



NEW HAMPSHIRE DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

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June 20, 2017

Frank J. Delgiudice
Chief, Regulatory Division Branch C
New England District, Corps of Engineers
698 Virginia Road
Concord, MA 01742-2751

Re: Seacoast Reliability Project, Madbury Substation to Portsmouth Substation, New Hampshire
(R&C #6528)

Dear Frank:

In accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (16 U.S.C. 470), and with federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regulations, Protection of Historic Properties (36 CFR Part 800), the New Hampshire Division of Historical Resources/State Historic Preservation Office (DHR) has reviewed information related to the undertaking listed above.

Significant public involvement informed DHR's decision making for the Seacoast Reliability Project. DHR attended public meetings held in Portsmouth on January 10, 2017 and Newington on February 2, 2017, as well as a field visit with the Durham Historic Association on April 10, 2017. In addition, DHR received correspondence from concerned citizens in written form and has reviewed and taken the information into account.

DHR staff has reviewed archaeological studies and has determined that no significant archaeological sites will be affected by the Seacoast Reliability Project. However, if plans change as a result of project planning or implementation, the Division of Historical Resources is to be consulted on the need for appropriate evaluative studies, determinations of National Register eligibility, and mitigative measures (redesign, resource protection, or data recovery) as required by federal law and regulations.

DHR staff has also reviewed above-ground studies and determined that the undertaking has the potential to affect eleven (11) properties listed or determined eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. An assessment of these properties based on 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2), including supporting materials such as photographs of the properties, aerial mapping, and photo-simulations, has outlined the following effect findings:



Adams Homestead, 148 Nimble Hill Road, Newington
Alfred Pickering Farm, 339 Little Bay Road, Newington
Durham Point Historic District, Durham
Gosling Meadows Housing Development HD, Portsmouth
Little Bay Underwater Cable Terminal Houses HD, Durham/Newington
Newington Center Historic District, Newington
*(*If it is determined that undergrounding will cause environmental hazards, this finding must be reviewed and updated as appropriate)*
Newmarket & Bennett Roads Farms HD, Durham
Pickering-Rowe House, 50 Old Post Road, Newington
Stone House Farm, 313-315 Durham Point Road, Newington
University of New Hampshire HD, Durham
Eastern Branch Boston and Maine RR

No Adverse Effect
Adverse Effect
Adverse Effect
No Adverse Effect
Adverse Effect
No Adverse Effect*

Adverse Effect
No Adverse Effect
No Adverse Effect
No Adverse Effect
No Historic Properties Affected

This analysis results in a finding of **Adverse Effect** for the Seacoast Reliability Project.

DHR requests continued consultation to avoid, minimize or mitigate the above adverse effects. Of particular concern is the physical impact to historic walls and features that contribute to the rural character of the area, physical impacts to the Little Bay Underwater Cable Terminal Houses, and visual changes that are introduced due to the use of larger scale towers and additional transmission lines.

We look forward to working with the Corps to address these concerns.

Sincerely,



Richard A. Boisvert
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

RAB:nm

cc: Pamela Monroe, NHSEC
Jon Eddins, ACHP