

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

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November 3, 2016

In reply, reference to: NASA\_2016\_0808\_001

Keith Venter  
Historic Preservation Officer  
Facilities Engineering Branch  
NASA Ames Research Center  
Mail Stop 213-8  
Moffett Field, CA 94035

Subject: Construction of Bay View Campus, NASA Ames Research Center, Santa Clara County, CA

Dear Mr. Venter:

Thank you for your October 4, 2016, letter continuing consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) in order to comply with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (54 U.S.C. §306108), as amended, and its implementing regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. The letter contains responses to comments from the SHPO transmitted in a letter dated September 20, 2016, and has attachments supporting NASA's archaeological identification efforts.

The proposed undertaking, as previously described, involves construction of an office complex and support facilities on the currently undeveloped Bay View site, which is located at the northwest corner of the ARC property and is subject to long-term Enhanced Use Lease by Planetary Ventures, LLC (effective May 14, 2008).

NASA defined the Area of Potential Effect (APE) to include the entire NASA ARC facility, including the US Army and California Air National Guard areas. The APE contains the NAS Sunnyvale Historic District, the proposed NASA Ames Wind Tunnel Historic District, and individually eligible resources (Administration Building, Arc Jet Complex, Systems Development Facility / Structural Dynamics Laboratory, and Flight and Guidance Simulation Lab). None of these resources is within the Bay View Parcel.

NASA conducted a record search for previous archaeological surveys in the APE and a new surface survey in June 2016. One prehistoric site was recorded in the project area in 1912. Surveys in the 1970s failed to locate this site or any other additional artifacts, leading NASA to believe the site was destroyed by agricultural activity in the area. A

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new surface survey of the project area in June 2016 did not locate any indicators of the previously recorded site or any other historic or prehistoric sites.

Because the project area is outside the boundaries of the existing and proposed historic districts and because of the lack of resources encountered on the surface of the project area, NASA proposes a Finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking. After reviewing the information submitted to my office, the SHPO offers the following comments:

- NASA confirmed that no solar / wind energy generation is currently proposed in the 200-foot wetland buffer zone, and that NASA will conduct separate Section 106 compliance if proposals are submitted.
- The SHPO does not object to NASA's conclusion that no evidence of Site CA-SCL-23 remains.
- Identification and evaluation efforts appear to be sufficient.
- Based upon the information submitted, the SHPO has no objection to the proposed Finding of No Adverse Effect for this undertaking.
- The SHPO recommends archaeological monitoring during ground disturbing activities in order to expedite resolution of any inadvertent discoveries. NASA should also consider Tribal monitoring if recommended through Native American consultation.
- Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, FEMA may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

The SHPO looks forward to continuing consultation on this undertaking. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mark Beason, State Historian, at (916) 445-4047 or [mark.beason@parks.ca.gov](mailto:mark.beason@parks.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer