

Supplemental Appendix D: Supplemental Cultural

OPSB Amendment

Resource Report



July 23, 2019

Ohio Power Siting Board 180 East Broad Street Columbus, OH 43215 Phone: (614) 466-0349

RE: Hardin Wind, LLC

Scioto Ridge Wind Farm Project Hardin and Logan Counties, OH

Ohio SHPO Reference Number: 2013-HAR-25190

CRA Project#: W19I001

The OPSB approved case files for the project are:

13-1177-EL-BGN

13-1767-EL-BSB (Substation)

13-1768-EL-BTX (Transmission Line)

14-1557-EL-BGA (1st amendment)

16-0725-EL-BGA (2nd amendment)

16-1717-EL-BGA (3rd amendment)

17-0759-EL-BGA (4th amendment)

17-0733-EL-BOA (4 amenument)

17-2108-EL-BGA (5th amendment)

Additional Phase I archaeological survey was conducted by Cultural Resource Analysts, Inc. (CRA) in association with the above-cited case files from July 10 to July 18, 2019. This additional survey represents an addendum to the previously submitted and approved Phase I archaeological survey report for above-cited case files by Pullins and Dickerson (2017).

The Phase I archaeological survey addendum presented here is associated with the direct area of potential impact (API) associated with planned revisions to Project infrastructure that do not fall within the previously surveyed area of potential impact.

Previously unsurveyed direct APIs examined for this addendum encompass approximately 49.12 ha (111.49 acres) of plowed agricultural land. Based on ground surface visibility, the field investigation was completed by pedestrian survey and judgmental shovel test probes to evaluate subsurface conditions. A Global Positioning System unit was utilized in conjunction with detailed mapping provided by Hardin Wind, LLC to confirm the location and boundaries of the direct area of potential impact.

Preliminary survey results identified 18 new archaeological sites and 12 new prehistoric isolated finds, and defined revised boundaries for previously identified sites 33 HR 331 and 33 HR 357. Analysis of the 18 archaeological sites is underway, and includes the processing and analysis of recovered materials, examination of historic maps and atlases, and a review of other resources to determine if any of the sites should be recommended for avoidance or additional (Phase II) field evaluation. By definition, no additional work will be recommended for the 12 isolated finds, and avoidance by the Project is not necessary.

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The site boundaries were expanded for previously identified Site 33 HR 331. It was previously recommended (Pullins and Dickerson 2017) that the portion of this site within the API does not have the exceptional research potential needed to provide additional information through further scientific study or preservation beyond the basic recordation of the site, and no additional work was recommended within the API. Preliminary results indicate that our recommendation is unlikely to change.

Previously identified site 33 HR 357 is one of the two sites from the original survey that needs to be avoided. A route around the site was identified in the previous report, but the current infrastructure layout expands this reroute to the east toward the site. The survey crew recovered artifacts associated with the site in this area between the previously recorded site boundaries and the reroute, including subsurface artifacts in a shovel test. Our recommendation that the site should be avoided remains unchanged. The in an effort to identify a new reroute, CRA surveyed an additional 100 feet to the west of the disturbance corridor, and found no evidence of the site. If the disturbance corridor can be expended to the west instead of the east, or if it can be shifted to the west while maintaining the same width, the site would be avoided.

Other than the locations of 18 newly identified archaeological sites and the expanded boundaries of two previously identified sites, no cultural resources were identified within the previously unsurveyed portion of the Project. Analysis of the materials and context for the newly identified archaeological sites is ongoing, and may result in the consolidation of adjacent sites. The results of the analysis will inform our final recommendations regarding whether any of these new sites should be avoided. Preliminary analysis of the newly identified sites has not identified any clearly important sites that should be avoided. Avoidance recommendations for sites 33 HR 329 and 33 HR 357 identified during the previous survey remain in place. As mentioned earlier, isolated finds do not need to be avoided, and no further work will be recommended at those locations.

If you require any additional information please do not hesitate to contact me by email at spullins@crai-ky.com or by phone at (304) 562-7233.

Sincerely,

Stevan C. Pullins, RPA

Director of Operations - West Virginia

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Case No(s). 19-1740-EL-BTA

Summary: Application to Amend Certificate (Appendix D) electronically filed by Mr. Michael J. Settineri on behalf of Hardin Wind LLC