

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 6
1445 ROSS AVENUE, SUITE 1200
DALLAS TX 75202-2733

AUG 23 2013

Buford L. Rolin
Chairman
Poarch Band of Creek Indians
5811 Jack Springs Rd.
Atmore, AL 36502

Robert Thrower
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
5811 Jack Springs Rd.
Atmore, AL 36502

RE: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Consultation Opportunity: El Paso Electric
Montana Power Station, El Paso County, Texas

Dear Chairman Rolin:

As a follow up to a letter sent on August 1, 2013, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 6 is sending another reminder concerning a consultation opportunity for the permit application for a Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) in Texas:

Company	General Project Description	Location
El Paso Electric Montana Power Station	Construction of four (4) natural gas-fired simple cycle combustion turbine units at an electrical generating facility	El Paso, El Paso County, TX

EPA has determined that this project is a federal undertaking under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), and therefore, is subject to the review process set forth in Section 106 of the NHPA. In support of this application, this company conducted a cultural resource survey of the project area. The cultural resource report indicates, within a 1-mile radius of the area of potential effect, one hundred and twenty-eight (128) archaeological sites were identified, eighty-nine (89) are eligible or potentially eligible for listing in the National Register. Within the project area itself, two newly recorded sites and three previously recorded sites were identified. The two new archaeological sites were discovered within the right-of-way of one of the proposed transmission line corridors of the project site. One of these new sites was identified as a prehistoric campsite having Prehistoric and Native American significance and was recommended to the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) to be eligible for listing on the National Register. Based on the location of the site and information provided by the Texas Historical Commission, EPA understands that your tribe may have historically had interests in Texas. EPA is consulting with the SHPO and exploring whether additional work will be necessary for this undertaking.

We hope to propose a draft permit for public comment for this project in the near future. As noted in our earlier letter, we are writing to inquire whether you have any interests in the area or project site listed above and whether you would like to participate as a consulting party in the Section 106 consultation process on this permit application. You may review a copy of the GHG permit application and cultural resource survey for the project on EPA's website at: <http://yosemite.epa.gov/r6/Apermit.nsf/AirP>. There, you will be able to obtain more specific information about the location and nature of the proposed project.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact me at (214) 665-6435 or Alfred C. "AC" Dumaul of my staff at (214) 665-6613 or email at dumaul.alfred@epa.gov. We respectfully request your response within 15 days of receipt of this letter.

Sincerely yours,



Jeff Robinson
Section Chief
Air Permits Section