



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Casper Field Office
2987 Prospector Drive
Casper, Wyoming 82604-2968



8100 (480)
Project No. 62-2008-0020

Mary Hopkins
Archæology and Compliance
State Historic Preservation Office
Barrett Building, 3rd Floor
2301 Central Avenue
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82002

Re: Power Resources, Incorporated, Smith Ranch Facility expansion

Dear Ms Hopkins:

The following documents a follow-up inventory of a short segment of access road that leads to Power Resources, Incorporated's proposed satellite processing plant. The access route crosses an area which appears to have been overlooked in plotting various prior surveys. Approximately 1.8 ac have been disturbed.

Background: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) is permitting expansion of the Power Resources, Incorporated Smith Ranch Project in Converse County, Wyoming. Existing data review suggested all cultural resources inventory had been completed, so authorization was given to construct the new access road road and preliminary leveling for the Satellite SR-2 Processing plant. It was discovered after the fact that a small area crossed by the access road had not been inventoried. The NRC requested information regarding cultural resurces clearance so could construction of the processing plant could completed prior to the onset of winter weather.

Actions: BLM examined the existing survey coverage and found that ca.225 m of the newly constructed road crossed the area between two prior surveys. There were no known or previously recorded sites in the immediate vicinity. BLM conducted an examination of the tract on 17 August 2007. No signs of cultural materials within the road (an existing road that was upgraded), adjacent to the road in cut/fill/grader ditch, nor along the road alignment in the undisturbed area out about 100 m. The probability of this road work having disrupted any significant cultural resources is minimal.

The newly constructed access road crosses rolling sage-covered terrain. The major drainage is to the east-northeast, and the tributaries crossed by the road trend in the same general direction. No permanent water is available in the near vicinity. Vegetation consists primarily of sagebrush, a minor complement of greasewood, prairie grasses and forbs. Local soils are grayish tan sandy loam derived from shallowly buried shaley sandstone bedrock. Project area vegetation is around 5000 ft with a generally northerly aspect.

A file search conducted prior to examining the road indicated that two block surveys have taken place in the immediate project area, one in 1985 and the other in 1998. Both surveys were carried out in support of uranium exploration. Due to some differences in boundaries among the inventoried tracts, the N½ N½ NE¼, Sec. 17, the N½ N2 NW¼, Sec. 16 and other parts of Sec. 16, T35N, R74W were left

uninventoried. A number of oil and gas actions have also been carried out in the area. Prehistoric sites are relatively abundant, but lie to the north of the new access road. No known sites will be affected. The topographic position of the new access suggests that the potential for cultural resources is limited.

Results: The newly bladed access road begins in the SW $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ SE $\frac{1}{4}$ E $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 8, T35N, R74W at a junction of two existing upgraded roads. It runs southwest for about 500 m to the processing plant site. Roughly 225 m of the upgraded road crossed previously unsurveyed surface. NE $\frac{1}{4}$ NW $\frac{1}{4}$ NE $\frac{1}{4}$, Sec. 17. As noted above, the previously uninventoried segment of the access road was examined closely: the running surface, adjacent borrow ditches, and a swath on either side of the disturbance. Apart from a modern-era fenced enclosure, there were no signs of prehistoric or historic cultural materials. Road construction caused no effect to previously recorded or new sites. Continued use of the road will have no effect on historic properties. No further action is recommended. However, it must be noted that the current work did not fill in the uninventoried area in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sec. 17 and in Sec. 16. Any activities in the unsurveyed areas will need additional inventory coverage.

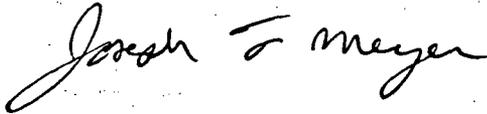
STIPULATIONS

The Bureau will require the following stipulations on the appropriate approval document:

- 1. CULTURAL AND PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES STIPULATION.** Any cultural or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object or fossil) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or Federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures shall be made by the authorized officer after consulting with the holder.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please contact BLM Casper Field Office archaeologist Christopher Arthur at (307) 261-7501 or email to Chris_Arthur@BLM.gov.

