



AMERICAN  
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July 26, 2006

Mr. Terry Steinacher  
Nebraska State Historical Society  
1500 E. Street  
P.O. Box 82554  
Lincoln, NE 68501-2554

RE: Phase I Cultural Resources Investigation of the Nebraska Portion of the Keystone Pipeline Project Corridor, Cedar, Wayne, Stanton, Platte, Colfax, Butler, Seward, Saline, Jefferson, and Gage Counties, Nebraska; ARG CRM 1496.

Dear Mr. Steinacher:

I am writing to update you on the status of the above referenced project. As of mid-July, American Resources Group had completed the archaeological survey of approximately 154 miles (77 percent) of the 200-mile-long pipeline-construction corridor, and the project geomorphologist had completed the hand-held sampling tube coring at approximately three-fourths of the selected stream locations. We are planning to resume survey of the project corridor after the crops have been harvested, and will complete the survey as soon as access to all of the unexamined portions of the corridor has been obtained. As we agreed in our phone conversation today, we will prepare an initial report of the investigation after completing the survey of the portions of the project corridor to which we now have access, and will submit the report to you before the end of the year; the results of survey conducted following completion of the initial report, including survey of reroutes and tracts for which landowner permission has not yet been granted, will be reported in addenda.

To date, we have identified 18 archaeological sites within the 300-foot-wide survey corridor, including eight prehistoric sites, eight historic sites, one site containing both prehistoric and historic components, and one site—a rock pile/cairn—of unknown age and cultural affiliation (see attached table). A preliminary assessment of site significance suggests that five of the 18 investigated sites are potentially eligible for National Register listing; three of these are prehistoric sites yielding ceramics and/or projectile points, and two are mid-nineteenth-century historic house sites. We will be recommending that Phase II test excavations be conducted at the five potentially eligible sites to formally evaluate their National Register eligibility if site avoidance is not feasible. We expect to collect additional information regarding the nature of the rock pile/cairn through further historic research, but for the time being are recommending it be avoided.

# CONFIDENTIAL

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I appreciate your giving us the latitude to begin the Phase II testing of potentially eligible sites prior to finishing the survey should our client decide that the project schedule makes that necessary. As you requested in our phone conversation today, in the event that an expedited testing program does prove necessary, I will send you a more detailed description of the sites to be tested and a summary of our proposed methods before beginning the investigations.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this project, please do not hesitate to call. Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Steve Titus".

Steve Titus  
President

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copied: Kim Munson, ENSR

**Confidential Information removed from document**