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EEO/AA Employer

April 26, 2018

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

RE: Mountain Valley Pipeline Project
Archaeological Monitoring for Five Cultural Resources located in Braxton, Greenbrier, Harrison,
Monroe, and Webster Counties, West Virginia
FR: 15-67-MULTI-89

Dear Mr. Friedman:

We have reviewed the April 23, 2018 letter submitted by Mr. Matt Hoover, Senior Environmental Coordinator for Mountain Valley Pipeline for the abovementioned archaeological monitoring. 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 letter provides details about how archaeological monitoring will be conducted during pipeline construction within the vicinity of archaeological sites 46BX114, 46GB498, and 46ME311, and cemeteries 46WB434 and WV-HA-027. Site 46BX114 and the cemeteries are located adjacent to the project's limits of disturbance (LOD). In these instances, an archaeologist will be present while ground disturbance occurs that could impact the resources. This includes topsoil removal and segregation at the cemeteries and removal of soils to the depth of the lateral sand deposits that cap the channel lag at 46BX114. The archaeologist will examine the exposed soils for evidence of cultural materials or human burials and will conclude the monitoring once it is determined that human burials and cultural deposits will not be impacted. At sites 46GB498 and 46ME311, which are located within the LOD and will be avoided via directional boring, an archaeologist will monitor the installation of timber matting, excavation of the bore pits, installation of the bore and tie-ins with the bore and mainline pipeline. Once the tie-ins are complete and the bore pits and trench near the resource have been backfilled, archaeological monitoring will be complete.

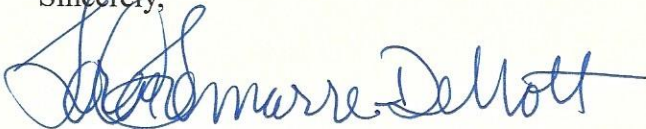
The Environmental Inspector (EI) will monitor construction activities that do not have the potential to cause impacts to cultural resources, including trenching, backfilling, clean up and restoration of the construction area near the sites/cemeteries. The EI will also maintain the protective fencing and signage at each site/cemetery. If cultural materials, including potential features and/or human remains, are encountered during monitoring, the approved Plan for Unanticipated Historic Properties and Human Remains will be implemented.

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We concur with the details of the monitoring plans for each site/cemetery, as described. We ask that you provide this office with notification once monitoring has been completed, confirming that no cultural materials or human remains were encountered during construction activities near each of these resources.

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, at (304) 558-0240.*

Sincerely,



for Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/LLD

CC: Ms. Evelyn Tidlow, GAI Consultants