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Mr. Steinacher,

As part of the ongoing work associated with the Nebraska portion of the TransCanada Keystone Pipeline, Kim Munson from ENSR is requesting a SHPO concurrence letter regarding proposed Class III methods as outlined in the Class I report (Burnett and Slessman 2006), which were based on phone conversations with yourself/Nebraska SHPO. We have provided a draft of the general methods that were presented in the Class I report.

1. The Class III inventory will involve a 100 percent inventory of a 300 ft corridor centered on the proposed pipeline route, except where the route is collocated with other pipelines and where temporary use areas require increased coverages. Where the route is collocated, 60 ft will be surveyed on the collocated side of the proposed route, and 240 ft will be surveyed on the greenfield side. Four persons will conduct the survey, with a crew spacing of no more than 30 m.
2. Where bare ground visibility is under 10 percent, shovel testing will be conducted at intervals not exceeding 30 m to determine the presence or absence of archaeological sites in heavily vegetated areas.
3. All previously recorded sites within the corridor will be re-recorded, shovel/auger tested as necessary, and evaluated for NRHP eligibility during the Class III inventory, with the exception of sites previously determined by the SHPO to be not eligible. All newly discovered sites will be recorded and shovel/auger tested as necessary for determination of NRHP eligibility and project effect.
4. SWCA will make recommendations for sites that require further work and/or rerouting following the Class III inventory, and the SHPO will make the final determinations regarding the scope of additional work.
5. The results of the Class III inventory will be used to determine if and/or where pre-construction geomorphological investigations may be used, if the SHPO deems it necessary, to determine the presence, extent, and integrity of subsurface archaeological contexts.
6. The results of the Class III inventory will also be used to determine areas where construction monitoring and open trench inspection (OTI) may be necessary.

Thank you,
Paul Burnett and Scott Slessman