



Protecting the Land, Cultural,  
Heritage and Tradition for  
the Future Generation

## *Tribal Historic Preservation Cultural Resource Management Office*

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Dear Ira,

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Historic Preservation Program sends its greetings. We are in receipt of several letters and email communications regarding the Mountain Valley Pipeline Project (MVPP) that transversely transects the States of Virginia and West Virginia. Regarding this project, as you may or may not be aware from Mr. Steve Vance, THPO from the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe of South Dakota, he and I traveled to Virginia to review areas of concern by landowners and organizations involved with historic preservation, additionally the invitation was inclusive of with concerned citizens of that region.

Our travel was from March 3<sup>rd</sup> – March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018 to observe previously recorded sites, historic properties, and the APE. In so doing, as has been stated by Mr. Vance, the company has been using a proprietary stance of privileged information and not sharing the cultural resources reports with our Tribe(s). We have vested interest in the area of this proposed pipeline and sites recorded and evaluated in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of (1966) (amended- 1992). Before I discuss this further I am stating that under Section 101 (d)(6)(B) of the Act, we assert our cultural tie to that particular (but not limited to) area (Franklin County) of Virginia via historical documentation and our oral history.

We identified, evaluated, and recorded sites directly within the Right of Way (ROW) that are attributable to the Lakota, Dakota, Nakota peoples. These sites (including one that is a burial) are the same in design, function, and purpose as sites documented on the Northern Plains and in States between Virginia and South Dakota.

We assert that the previous negotiations, consultation efforts with Tribes, findings, and evaluation methodologies are insufficient to protect the common cultural patrimony of the Lakota. Therefore, we are petitioning for comment and support from the ACHP in our efforts with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) that the prior consultation invitation to

Tribes excluded the descendent(s), now Plains and prairie boundary Tribes, from being involved, considered, or consulted.

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe has the supporting documentation for the sites currently encountered and a report of that documentation will be submitted to FERC and to Mountain Valley Pipeline by early next week. We are cognizant of court decisions to let bids, timber clearing, etc. along the ROW. Therefore we are calling for interceding from the ACHP for 30 days with FERC until we have had opportunity to review reports and consult with the agency and Mountain Valley Pipeline.

A Programmatic Agreement (PA) has been signed and supposedly is in effect. We have issue with the content, verbiage, vernacular, and intent of the PA to a degree that damages, impacts and destruction will ensue under this PA to sites we consider significant to our history.

Moreover, the current accepted EIS is inadequate and incomplete regarding sites of significance to not only the Lakota but other related Siouan Tribes as well. The EIS has severe discrepancies that are not conducive to proper protections and particularly the lack of Tribal participation in sites that remain unevaluated nor recommended as eligible to the National Register of Historic Places.

Please be aware that we will continually be vigilant concerning this project as we deem it a priority.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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