

APPENDIX H:  
State Historic Preservation Office Response

**Minnesota**  
**State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)**

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**From:** Jesse Kling <jesse.kling@mnhs.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2017 1:19 PM  
**To:** Data Requests to SHPO  
**Cc:** Ryan Grohnke  
**Subject:** Re: Database Search Lake Wilson East  
**Attachments:** MurrayHistoric.rtf

**THIS EMAIL IS NOT A PROJECT CLEARANCE.**

**This message simply reports the results of the cultural resources database search you requested. The database search produced results for only previously known archaeological sites and historic properties. Please read the note below carefully.**

No archaeological sites were identified in a search of the Minnesota Archaeological Inventory and Historic Structures Inventory for the search area requested. **A report containing the history/architecture properties identified is attached.**

The result of this database search provides a listing of recorded archaeological sites and historic architectural properties that are included in the current SHPO databases. Because the majority of archaeological sites in the state and many historic architectural properties have not been recorded, important sites or structures may exist within the search area and may be affected by development projects within that area. Additional research, including field survey, may be necessary to adequately assess the area's potential to contain historic properties.

Properties that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP are indicated on the reports you have received. The following codes on the reports you received are:

**NR** – National Register listed. The properties may be individually listed or may be within the boundaries of a National Register District.

**CEF** – Certified Eligible to the National Register findings are usually made during the federal review process, these properties have been evaluated as being eligible for listing in the National Register.

**SEF** – Staff eligible findings to the National Register are properties that have been determined eligible by SHPO staff.

**DOE** – Determination of Eligibility is made by the National Park Service and typically refers to properties deemed eligible but the owner objects to the listing.

**CNEF** – Certified Not Eligible to the National Register. SHPO has begun to record properties that have been evaluated as **not eligible** for listing in the National Register. If the box on the form has a check the property has been determined to be **not eligible**.

Properties without **NR, CEF, SEF, DOE, or CNEF** designations in the reports you received may not have been evaluated and therefore no assumption to their eligibility can be made.

If you require a comprehensive assessment of a project's potential to impact archaeological sites or historic architectural properties, you may need to hire a qualified archaeologist and/or historian. If you need assistance with a project review, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson in Review and Compliance @ 651-259-3455 or by email at [kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org](mailto:kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org).

The Minnesota SHPO Survey Manuals and Database Metadata can be found at <http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/survey/inventories.htm>  
**SHPO research hours are 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM Tuesday-Friday.**

## The Office is closed on Mondays.

On Friday, October 6, 2017 at 10:51:54 AM UTC-5, Ryan Grohnke wrote:

Hello,

Could you do a database search for the following area:

Township 106, Range 42, Sections 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29

Thank you,

Ryan

**Ryan P. Grohnke**

**CULTURAL RESOURCES FIELD DIRECTOR/PROJECT MANAGER**

[ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com](mailto:ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com)

**Direct** (952) 906-7403

**Main** (952) 937-5150

**Cell** (612) 209-3352

**Westwood Multi-Disciplined Surveying & Engineering**

7699 Anagram Drive | Eden Prairie, MN 55344

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**[westwoodps.com](http://westwoodps.com)**

(888) 937-5150

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**From:** Jesse Kling <jesse.kling@mnhs.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, October 6, 2017 1:21 PM  
**To:** Data Requests to SHPO  
**Cc:** Ryan Grohnke  
**Subject:** Re: Database Search Request - Lake Wilson West  
**Attachments:** MurrayArchaeology2.rtf; MurrayHistoric2.rtf

**THIS EMAIL IS NOT A PROJECT CLEARANCE.**

This message simply reports the results of the cultural resources database search you requested. The database search produced results for only previously known archaeological sites and historic properties. Please read the note below carefully.

Archaeological sites and Historic properties were identified in a search of the Minnesota Archaeological Inventory and Historic Structures Inventory for the search area requested. A **report containing the results of the searches is attached.**

The result of this database search provides a listing of recorded archaeological sites and historic architectural properties that are included in the current SHPO databases. Because the majority of archaeological sites in the state and many historic architectural properties have not been recorded, important sites or structures may exist within the search area and may be affected by development or construction projects within that area. Additional research, including field survey, may be necessary to adequately assess the area's potential to contain historic properties.

Properties that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP are indicated on the reports you have received. The following codes on the reports you received are:

**NR** – National Register listed. The properties may be individually listed or may be within the boundaries of a National Register District.

**CEF** – Certified Eligible to the National Register findings are usually made during the federal review process, these properties have been evaluated as being eligible for listing in the National Register.

**SEF** – Staff eligible findings to the National Register are properties that have been determined eligible by SHPO staff.

**DOE** – Determination of Eligibility is made by the National Park Service and typically refers to properties deemed eligible but the owner objects to the listing.

