



Department of Energy

Washington, DC 20585

June 22, 2026

Ryan Schumaker
State Historic Preservation Officer
300 North Washington Square
Lansing, Michigan 48913

SUBJECT: U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Dominance Financing, Section 106 Consultation, DTE Gas Company, Taggart Compressor Station Replacement Project, Montcalm County, Michigan

Dear Mr. Schumaker,

Pursuant to its authority under Title XVII of the Energy Policy Act of 2005, as amended, which established a Federal loan guarantee program, the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) Office of Energy Dominance Financing (EDF) is evaluating whether to provide a Federal loan guarantee to DTE Gas Company (DTE, or the Applicant) for the Taggart Compressor Station Replacement Project (the Project), located in Montcalm County, Michigan.

The purpose of this letter is to formally initiate consultation with the Alabama State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended (54 United States Code [U.S.C.] 306108), and its implementing regulations, 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties." This letter presents descriptions of the undertaking, the Area of Potential Effects (APE), and the efforts to identify historic properties; and seeks your concurrence with DOE's Finding of No Historic Properties Affected for this Project.

Cultural resource reports are included as Attachments 1 and 2, and an Application for SHPO Section 106 Consultation Form is included as Attachment 3.

Description of the Undertaking

DOE's action is the issuance of a proposed Federal loan guarantee to the Applicant for the undertaking (i.e., the Project), which includes construction of a new compressor station adjacent to existing gas infrastructure in Montcalm County, Michigan. The new compressor station will replace aging infrastructure at the existing Taggart Compressor Station, much of which was originally installed in the 1950s, with modern equipment that improves operational efficiency, enhances system reliability, and reduces emissions.

The proposed Project includes two compressor plants, each equipped with turbine-driven and reciprocating natural gas compression units. The new facility will include four natural gas-fired combustion turbine compressors and four natural gas-fired reciprocating internal

combustion engine compressors. These units include turbine-driven compressors and reciprocating engines of varying capacities. Supporting infrastructure includes two glycol dehydration systems to remove water and hydrocarbons from the natural gas stream prior to compression and storage. Additional facility components include natural gas-fired boilers and building heaters, fuel gas and auxiliary systems, electrical and mechanical equipment, and a centralized control room. The Project will also include two emergency natural gas-fired engines for backup power and relocated storage heaters to support system operations. Associated infrastructure includes access roads, parking areas, temporary laydown and staging areas, as well as an administrative building with office space. No temporary access roads are proposed. Two construction entrances will be installed along the northern right-of-way of Yankee Road, which will be converted to permanent access points following construction. The limits of disturbance will be maintained within the minimum area necessary for safe construction and operation. The Project will have an estimated ground disturbance footprint of 41.9 acres. Maps are provided in the cultural resource reports included as Attachments 1 and 2.

Description of the Area of Potential Effects

As defined in the Section 106 regulations (36 CFR § 800.16(d)), the APE is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause alterations in the character or use of historic properties, if any such properties exist. The dimensions of the APE are influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking and may be different for different kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. Within the APE, DOE distinguishes different survey areas for identifying archaeological and historic architectural resources (hereafter, the “archaeological survey area” and “architectural survey area”). The archaeological survey area is defined as the construction footprint of the Project where potential physical effects caused by ground-disturbing activities may occur, also known as the limits of disturbance (LOD). The architectural survey area includes the area in the Project LOD and may apply a distance buffer, as appropriate, within which potential non-physical effects (e.g., visual, vibrational, auditory, or atmospheric) could occur. These survey areas collectively comprise the APE for the Project.

The Project’s archaeological survey area includes the LOD that would be subject to ground disturbance during construction, totaling approximately 41.9 acres. The Project’s architectural survey area includes the LOD plus the area within a 0.25-mile radius surrounding the Project. Maps are provided in the cultural resource reports included as Attachments 1 and 2.

Description of Efforts to Identify Historic Properties

Tribal Outreach

In accordance with Section 106, DOE identified federally recognized Native American Indian Tribes (Tribes) that may have an interest in the Project area. DOE has notified the following eight (8) federally recognized Tribes to see if they have an interest in the Project: Lac Vieux Desert Band of Lake Superior Chippewa Indians of Michigan; Little River Band of Ottawa Indians, Michigan; Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians, Michigan;

Menominee Indian Tribe of Wisconsin; Miami Tribe of Oklahoma; Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians, Minnesota; Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe of Michigan; and Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians, Michigan.

By separate letter sent concurrently with this submission to the SHPO, DOE EDF has requested Tribal respondents to provide their comments on the undertaking, provide information regarding historic properties of religious or cultural significance to Tribes that may be present in the APE, and to identify any additional Tribes that may share an interest in the Project area so DOE EDF can promptly invite them to consult. DOE EDF will consider all comments received from Tribes during the 30-day consultation period and will coordinate with the SHPO and other consulting parties, as appropriate, if additional consultation is requested or deemed necessary.

