



Preserving America's Heritage

April 7, 2016

Mr. Brian Mills  
Senior Planning Advisor  
U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability  
National Electricity Delivery Division  
1000 Independence Ave SW (OE-20)  
Washington, DC 20585

Ref: *Proposed New England Clean Power Link Project  
State of Vermont*

Dear Mr. Mills:

On March 1, 2016, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) received the requested background information from the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) regarding the executed Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the referenced undertaking. The additional information evidences that DOE has complied with the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800).

The ACHP was not involved in the early phase of the Section 106 consultation process when we could have determined whether or not Appendix A of our regulations applied to this undertaking. However, it appears that DOE's Section 106 consultation was successful. Further, DOE was able to negotiate a PA with consulting parties that ensures historic properties along the transmission line are properly identified and evaluated, and effects assessed. Accordingly, we do not believe that any further consultation with the ACHP is required at this time, and we will consider this PA as having been filed with us in accordance with 36 CFR §800.6(b)(1)(iv). In the future, we would appreciate DOE giving us advance notice of projects it is coordinating. We specifically would like to be advised of the appropriate point of contact with whom we should consult should we need to discuss early planning issues.

Should DOE require any further assistance as the New England Clean Power Link Project PA is implemented, please contact Ms. Jaime Loichinger at (202) 517-0219 or via email at [jloichinger@achp.gov](mailto:jloichinger@achp.gov).

Sincerely,

Charlene Dwin Vaughn, AICP  
Assistant Director, FPLAS  
Office of Federal Agency Programs

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