



## State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
NATURAL & HISTORIC RESOURCES, HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE  
P.O. Box 404, Trenton, NJ 08625-0404  
TEL: (609) 984-0176 FAX: (609) 984-0578  
www.state.nj.us/dep/hpo

CHRIS CHRISTIE  
Governor

KIM GUADAGNO  
Lt. Governor

BOB MARTIN  
Acting Commissioner

January 29, 2010

Jeffrey J. Pantazes  
PSE&G Power LLC  
Nuclear Development  
244 Chestnut Street  
Salem, New Jersey 08079

Dear Mr. Pantazes:

As Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer for New Jersey, in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Historic Properties, as published in the *Federal Register* on December 12, 2000 (65 FR 77725-77739) and amended on July 6, 2004 (69 FR 40544-40555), I am providing continuing consultation comments for the following proposed undertaking:

**Salem County, Lower Alloways Creek Township  
Submerged Cultural Resources Survey Report  
Early Site Permit Application  
Proposed Hope Creek/Salem Nuclear Power Station Expansion  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission**

These consultation comments are in response to the following submitted cultural resource reports received at the Historic Preservation Office (HPO) on January 11, 2010:

James, Stephen R. Jr., Michael Murray, and Gordon P. Watts  
December, 2009 *(Draft) Submerged Cultural Resources Survey of a Proposed Barge Facility and Water Intake, PSEG Early Site Permit Environmental Review, Delaware River, Salem, New Jersey.* Prepared for PSEG Power, LLC. Prepared by Panamerican Consultants, Inc., Memphis, TN.

### 800.4 Identifying Historic Properties

The above-referenced Phase I-level underwater archaeological survey identified 84 magnetic anomalies and 17 sidescan sonar targets within the area of potential effects (APE) for the proposed barge facility and water intake locations. The report states four clusters of magnetic and/or sidescan targets (Clusters 1, 2, 3, & 4) possess signatures strongly suggestive of shipwreck remains on the floor of the Delaware River. The report recommends Clusters 1, 2, 3 and 4 are avoided by project impacts. If impacts cannot be avoided, the report recommends a Phase II-level underwater archaeological survey to assess the eligibility potential of each cluster for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The HPO *concur*s with this assessment.

For the potential shipwreck sites (clusters) to be avoided by project impacts, the cultural resources consultant shall develop a program of avoidance with buffer area free of navigation, river floor disturbance and anchor drag lines to be incorporated into project documents. For potential wreck sites that cannot be avoided, Phase II underwater survey will provide for evaluation of the National Register eligibility of the site(s) and assessment of project impacts. For properties on or eligible for National Register inclusion, recommendations must be provided for avoidance of impacts. If impacts cannot be avoided, analyses must be provided exploring alternatives to minimize and/or mitigate impacts. Means to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate impacts to National Register eligible properties will need to be developed and undertaken prior to project implementation.

All phases of the archaeological survey and reporting will need to be in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior's *Standards and Guidelines for Archeology and Historic Preservation*, and the HPO's *Guidelines for Phase I Archaeological Investigations: Identification of Archaeological Resources and Guidelines for Preparing Cultural Resources Management Archaeological Reports Submitted to the Historic Preservation Office*. These guidelines can be obtained through the HPO's web page (<http://www.nj.gov/dep/hpo/identify/survarkeo.htm>). Evaluations to determine the National Register eligibility of archaeological sites must be in keeping with the National Park Service's 2000 National Register Bulletin, *Guidelines for Evaluating and Registering Archeological Properties*. The individual(s) conducting the work will need to meet the relevant Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualifications Standards for archaeology (48 FR 44738-9).

#### **Additional Comments**

Thank you again for providing this opportunity for review and comment on the potential for the above-referenced undertaking to affect historic properties. We look forward to continued consultation on this undertaking. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Vincent Maresca of my staff at (609) 633-2395 with questions regarding archaeology or Meghan Baratta (609-292-1253) with questions regarding historic architecture, historic districts, or historic landscapes.

Sincerely,



Daniel D. Saunders,  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

c: Molly McDonald, AKRF