Records Search

As part of the Section 106 identification process, qualified cultural resource specialists at Southeastern Archaeological Research, LLC (SEARCH) were contracted to conduct cultural resource surveys. SEARCH prepared the cultural resource reports that are included as Attachments 1 and 2 and summarized below.

A review of the MI SHPO Cultural Resource Information System (CRIS) and the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) database determined there are no previously recorded historic aboveground resources or historic properties located within the APE. Three (3) archaeological sites (20ML45, -46, and -47) recorded by Cremin and Hoxie (1980) are reported outside the APE, but within approximately one mile of the Project. No other surveys overlap with or are within one mile of the APE. One (1) cemetery is located within one mile of the Project—the Hillcrest Cemetery is 0.25 miles southwest of the Project. Historic maps and historic aerial photographs were reviewed to identify potential historic resources at least 40 years old within the APE to inform the architecture reconnaissance survey.

Following the completion of background research, SEARCH completed Phase I archaeological and architectural history surveys to identify newly recorded resources within the APE. The results of the survey are provided in Attachments 1 and 2 and summarized below.

Archaeological Resources

The archaeological field investigations consisted of pedestrian walkover of the archaeological survey area employing visual inspection of the ground surface and subsurface testing where conditions allowed. Within the 41.9-acre APE, 30.6 acres were subject to subsurface shovel testing; the remaining area within the LOD was visually inspected to accommodate 15-meter safety exclusion areas surrounding the existing buried utility lines, wells, gas lines, and extant structures (see Attachment 1).

A total of 560 shovel tests were plotted across the survey area, of which 548 were excavated; 12 STs could not be excavated due to DTE notification/marketing of additional buried utility lines and visible ground disturbance. None of the excavated shovel tests recovered any cultural material or identified any cultural features. Therefore, no archaeological resources were identified within the APE. Additional details on the archaeological survey methods and results, maps, and photographs are included in Attachment 1.

Historic Architectural Resources

The architectural history field survey documented extant historic-age buildings, structures, and objects within the APE. Resources were photographed with a digital camera, and pertinent information regarding architectural style, materials, distinguishing characteristics, siting, and condition was recorded. Upon completion of fieldwork, qualified architectural historians considered architectural characteristics, overall conditions, and historic significance to evaluate the NRHP eligibility of each resource.

The survey resulted in the identification and evaluation of 28 newly recorded historic resources within the APE, including 24 buildings, one (1) structure, and three (3) resource groups. Of the 25 individual buildings/structures, 21 are located within one of the three newly recorded resource groups:

1. Taggart Compressor Station (TCS) consists of 15 associated buildings and structures (Resources AH-1, AH-2, AH-3, AH-4, AH-5, AH-6, AH-7, AH-8, AH-9, AH-10, AH-11, AH-12, AH-13, AH-14, and AH-15);
2. Hillcrest Cemetery consists of two (2) associated buildings and structures (Resources AH-16, and AH-17);
3. 10900 N Nevins Road Farmstead consists of four (4) associated buildings comprising a farmstead (Resources AH-18, AH-19, AH-20, and AH-21).

The NRHP eligibility of each resource was evaluated individually and, for resource groups, collectively as an historic district/complex or cultural landscape. None of the identified resources are recommended eligible for inclusion in the NRHP. Additional details and resource forms are included in Attachment 2. In conclusion, no historic properties are present in the APE.

Requesting your Concurrence and Next Steps

Based on DOE EDF's review of the efforts to identify historic properties and conclusions drawn from this information, DOE EDF is issuing a Finding of No Historic Properties Affected, consistent with 36 CFR § 800.4(d)(1). As part of the Section 106 process, DOE EDF requests the concurrence of the Michigan SHPO on the Finding of No Historic Properties Affected, as well as any comments you may have on the APE or the Project **within thirty (30) days of receipt of this letter.**

In the event of a post-review unanticipated discovery of cultural resources and/or human remains during construction, DOE EDF will determine actions to resolve adverse effects and notify the SHPO, any Tribe that might attach religious and cultural significance to the affected property, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) within 48 hours of the discovery, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13(b)(3).

We look forward to consulting with your office throughout the Section 106 process. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this project further, please contact me at 240-687-7266 or via email at EDF_Environmental@doe.gov.

Sincerely,

Molly R. Cobbs
Environmental Project Manager
Office of Energy Dominance Financing

Attachments:

- Attachment 1. Archaeological Survey Report
- Attachment 2. Architectural History Survey Report
- Attachment 3. Application for SHPO Section 106 Consultation Form