



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

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June 6, 2022

VIA Email

In reply, refer to: NASA\_2022\_0429\_001

Mr. Jonathan Ikan  
Center Cultural Resources Manager  
NASA Ames Research Center  
Mail Stop 213-8  
Moffett Field, CA 94035

Subject: Strength Test 6-Inch Pipe Project, GCUST5783, MP 0.00 to 0.10, NASA Ames Research Center, Moffett Field, Santa Clara County, California

Dear Mr. Ikan:

The California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) has received the April 29, 2022, letter initiating consultation regarding an undertaking at NASA Ames Research Center (ARC). NASA is consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) 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. Along with the letter, NASA submitted a Cultural Resources Inventory Report for the GCUST5783, MP 0.00 to 0.10 Strength Test 6-Inch Pipe Project, Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California, prepared by SWCA Environmental Consultants and dated October 2021.

The undertaking, as described, involves a proposal by PG&E to conduct hydrostatic testing at two locations, Locations A and B, which will serve as the test heads, or end points, of the approximately 0.1-mile strength test, in the city of Mountain View, Santa Clara County, California. The existing pipeline will be returned to preconstruction condition and contour once the strength test is complete. Excavations for Location A will take place on approximately 39,869 square feet of undisturbed area, and excavations for Location B will take place on approximately 33,480 square feet of existing graveled access road. Additionally, there will be an approximately 29,025-square-foot staging area alongside the access road for water tanks, spoils, and other ancillary equipment.

The undertaking is located within the NASA ARC boundaries, but also requires a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Rivers and Harbors Act Section 10 permit. NASA is serving as the lead federal agency for Section 106.

NASA identified the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the undertaking that covers approximately 2.35 acres, and includes equipment laydown, project workspace, and areas proposed for staging. Vertical disturbances will reach a maximum depth of 8 feet to access the existing pipeline. PG&E will access the Project through established routes and roadways.

The APE is located adjacent to but outside the boundaries of the NAS Sunnyvale National Historic Register District, and no built environment resources are expected to be affected within the APE. SWCA conducted a Sacred Lands File (SLF) search through the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC); Tribal outreach, including letters to nine local, non-federally recognized Tribes and follow-up calls to all Tribal contacts; a records search of the California Historical Resources Information System (CHRIS); a buried site sensitivity analysis; a review of historical aerials and relevant literature; and a pedestrian survey of the APE. The SLF search was negative, and no comments were received from Tribes who were contacted. No previously recorded cultural resources were identified within the APE and no new cultural resources were identified during the intensive pedestrian survey. The nearest archaeological site, CA-SCL-23, is 0.34 miles south of the APE. The buried site sensitivity analysis indicates there is low potential to encounter intact buried archaeological deposits within the APE. The APE appeared previously disturbed by reclamation efforts and construction of the existing pipeline.

Because no known historic properties are located within the APE, NASA proposes a Finding of No Historic Properties Affected for this undertaking. After reviewing the information submitted, the SHPO offers the following comments.

- This project qualifies as an undertaking with the potential to affect historic properties.
- The APE is sufficient to take direct and indirect effects of the undertaking into account.
- Identification and evaluation efforts are sufficient.
- The SHPO has no objection to the proposed Finding of No Historic Properties Affected for this undertaking.
- Please be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, NASA may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800.

If there are any questions or concerns, please contact State Historian Mark Beason, at (916) 445-7047 or [mark.beason@parks.ca.gov](mailto:mark.beason@parks.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Julianne Polanco  
State Historic Preservation Officer