

Mountain Valley Pipeline Project

Docket No. CP16-10-000

Attachment DR6 Question 1e



File Code: 2360
Date: July 26, 2017

Roger Kirchen
Director Review and Compliance Division
Department of Historic Resources
2801 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23221

Dear Mr. Kirchen,

Please find enclosed a hard copy and disc copy of the *Mountain Valley Pipeline Project Cultural Resource Survey and Evaluation, Jefferson National Forest, Giles and Montgomery Counties, ARPA Permit BBW 43304T, Phase II Cultural Resource Investigations, Sites 44GS0238, 44GS0240, 44GS0241, 44GS0242, 44GS0243, 44GS0244, 44GS0247, 44GS0251, 44MY0577, 035-5129 and 035-5134. Docket No. CP16-10, FR# 15 – 76 – MULTI, June 22, 2017.* This project is located on the Eastern Divide Ranger District within the confines of the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests.

The results of short interval Phase II survey of the proposed pipeline corridor in Giles County have resulted in the findings that sites 44GS0238, 44GS0241, 44GS0247 and 44GS0251 are now considered a single archaeological site (44GS0241) consisting of a prehistoric Native American site with multiple historic components covering approximately 5.8 acres. After close review of the presented data it has been determined that this site meets the Secretary of the Interior's criteria for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) eligibility under Criterion D and should be considered eligible for listing under the National Historic Preservation Act. The proposed project as planned will have an adverse effect upon this historic property. Therefore, consultation with you and other consulting parties per 36CFR800.6 is needed to resolve this adverse effect. Unless the site can be completely avoided, it is our recommendation that the most appropriate mitigation is Phase III data recovery. As the George Washington and Jefferson National Forests is required to manage and protect this historic property, we will request to be a signatory to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and a participant in designing the Phase III data recovery strategy.

The other identified archaeological sites, all located within Giles County; 44GS0240, 44GS0242, 44GS0243, 44GS0244 are recommended not eligible for NRHP listing due to the absence of features, absence of stratification or depth of deposit and do not meet the Department of Interiors Criteria for NRHP eligibility. 44MY0577, located in Montgomery County, Virginia is outside of the project boundaries and will remain unaffected by the proposed project. Architectural resources 035-5129 and 035-5134 were determined to not be eligible for listing due to a lack of qualifying factors. 035-5129 is a late twentieth century cabin structure and 035-5134 was misidentified as a potential gravesite.



No archaeological resources were identified associated with the Appalachian National Scenic Trail (ANST). However the trail in itself is eligible for NRHP listing. Furthermore, the National Park Service is currently in the process of nominating the entire ANST to the NRHP as a historic district. However, we contend that employing the mitigation measures outlined for the ANST in the FEIS, which includes boring under the ANST, coupled with revegetation plans, will result in no adverse effect to the proposed ANST historic district on national forest lands. The FEIS is available for viewing here:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/detail/gwj/landmanagement/projects/?cid=stelprd3827827>

This report is consistent with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification (48 FR 44720-44723), Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and with the guidelines established by the Department of Historic Resources. Your concurrence with our findings and recommendations are requested. If you have any questions regarding this undertaking please don't hesitate to contact, Mike Madden, USFS Forest Archaeologist at 540-265-5211 or mjmadden@fs.fed.us

Sincerely,



JOBY P. TIMM
Forest Supervisor