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EEO/AA Employer

May 16, 2018

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

RE: Mountain Valley Pipeline Project
Proposed Trinity-Beckley Laydown Yard Extension (MVP-LY-050), Raleigh County, WV
FERC Docket No. CP 16-10
FR: 15-67-MULTI-94

Dear Mr. Friedman:

We have reviewed the additional 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.

The submitted information states that Mountain Valley Pipeline (MVP) extended its laydown yard MVP-LY-050 by approximately 22.5 acres to the northeast of the previously surveyed area. The laydown yard, which is located in Raleigh County, West Virginia just north of I-64 and east of Clifftop, was initially surveyed in January 2018 with negative results. Our January 23, 2018 letter concurred with the recommendation that use of the laydown yard will have no effect on historic properties. The extension will be accessed via an existing improved road that follows the northern boundary of the laydown yard. The extension area was surveyed via pedestrian reconnaissance and shovel probe excavation. A total of 53 shovel probes were excavated. Extensive disturbance was documented; no intact soils were encountered. This makes it unlikely that significant archaeological sites would be encountered. No aboveground resources were observed within the proposed extension area. As a result, we concur that use of the proposed laydown yard will have no effect on historic properties and that no further cultural resource work is necessary.

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,

Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/LLD/MKS

CC: Ms. Evelyn Tidlow, GAI Consultants