



**Commonwealth Edison**

One First National Plaza, Chicago Illinois  
Address Reply to: Post Office Box 767  
Chicago, Illinois 60690

March 1, 1985

Mr. Harold R. Denton, Director  
Office of Nuclear Reactor Regulation  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555

Subject: Braidwood Station Units 1 and 2  
Archeological Site 11Ka179,  
Determination of Effect  
NRC Docket Nos. 50-456 and 50-457

Reference (a): B. J. Youngblood letter to D. L. Farrar  
dated December 11, 1984

Dear Mr. Denton:

Reference (a) requested the applicant to provide the information required to complete a determination of effect which the operation and maintenance activities of the plant may have on the archeological site designated 11Ka179.

In response to this matter, Commonwealth Edison Company requested the Illinois State Museum to conduct the analysis in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Officer. The analysis has been completed and the resulting recommendation of a determination of no effect has been agreed to by the State Historic Preservation Officer. Copies of the analysis and the concurring letter from the State Historic Preservation Officer are attached.

Please address any questions that you or your staff may have regarding this matter to this office.

Very truly yours,

David H. Smith  
Nuclear Licensing Administrator

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Illinois



Department of Conservation

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January 24, 1985

Mr. Michael Wiant  
Illinois State Museum  
Spring & Edwards Streets  
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Mr. Wiant:

We have reviewed the proposed project Commonwealth's Braidwood to Crete, Illinois transmission line corridor.

In our opinion, the project as proposed will have no effect on Archaeological Site 11-Ka-179. We, therefore, have no objection to the undertaking proceeding as planned.

A copy of this letter should be kept on file as evidence of compliance with section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Thomas E. Emerson, Illinois Department of Conservation, 405 E. Washington, Springfield, IL 62706 at (217) 782-3775.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "William G. Farrar".

William G. Farrar  
Deputy, State Historic Preservation  
Officer

WGF:TEE:bk

January 18, 1985

Dr. David Kenney  
State Historic Preservation Officer  
Department of Conservation  
214 South Sixth Street  
Springfield, IL 62706

Dear Dr. Kenney,

I have been requested by Commonwealth Edison Company, in response to a request from Mr. B. J. Youngblood, Chief of the Licensing Branch No. 1 of the Division of Licensing, NRR, to submit a determination of effect for archaeological site 11-Ka-179 (see Attachment A). This site is located along Commonwealth's Braidwood to Crete, Illinois transmission line corridor. Pursuant to this request, I have attached background information and supporting data recommending a determination of no effect.

If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact me at 217-785-0134.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Wiant  
Associate Curator of Anthropology

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Attachments

11-Ka-179 is a late prehistoric Mississippian period site located in the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 9, Township 31N, Range 11E (see attachment B). The site is situated on the crest of the Kankakee River valley bluffs on the north side of the river. 11-Ka-179 was discovered in 1978 by Illinois State Museum Society archeologists under contract to Commonwealth Edison Company to inspect the Braidwood to Crete, Illinois transmission line corridor. At the time the site was described as potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. According to Knight (1983:29) in her report on the archaeological reconnaissance of the transmission line corridor, 11-Ka-179 was located where tower construction was imminent but would not directly impact the site. The boundaries of the site were flagged to facilitate avoidance by construction crews. Subsequent construction of the towers and conductors to the west and east of the site completely avoided the property in question (see attachment C). At the request of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, further testing was conducted at 11-Ka-179 to determine if indeed it was eligible for nomination to the National Register. This work was carried out by the Museum Society in the spring of 1984 (Wiant et al) (see attachment D). Further testing of the site yielded information which led to the nomination and eventual acceptance of the site to the National Register. According to Commonwealth Edison, no further construction is planned and the site location has been recorded on engineering drawings (see attachment E). In this light, a no effect determination is recommended.

REFERENCES CITED

- Knight, Frances  
1981 Archaeological Investigations Along the Proposed  
Braidwood-to-Crete Power Line Corridor, Kankakee and  
Will Counties, Illinois. Illinois State Museum Society,  
Archaeological Research Program, Springfield.
- Wiant, Michael, Mona L. Colburn, Claude V. Jackson, Ray Druhot  
1984 Report of Archaeological Testing at 11Ka179, Kankakee  
County, Illinois for Commonwealth Edison, Illinois State  
Museum, Archaeological Research Program, Springfield.