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EEO/AA Employer

November 7, 2018

Mr. Paul Friedman
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
888 First Street NE, Room 1A
Washington, DC 20426

RE: Mountain Valley Pipeline Project
FERC Docket No. CP 16-10
Proposed Slip Mitigation Workspaces MVP-ATWS-SM-040 and MVP-ATWS-SM-041
And Mat Retrieval Workspace MP 34.8 WS
FR: 15-67-MULTI-132

Dear Mr. Friedman:

We have reviewed the information that was submitted for the abovementioned undertaking. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, U.S. 36 CFR § 800: "Protection of Historic Properties," we submit our comments.

According to the submitted information, Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) proposes to repair slips that occurred along the pipeline corridor in Wetzel County, WV. Workspaces MVP-ATWS-SM-040, which is located in Harrison County between MP 15.42 and MP 15.55, and MVP-ATWS-SM-041, which is located in Lewis County between MP 57.35 and MP 57.41, will be used to stabilize the hillsides and will require tree clearing. Workspace MP 34.8 WS, which is located in Doddridge County at MP 34.8, will be used as an access road to retrieve mats outside the construction limits of disturbance (LOD). No construction of aboveground pipeline facilities is proposed as part of these variances. The direct and indirect areas of potential effect (APE) are consistent with that for the previously surveyed pipeline corridor.

Archaeological Resources:

The submitted information states that visual inspection was conducted within the APE for the workspaces proposed for slip repair. Steeply sloped terrain and disturbance resulting from the slip were observed, precluding the need for shovel probe excavation. Visual inspection and the excavation of 10 shovel probes were conducted within the workspace for mat retrieval. Only modern materials were recovered. No new archaeological sites were identified in any of the proposed workspaces. Consequently, we concur that no further archaeological investigation is necessary and that use of variances will have no effect on archaeological historic properties.

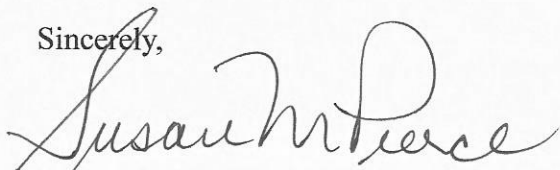
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Architectural Resources:

We have reviewed the submitted information and determined no further consultation is necessary regarding the aforementioned project elements. While limited tree clearance will be required for the variances, no documented historic architectural resources will have a view of those workspaces. Thus, no further consultation is necessary regarding these three project elements; however, we ask that you contact our office if the project should change.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please contact Lora A. Lamarre-DeMott, Senior Archaeologist, or Mitchell K. Schaefer, Structural Historian, at (304) 558-0240.*

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Susan M. Pierce". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/LLD/MKS

CC: Ms. Evelyn Tidlow, GAI Consultants