**CNEF** – Certified Not Eligible to the National Register. SHPO has begun to record properties that have been evaluated as **not eligible** for listing in the National Register. If the box on the form has a check the property has been determined to be **not eligible**.

Properties without **NR, CEF, SEF, DOE, or CNEF** designations in the reports you received may not have been evaluated and therefore no assumption to their eligibility can be made.

If you require a comprehensive assessment of a project's potential to impact archaeological sites or historic architectural properties, you may need to hire a qualified archaeologist and/or historian. If you need assistance with a project review, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson in Review and Compliance @ 651-259-3455 or by email at [kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org](mailto:kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org).

The Minnesota SHPO Survey Manuals and Database Metadata can be found at <http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/survey/inventories.htm>

SHPO research hours are 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM Tuesday-Friday.

# The Office is closed on Mondays.

On Friday, October 6, 2017 at 10:50:12 AM UTC-5, Ryan Grohnke wrote:

Good morning,

Could you please do a database search for the following area:

Township 106, Range 43, Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 36

Township 106, Range 42, Sections 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, 31, 32

Thank you,  
Ryan

**Ryan P. Grohnke**

**CULTURAL RESOURCES FIELD DIRECTOR/PROJECT MANAGER**

ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com

**Direct** (952) 906-7403

**Main** (952) 937-5150

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**westwoodps.com**

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**From:** Jesse Kling <jesse.kling@mnhs.org>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 2, 2018 1:17 PM  
**To:** Data Requests to SHPO  
**Cc:** Ryan Grohnke  
**Subject:** Re: Database Search Lake Wilson West - revised  
**Attachments:** MurrayArchaeology3.xls; MurrayHistoric3.xls

## **THIS EMAIL IS NOT A PROJECT CLEARANCE**

**This information has recently been updated, please read the note below carefully.**

**This message simply reports the results of the cultural resources database search you requested. The database search produced results for only previously known archaeological sites and historic properties.**

Archaeological sites and historic/architectural properties were identified in a search of the Minnesota Archaeological Inventory and Historic and Architectural Inventory for the search area requested. **A report containing the results of the searches is attached.**

The result of this database search provides a listing of recorded archaeological sites and historic/architectural properties that are included in the current MN SHPO databases. Because the majority of archaeological sites in the state and many historic/architectural properties have not been recorded, important sites or properties may exist within the search area and may be affected by development or construction projects within that area. Additional research, including field survey, may be necessary to adequately assess the area's potential to contain historic properties.

Properties that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP are indicated on the reports you have received. The following codes on the reports you received are:

**NR** – National Register listed. The properties may be individually listed or may be within the boundaries of a National Register District.

**CEF** – Considered Eligible Findings are made when a federal agency has recommended that a property is eligible for listing in the National Register and MN SHPO has accepted the recommendation for the purposes of the Review and Compliance Process. There properties need to be further assessed before they are officially listed in the National Register.

**SEF** – Staff eligible Findings are those properties the MN SHPO staff considers eligible for listing in the National Register, in circumstances other than the Review and Compliance process.

**DOE** – Determination of Eligibility is made by the National Park Service and are those properties that are eligible for listing in the National Register, but have not been officially listed.

**CNEF** – Considered Not Eligible Findings are made during the course of a Review and Compliance process. For the purposes of the review a property is considered not eligible for listing in the National Register. These properties may need to be reassessed for eligibility under additional or alternate contexts.

Properties without **NR, CEF, SEF, DOE, or CNEF** designations in the reports you received may not have been evaluated and therefore no assumption to their eligibility can be made. Integrity and contexts change over time, therefore any eligibility determination made ten (10) or more years for the date of the current survey are considered out of date and the property will need to be reassessed.

If you require a comprehensive assessment of a project’s potential to impact archaeological sites or historic architectural properties, you may need to hire a qualified archaeologist and/or historian. If you need assistance with a project review, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson in Review and Compliance @ 651-259-3455 or by email at [kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org](mailto:kelly.graggjohnson@mnhs.org).

The Minnesota SHPO Survey Manuals and Database Metadata can be found at <http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/survey/inventories.htm>

**MN SHPO research hours are 8:30 AM – 4:00 PM Tuesday-Friday. Please call ahead at 651-59-3450 to ensure staff is available to assist you, if necessary.**

# The Office is closed on Mondays.

On Tuesday, January 2, 2018 at 10:02:29 AM UTC-6, Ryan Grohnke wrote:

Good morning,

Could you please do a database search for the following area:

Township 106, Range 43, Sections 11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 36

Township 106, Range 42, Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 29, 30, 31, 32

Thank you,  
Ryan

**Ryan P. Grohnke**  
**CULTURAL RESOURCES FIELD DIRECTOR/PROJECT MANAGER**  
[ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com](mailto:ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com)



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(888) 937-5150

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**From:** MN\_MNIT\_Data Request SHPO <DataRequestSHPO@state.mn.us>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 1, 2021 6:19 PM  
**To:** Ryan Grohnke  
**Subject:** RE: Database Request\_LakeWilson  
**Attachments:** Archaeology.xls; History.xls

Hello Ryan,

Please see attached.

