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Organization: Elnu Abenaki Tribe

Title: Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Comments: With reference to page 42 in the Telephone Gap Integrated Resource Project "Notice of Proposed Action and Opportunity to Comment - Detailed Version" document, in section 4. Other Resource Considerations and listed under 16 - Heritage Resources is a description of the NHPA Section 106 process to be followed. The text states "The Forest Service will submit an archaeological survey report documenting the findings that proposed activities may not affect or may not adversely affect historic properties for review to the Vermont State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and consulted tribes."

Elnu Abenaki Tribe would like assurance that they will be included in this process as stated, and as previously stated by the Forest Service in similar undertakings. Also, we are looking for clarification as to when this submission will be made, and any related consultation or informative opportunities will be planned or offered. We look forward to strengthening our collaboration and inclusion in these matters which have direct intersection with our cultural concerns and responsibilities.