

MAINE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION 55 CAPITOL STREET 65 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

EARLE G. SHETTLEWORTH, JR. DIRECTOR

July 3, 2013

Stephen Olausen
PAL
26 Main Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

Project:

MHPC# 0086-11 - Bingham Wind Project

Town:

Bingham and Mayfield Township, Somerset County, Maine; Kingsbury

Plantation, Abbot and Parkman, Piscataquis County, Maine

Dear Mr. Olausen:

On May 16, 2013, the Maine Historic Preservation Commission [Commission] received the Historic Architectural Survey Report to continue consultation on the above referenced project pursuant to the requirements of the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, Site Location of Development Law and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

The Architectural Survey Report contains the following deficiencies that need to be corrected before we can continue our review of the proposed undertaking:

- 1. Based on past projects (wind and existing system upgrades) the Commission has established the area of potential effect for a new or upgraded transmission line as being ½ mile from the center-line of the transmission corridor. As noted in Section II.C. of the Report, the reconnaissance survey for the new transmission line covered a corridor that was ½ mile in width, not ½ mile on each side of the center-line (1 mile in total width). The survey area needs to be expanded accordingly.
- 2. The copies of forms for previously surveyed properties must contain the current survey numbers. The copies are being returned for the addition of this information.

Identification of Historic Properties

In addition to those properties in the area of potential effect that are either currently listed in the National Register of Historic Places [NR] or that have been determined eligible for listing (including those previously determined eligible and those newly identified in the architectural survey report), the Commission concludes that the following additional properties are or may be eligible for listing in the NR:

- Barn, milkhouse, mixed use barn, 446 Brighton Road, Blanchard Twp. (Survey Map Nos. 45-47). This group of agricultural outbuildings appears to be eligible under Criterion C at the local level of significance.
- Former Garfield School, Rt. 16, Concord Twp. (Survey Map No. 99), NR eligible, Criteria A and C. Despite having been moved from across Rt. 16, this former one-room school house appears to retain most if not all aspects of integrity.
- Riverside Inn, 172 River Road/Rt. 201, Bingham (Survey Map No. 111), NR eligible, Criteria A and C. This architecturally distinctive building with its broad wraparound porch and attached barn and corner addition appears to be eligible for its local architectural and possibly historic significance.
- House, 22 Old Canada Road, Bingham (Survey Map No. 330), NR eligible, Criterion C. This architecturally significant dwelling is distinguished by its unusual blending of Greek Revival, Gothic Revival and Italianate style features.

In addition to the NR listed and eligible properties noted above, further information for the following properties will need to be provided in order make an eligibility determination:

- Trout Pond Dam, Brighton Road, Brighton Plt. (Survey Map No. 52). Additional photographs showing the dam without snow cover, and information about the structure's history and purpose are needed.
- Farmstead, 55 Old Kingsbury Road, Brighton Plt. (Survey Map No. 53-54). Additional photographs of all elevations of the building are needed. It also appears that there is a large barn attached to a smaller barn. The large barn may warrant its own survey form.
- Farmstead, 259 Kennebec River Road/Ft. 16, Concord Twp. (Survey Map Nos. 114-117). Although modest in size, this resource appears to retain most aspects of integrity, and may be one of the few relatively unaltered farmsteads in Concord Twp. A comprehensive survey of other farmsteads in the township would need to be conducted in order to evaluate this property in context.
- Bingham Village, Bingham. There is a high concentration of historic resources in Bingham village that appear to illustrate both the community's initial development in the 19th century and its expansion in the early 20th century (possibly as a result of newly established wood products mills). There may be an NR eligible historic district that encompasses some of this area. However, research into the history and development of the village, as well as further analysis of the existing buildings would need to be conducted in order to make such a determination.

With regard to the assessment of effects, please note that we will be using the Visual Impact Assessment (received in our office June 20, 2013) to assist us in making a finding of effect for the proposed undertaking. We also request that you provide us with

an assessment of effect for the four additional properties noted above that the Commission has determined are or may be eligible for listing in the NR.

If you have any questions regarding our comments, please contact Robin Reed of our staff.

Sincerely,

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Kirk F. Mohney

Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Pete Tischbein, USACOE Dan Courtemanch, MDEP Dale Knapp, Stantec

Enc.