

**OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION
DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

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November 16, 2015

In Reply Refer To: COE120628A

Zachary Simmons
Senior Regulatory Project Manager
Department of the Army
U.S. Army Engineer District, Sacramento
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Section 106 Consultation for Millerton Road Widening project

Dear Mr. Simmons:

Pursuant to 36 CFR Part 800 (as amended 8-05-04) regulations implementing Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Army Corps of Engineers (COE), is seeking my comments on its determination of the Area of Potential Effects (APE), historic property identification efforts, determination of eligibility for National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and finding of effects that the proposed undertaking will have on historic properties. The proposed undertaking would issue a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit authorizing the reconstruction of a 4.7-mile stretch of Millerton Road from a two-lane rural roadway to a four-lane divided highway and replace a bridge crossing the Friant-Kern Canal (FKC). The APE has been defined as the new proposed right-of-way for Millerton Road. **Please note that this consultation letter replaces previous letter from October 29, 2012.**

In addition to your letter and attachments, you have submitted the following document as evidence of your efforts to identify historic properties in the project Area of Potential Effects (APE):

- *Cultural Resources Study Millerton Road Widening Project, Fresno County (AES, November 2011)*

Cultural resource inventory efforts included consultation with the Native American Heritage Commission and local Native American tribes identified by them, records search, and intensive pedestrian surveys. The FKC and a portion of CA-KER-3111/H were identified in the APE.

For the purposes of this undertaking, COE is assuming the FKC is eligible for listing in the NRHP and finds that replacing a bridge crossing the FKC does not adversely affect the FKC. The prehistoric component of CA-KER-3111/H was previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP under Criterion D in 2001 as part of the Caltrans Friant Cove Rest Stop project. Subsurface archaeological testing identified only disturbed deposits and fill material within the portion of CA-KER-3111/H that is within the APE for

this undertaking. COE has determined that issuing a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit for this project will not adversely affect historic properties.

After reviewing your letter and supporting documentation, pursuant to 36 CFR 800.4(c)(1) I have the following comments:

- I have no comments on the definition of the APE or historic property identification efforts.
- I concur that issuing a Clean Water Act Section 404 permit authorizing the reconstruction of Millerton Road will result in no adverse effect to historic properties.

Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, the COE may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800. Thank you for seeking my comments and for considering historic properties in planning your project. If you require further information, please contact Brendon Greenaway of my staff at phone 916-445-7036 or email Brendon.greenaway@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'J. Polanco', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Julianne Polanco
State Historic Preservation Officer