a list of sites you would like to visit as well as the names of potential participants for both interviews and site visits by then.

Thank you all so much for your continued interest and involvement in this project. I hope to hear from you soon either by mail, email or phone at 202-245-0293. Please also feel free to contact Randy Withrow at 319-272-3043 (Louis Berger office).

Sincerely,

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