



# United States Department of the Interior

HERITAGE CONSERVATION AND RECREATION SERVICE  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20240

IN REPLY REFER TO:

EP-79/161

HNC/NY

MAR 15 1979

Mr. A. E. Kintigh  
Vice President-Generation  
New York State Electric and  
Gas Corporation  
4500 Vestal Parkway East  
Binghamton, New York 13902

Dear Mr. Kintigh:

We have reviewed the environmental report for the construction stage of the New Haven Nuclear Station, Oswego County, New York, and have the following comments.

"Field investigation" of the station site provided some information on historic archeological resources, including the remains of several 19th and early 20th century structures (p. 4.1-10). However, it is unclear whether there was any subsurface testing of the site area to determine the existence of prehistoric archeological resources. Exactly what type of investigation was done should be made explicit. If further work is planned, this should also be described. Finally, on page 4.1-12 it is stated, "while construction activities as presently planned may affect to varying degrees all of the sites noted above, mitigating measures are available which can extract and preserve the information from these sites. Should any of these sites be deemed particularly significant; appropriate mitigation measures may be considered." These properties must be fully evaluated for National Register eligibility. For those that are eligible, consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) must take place on findings of adverse effect, and appropriate mitigation measures be concurred in by him and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (36 CFR 800). Preservation and avoidance remain preferable (and often less costly and less delaying) to mitigation.

For proposed transmission facilities, it is obvious from the statement on page 3.9-27 on the archeological potential of the Little Salmon River and Catfish Creek areas that more field investigation is needed there. In addition, there should be consultation with the SHPO on whether further survey work is recommended along the proposed New Haven-Narcy corridor.

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The draft environmental statement should discuss these points, and include the views of the New York State Historic Preservation Officer.

We hope these comments are helpful. Thank you for giving us an opportunity to comment on the proposed project.

Sincerely,

/s/ HAROLD R. GREEN

Chris Therral Delaporte  
Director

cc: Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Office of Environmental  
Project Review, DOI