

## **ATTACHMENT 11. MHPC NOTIFICATION**

### **11.1 MHPC AND TRIBAL CORRESPONDENCE**

The Applicant received an information request response from the Maine Historic Preservation Commission (MHPC) on March 26, 2019, regarding any known prehistoric archaeological sites, historic sites, or architectural resources within the proposed Project area (Appendix B). Based on recommendations by the MHPC, Phase I architectural and archaeological surveys were conducted for the Project area in 2021 and 2022.

In 2018 and 2021, consultation was initiated with the Tribal Historic Preservation Officers (THPOs) for each of the federally recognized Maine tribes (Penobscot, Maliseet, Passamaquoddy, and Mi'kmaq) to confirm the absence or presence of known or likely cultural or archaeological sites within the Project area. Responses have been received from all four THPOs confirming that there are no known cultural or archaeological sites within the Project area. Tribal correspondence is included as Appendix B.

### **11.2 PHASE I ARCHITECTURAL AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEYS**

In August 2020, SEARCH conducted background research and reconnaissance surveys to support the preparation of Phase I archaeological and architectural surveys for the Project. Phase I architectural and archaeological field surveys for the Project were completed between October 2021 and January 2022. One historic architectural resource, a segment of the Maine Central Railroad in Clinton located approximately 2.3 miles northeast of the Project, was identified as a historic resource eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. Minimal Project visibility at this resource is anticipated due to the relatively flat surrounding topography and existing forested landcover. As such, no adverse effect to this resource is anticipated as a result of the Project. Three post-contact archaeological areas were identified that may qualify for historic resource protection. The sites consist of mid-19<sup>th</sup> century homesteads and associated activities. The Project will avoid impacts to these resources through hand or reach-in clearing of vegetation within these resources, presence of an archaeological monitor with stop work authority present when construction is within 82 ft (25 meters) of these and, permanent fencing will be maintained around these resources while the Project is operational. The Historical Architectural Survey Report and Phase I Archaeological Survey Report are included in Section 8.0 of the Project's Site Law permit application and the reports have been provided to the MHPC for review.