

**FINAL  
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

for the

**TRI-LAKES RELIABILITY PROJECT**



**February 17, 2006**

**ATTACHMENTS FOR RESPONSE 10**

**Minutes of OPRHP/NYPA/Tetra Tech EC, Inc. Meeting on August 22, 2005 to discuss the Tri-Lakes Reliability Project**

**NEW YORK POWER AUTHORITY  
TRI-LAKES RELIABILITY PROJECT**

**NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC  
PRESERVATION (STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE) (SHPO)**

**AUGUST 22, 2005, 1:30 PM  
PEEBLES ISLAND RESOURCE CENTER  
COHOES, NEW YORK**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees:**

Cynthia Blakemore (SHPO Staff Archeologist)  
Lynn Garofalini (SHPO Staff Architectural Historian)  
William Slade (NYPA)  
Robert Panepinto (NYPA)  
Sydne Marshall (TTECI)

**Introduction**

Following introduction of individuals, Bill Slade began the meeting with a brief description of the project. Rob Panepinto followed up by displaying USGS maps showing the proposed study areas for the project and discussing the various construction techniques that are proposed.

Cynthia Blakemore requested that the Cultural Resources 1A report cover contain names of the Towns through which the project will be constructed. She also asked why the project variations were not labeled so that reviewers could easily comment on them. Sydne Marshall noted that an additional set of maps included in the review package provided to her contained maps with hand-written designations for the variations.

Discussions then focussed first on architectural issues followed by archeological issues.

**Architectural Issues**

- The focus of architectural studies should be on the potential impacts of the new line.
- Architectural studies should be performed in areas that have been assessed to have potential views, (i.e. viewshed with tree cover), not in an arbitrary five-mile radius around the entire project.
- Potential project impacts to the NHL-listed State Forest Preserve will be of concern. Will need to take into consideration potential views from:
  - Trails (hiking trails and those leading to fire towers)

- Fire towers – especially those listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP)
- Structures (e.g. cabins) associated with the fire towers
- Wooden poles that are less than 65 feet tall will most likely not cause major concern to project reviewers.

### **Archeological Issues**

- Cynthia Blakemore mentioned that the SHPO office has recently issued new guidelines for performing cultural resources and developing reports in New York State. She will expect work to conform with these guidelines.
- SHPO will not expect to see shovel tests performed within proposed overbuild areas.
- SHPO does not consider activity resulting from lumbering activity to be extensive disturbance and would expect shovel testing in such areas to document that there is in fact subsurface disturbance that resulted in removal or displacement of soils.
- For this project, the focus of archeological shovel testing will be within:
  - New right-of-way (ROW)
  - New and/or to-be-improved access roads
  - Areas that will undergo grubbing and grading
  - Construction laydown areas
  - Wire-pulling sites
  - Locations of new poles outside of overbuild areas
  - Rises within wetlands
  - Areas along road edges where there will be rehabilitation of features such as drainage ditches
  - Areas where disturbance (e.g. previous soil removal or erosion) must be documented
- Shovel testing would not be necessary in the following types of areas:
  - Areas where previous soil removal may be demonstrated
  - Areas where disturbance due to grubbing and grading has been documented
  - Areas where vegetation will be removed but where there will be no grubbing and grading and no other new types of construction activity
  - Extensive visible disturbance that has involved wholesale soil removal - would require photo-documentation

Ms. Blakemore asked if NYPA wanted formal comments on the Phase 1A Cultural Resources Report that had been recently provided to the office for review. Mr. Slade indicated that this would not be necessary at this time but suggested that SHPO and NYPA review meeting minutes so that there is a record of the discussion. Ms. Blakemore

agreed that this would be a good idea. NYPA agreed to prepare notes and send them for review and signature.

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**AUGUST 22, 2005, 1:30 PM  
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**MEETING MINUTES CONCURRENCE**

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**Ms. Cynthia Blakemore  
SHPO Staff Archeologist**

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**Date**

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**Ms. Lynn Garofalini  
SHPO Staff Architectural Historian**

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**Date**

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**William Slade  
NYPA**

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**Date**

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**Robert Panepinto  
NYPA**

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**Date**