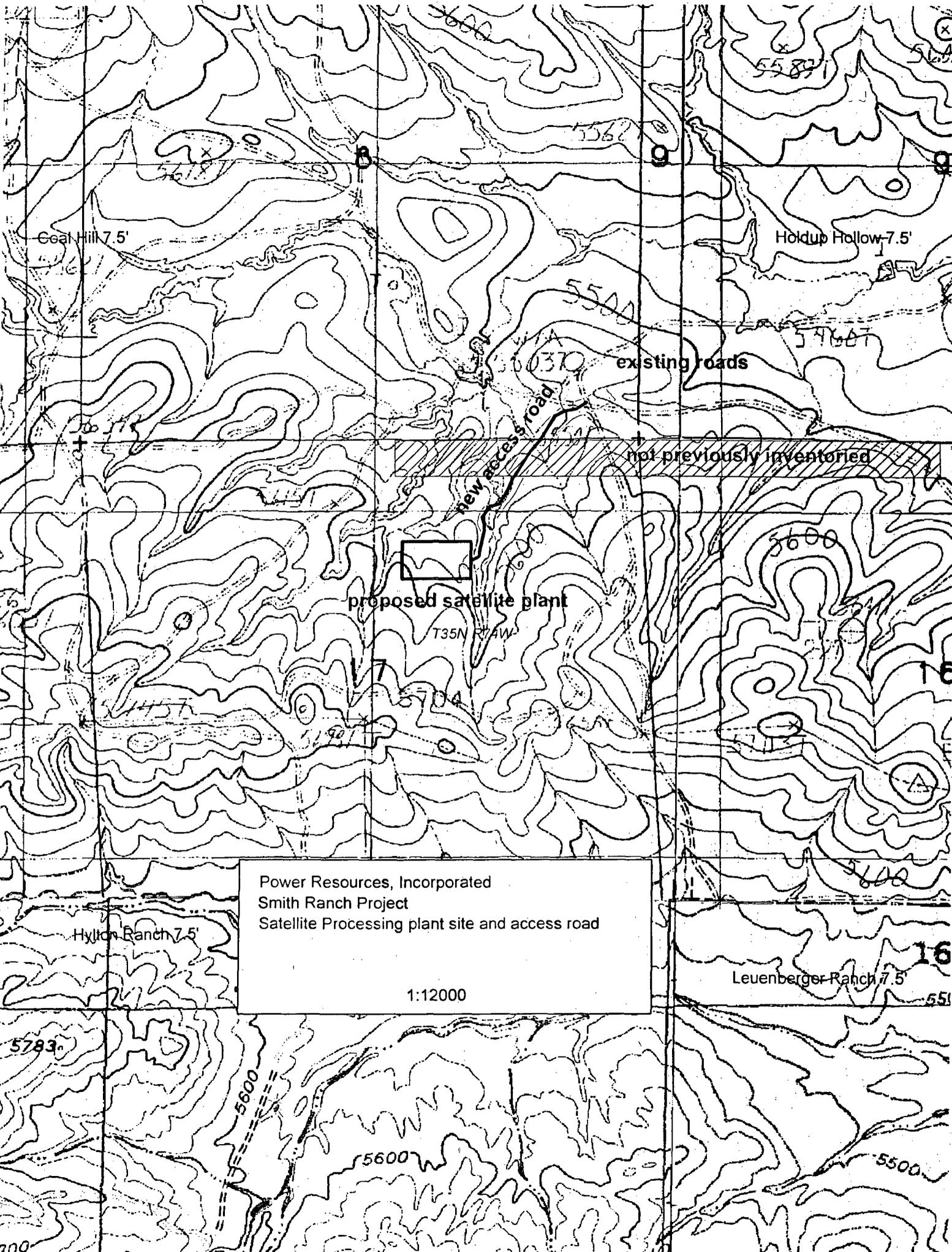
Sincerely,



Assistant Field Manager, Resources

cc: Paul Michalak, NRC
Bob Specht, BLM CFO geologist

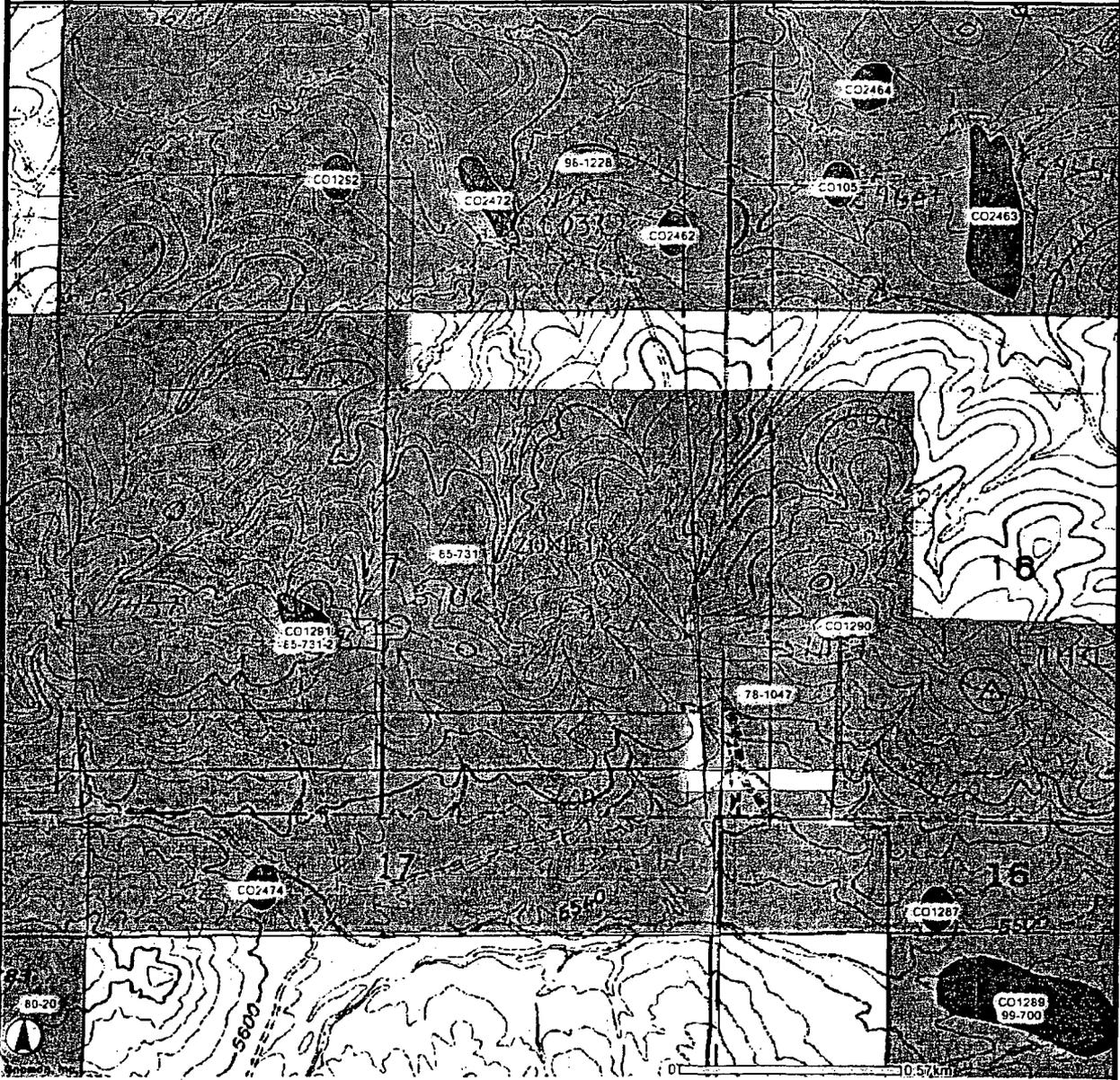
enc



Power Resources, Incorporated
Smith Ranch Project
Satellite Processing plant site and access road

1:12000

Smith Ranch Road



Wyoming
STATE PARKS & CULTURAL RESOURCES

Copyright Monday, October 15, 2007
State Historic Preservation Office
Dept. 3431, 1000 E. University
Laramie, WY 82071

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PROPRIETARY CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION: Use of this information is bound by the Wyoming Cultural Resources Information System agreement.

Legend

Sites		Interstates	
Inventories		US highways	
Digitized areas		State highways	
County boundaries			

STANDARD SIGNED NOTIFICATION DOCUMENTING NHPA COMPLIANCE

PROJECT REVIEW UNDER SECTION 106

cert. # 7004 0550 0001 2475 9926

DBU Number: DBU WY 2007 2447

Project Name: 62-2008-0020		Agency Project No.: 62-2008-0020	
Project Proponent: Power Resources, Incorporated Smith Ranch expansio		Distinct Actions: 1	
Legal Location T38.00N R74.00W Sec. 17			
Undertaking Name: Satellite Production SR-2 and access			
Other Agency Nos: 62-2008-0020 DBI_WY_2007_1883			
Field Org. Project No.: 62-2008-0020			
Brief Description: Sec. 106			
Associated Sites			
Site Number	Site Type	Eligibility	Criteria Impact Effect Statement
Lead Agency Activities			
Review Framework: State Protocol		Time Frame: Notify and Proceed	
Interested Parties: Nuclear Regulatory Commission			
Date Accepted: 10/16/2007		Fiscal Year: 2008	Date Printed: 10/16/2007
Requirements and Stipulations			
Stipulations: none			
Finding of Effect for Project			
Lead Agency: No Effect			
Notes: negative results			

Reviewer: Arthur, Chris

CA (initials)

Joseph E Meyer
Certifying Official: Jim Murkin or Joe Meyer, BLM Casper FO

10/16/2007
Date Sent to SHPO (SHPO-WYCRO, Laramie)