



WEST VIRGINIA
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January 29, 2009

Mr. Ronald Wigal
Cultural Resource Coordinator
USDA – NRCS
75 High Street, Room 301
Morgantown, WV 26505

RE: Lost River Watershed – Dam Site 16
FR#: 05-1190-HY-9

Dear Mr. Wigal,

We have received 2 copies of the report titled *Phase I Archaeological Survey and Phase II Archaeological Evaluation of Sites 46Hy495, 46Hy497 and 46Hy501, Lost City, Hardy County, West Virginia*, which was submitted for the above-referenced project. As required by Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations, 36 CFR 800: "Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties" we submit our comments.

The report presents the results of the Phase I archaeological survey of the approximately 49-acre area proposed for the emergency spillway for Dam No. 16 and Phase II National Register assessment of 46Hy495, 46Hy497, and 46Hy501. As noted in previous correspondence, due to the revision of the proposed project area, sites 46Hy496 and 46Hy502, which were recommended for Phase II National Register assessment, are no longer within the Area of Potential Effect. As noted in our December 9, 2008 letter, we concurred with the recommendation that these sites are not eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places. In our opinion, there are no archaeological resources within the proposed project area that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. In a letter dated September 6, 2005, we concurred that this project would have no effect to architectural resources that are eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. No further consultation is required with respect to the Section 106 process.

We appreciate the opportunity to be of service. *If you have any questions regarding our comments or the Section 106 process, please contact Lora A. Lamarre, Senior Archaeologist, at (304) 558-0240.*

Sincerely,


Susan M. Pierce
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

SMP/LAL