Jim



SHPO Data Requests  
Minnesota State Historic Preservation Office  
50 Sherburne Avenue, Suite 203  
Saint Paul, MN 55155  
(651) 201-3299  
[datarequestshpo@state.mn.us](mailto:datarequestshpo@state.mn.us)

**Notice:** This email message simply reports the results of the cultural resources database search you requested. The database search is only for previously known archaeological sites and historic properties. **IN NO CASE DOES THIS DATABASE SEARCH OR EMAIL MESSAGE CONSTITUTE A PROJECT REVIEW UNDER STATE OR FEDERAL PRESERVATION LAWS** – please see our website at <https://mn.gov/admin/shpo/protection/> for further information regarding our Environmental Review Process.

Because the majority of archaeological sites in the state and many historic/architectural properties have not been recorded, important sites or properties may exist within the search area and may be affected by development projects within that area. Additional research, including field surveys, may be necessary to adequately assess the area's potential to contain historic properties or archaeological sites.

Properties that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP are indicated on the reports you have received, if any. The following codes may be on those reports:

**NR** – National Register listed. The properties may be individually listed or may be within the boundaries of a National Register District.

**CEF** – Considered Eligible Findings are made when a federal agency has recommended that a property is eligible for listing in the National Register and MN SHPO has accepted the recommendation for the purposes of the Environmental Review Process. These properties need to be further assessed before they are officially listed in the National Register.

**SEF** – Staff eligible Findings are those properties the MN SHPO staff considers eligible for listing in the National Register, in circumstances other than the Environmental Review Process.

**DOE** – Determination of Eligibility is made by the National Park Service and are those properties that are eligible for listing in the National Register, but have not been officially listed.

**CNEF** – Considered Not Eligible Findings are made during the course of the Environmental Review Process. For the purposes of the review a property is considered not eligible for listing in the National Register. These properties may need to be reassessed for eligibility under additional or alternate contexts.

Properties without NR, CEF, SEF, DOE, or CNEF designations in the reports may not have been evaluated and therefore no assumption to their eligibility can be made. Integrity and contexts change over time, therefore any eligibility determination made ten (10) or more years from the date of the current survey are considered out of date and the property will need to be reassessed. If you require a comprehensive assessment of a project's potential to impact archaeological sites or historic/architectural properties, you may need to hire a qualified archaeologist and/or historian. If you need assistance with a project review, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson, Environmental Review Specialist @ 651-201-3285 or by email at [kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us](mailto:kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us).

The Minnesota SHPO Archaeology and Historic/Architectural Survey Manuals can be found at <https://mn.gov/admin/shpo/identification-evaluation/>.

Given the Governor's implementation of [Stay Safe MN](#), SHPO staff will continue to work remotely and be available via [phone and email](#), and the SHPO office will be closed to visitors and unable to accommodate in-person research and deliveries. Mail is being delivered to the office via USPS, FedEx and UPS, however, staff have limited weekly access to sort and process mail. Our office will continue to take file search requests via [DataRequestSHPO@state.mn.us](mailto:DataRequestSHPO@state.mn.us). Check [SHPO's webpage](#) for the latest updates and we thank you for your continued patience.



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**From:** Ryan Grohnke <Ryan.Grohnke@westwoodps.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, August 30, 2021 11:15 AM  
**To:** MN\_MNIT\_Data Request SHPO <DataRequestSHPO@state.mn.us>  
**Subject:** Database Request\_LakeWilson

**This message may be from an external email source.**

Do not select links or open attachments unless verified. Report all suspicious emails to Minnesota IT Services Security Operations Center.

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Good morning,

Could you do a database request for the following areas?

Township 106, Range 43, Sections:11, 12, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, 26, 36

Township 106, Range 42, Sections:7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35

Thank you,  
Ryan

**Ryan Grohnke**

**Cultural Resources Manager**  
ryan.grohnke@westwoodps.com

**direct** (952) 906-7403  
**main** (952) 937-5150  
**cell** (612) 209-3352

**Westwood**  
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300  
Minnetonka, MN 55343

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(888) 937-5150

August 29, 2022

**VIA EMAIL ONLY**

Monica Monterrosa  
Manager, Renewable Development  
Invenergy LLC

RE: Lake Wilson Solar Energy Project  
Murray County  
SHPO Number: 2022-0453

Dear Monica Monterrosa:

Thank you for continuing consultation on the above referenced project. Information received on July 29, 2022, has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Office by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act (Minn. Stat. 138.666).

