



Department of Energy
Washington, DC 20585

November 20, 2012

TO: Attached Cultural Resources Working Group Distribution List

**SUBJECT: Proposed Champlain Hudson Power Express Transmission Line Project
Section 106 Consultation Meeting**

Dear Cultural Resources Working Group:

Champlain Hudson Power Express, Inc. has applied to the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Office of Electricity Delivery and Energy Reliability for a Presidential Permit to construct, operate, maintain, and connect the portions of the proposed Champlain Hudson Power Express Transmission Line Project located within the United States (Project). In considering a Presidential Permit for the Project, the DOE has the lead responsibility for compliance with applicable federal laws, regulations, and policies pertaining to historic properties, including the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).¹ Section 106 of the NHPA (Section 106) directs federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to comment.

The DOE has formally initiated the Section 106 consultation process with the ACHP, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, the Delaware Nation, the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe, the Stockbridge-Munsee Community, the Shinnecock Indian Nation, and the U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs (collectively the "Consulting Parties") regarding the Project. Specifically, the DOE invited the Consulting Parties to participate in the conduct of our ongoing analysis of potential environmental impacts of this undertaking and to formally consult with us pursuant to Section 106 and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800.

At this time, we would like to invite the Consulting Parties, federal agencies involved in this undertaking, and other potentially interested parties (collectively, the "Cultural Resources Working Group") to participate in a consultation meeting on November 28, 2012. The purpose of this meeting will be to (a) determine and document the area of potential effects (APE) for this undertaking, (b) describe the studies that have been conducted to identify historic properties that may be affected by the Project, and (c) discuss the process for completing the Section 106 process, including measures to resolve any Project-related adverse effects. This Section 106 consultation meeting will be held from 9:00 AM–12:00 PM at the offices of Hiscock and

¹ 16 USC 470 *et seq.*

Barclay, located at 80 State Street (6th floor) in Albany, New York 12207. Those wishing to participate but unable to attend in person are invited to participate via conference call. The dial-in number for the call will be 866-994-6437. Please enter conference code 989-014-9046 when prompted.

The DOE has established a website to provide information regarding the ongoing environmental review of this Project. Additional background information regarding the Project, an opportunity to subscribe to our mailing list, and more, are available at <http://www.chpexpresseis.org>.

Please feel free to contact me directly at any time at Brian.Mills@hq.DOE.gov, or by phone at (202) 586-8267. I look forward to meeting with you on November 28, 2012.

Very truly yours,



Mr. Brian Mills
Permitting, Siting, and Analysis, OE-20
Office of Electricity Delivery and
Energy Reliability
U.S. Department of Energy

Cc: Attached Distribution List

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