According to your submission, Lake Wilson LLC is proposing to develop a 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (Project) on approximately 1,581 acres in Murray County. The proposed project will include the installation of solar modules, inverters, and racking, onsite electrical collection lines, a substation, a main power transformer, a battery storage system, an overhead transmission line, a utility switchyard, fencing, an O&M building, and associated access roads.

We previously commented on this project in a letter December 15, 2021, recommending that a background literature review for architectural and archaeological resources be completed for this Project. We also recommended that a Phase Ia archaeological assessment be completed for this project. If, as a result of this assessment, a Phase I archaeological survey is recommended, this survey should be conducted. The survey must meet the requirements of the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Identification and Evaluation and should include an evaluation of National Register eligibility for any properties that are identified. For a list of consultants who have expressed an interest in undertaking this type of research and archaeological surveys, please visit the website <http://www.mnhs.org/shpo/preservation-directory>, and select "Archaeologists, Contract" in the "Specialties" box.

The Project should consider not only direct impacts to cultural resources, but potential indirect impacts as well. The analysis completed for indirect impacts should take into account any introduction of visual, atmospheric or audible elements that may have an effect on cultural resources (including architectural resources that are listed in the National or State Register of Historic Places and archaeological sites). Indirect effects can also include changes to a historic property's use.

The resulting cultural resources report should include maps with clearly defined project areas including the location of the solar modules and associated equipment, any laydown yards, transmission lines, collector lines, access roads, and any other above-ground equipment structures (i.e. substations, operation and maintenance buildings, etc) in relation to any identified cultural resources (architectural properties and archaeological sites). The report should discuss ways in which the project will avoid impacting, both directly and indirectly, any cultural resources that are identified.

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MINNESOTA STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE

50 Sherburne Avenue ■ Administration Building 203 ■ Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155 ■ 651-201-3287

[mn.gov/admin/shpo](http://mn.gov/admin/shpo) ■ [mnshpo@state.mn.us](mailto:mnshpo@state.mn.us)

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND SERVICE PROVIDER

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36 CFR § 800. If this project is considered for federal financial assistance, or requires a federal permit or license, then review and consultation with our office will need to be initiated by the lead federal agency. Be advised that comments and recommendations provided by our office for this state-level review may differ from findings and determinations made by the federal agency as part of review and consultation under Section 106.

If you have any questions regarding our review of this project, please contact me at [kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us](mailto:kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us).

Sincerely,

*Kelly Gragg-Johnson*

Kelly Gragg-Johnson  
Environmental Review Program Specialist

June 26, 2023

Ryan P. Grohnke  
Cultural Resources Manager  
Westwood  
12701 Whitewater Drive, Suite 300  
Minnetonka, MN 55343

RE: Lake Wilson Solar Energy Project  
Chanarambie and Leeds Townships, Murray County  
SHPO Number: 2022-0453

Dear Ryan Grohnke:

Thank you for continuing consultation on the above referenced project. It has been reviewed pursuant to the responsibilities given the State Historic Preservation Office by the Minnesota Historic Sites Act (Minn. Stat. 138.665-666).

Lake Wilson LLC is proposing to develop a 150 MW Solar Energy Facility (Project) on approximately 1,526 acres in Murray County. The proposed project will include the installation of solar modules, inverters, and racking, onsite electrical collection lines, a substation, a main power transformer, a battery storage system, an overhead transmission line, a utility switchyard, fencing, an O&M building, and associated access roads.

We have reviewed the cultural resources survey report: *A Report for Phase I Archaeological Survey, Lake Wilson Solar Project, Murray County, Minnesota* (November 22, 2022) as prepared by Westwood. We understand that the survey was completed at a pace that exceeds some national guidance and recommended best practices from other states. However, based on our review of the documentation provided, we conclude that there are **no properties** listed in the National or State Registers of Historic Places and no known or suspected archaeological properties in the area that will be affected by this project.

Please note that this comment letter does not address the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 and 36 CFR § 800. If this project is considered for federal financial assistance, or requires a federal permit or license, then review and consultation with our office will need to be initiated by the lead federal agency. Be advised that comments and recommendations provided by our office for this state-level review may differ from findings and determinations made by the federal agency as part of review and consultation under Section 106.

If you have any questions regarding our review of this project, please contact Kelly Gragg-Johnson, Environmental Review Program Specialist, at 651-201-3285 or [kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us](mailto:kelly.graggjohnson@state.mn.us).

Sincerely,



Sarah J. Beimers  
Environmental Review Program Manager