1.4.11 Archaeological Resources

The DB Entity shall ensure that project work complies with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) by:

1) preparing an Archaeological Monitoring Plan for identified archaeologically sensitive areas and

2.) ensuring that a Qualified (36 CFR 61) Archaeologist is present during *all* ground-disturbing work within archaeologically sensitive areas, consistent with the approved Archaeological Monitoring Plan.

See Appendix B12 Cultural Resources for figures 1 & 2 depicting archaeologically sensitive areas to be monitored. Note that only areas labelled as “moderate’ and ‘high’ must be monitored (Areas W1, W5, E1, and E3 only).

An Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment has identified several areas where archaeological sites may be present. Because pre-construction archaeological survey is not feasible, RIDOT has approved a program of archaeological monitoring to occur during construction. “Ground disturbance” includes *any* permanent and temporary work/impacts to the ground surface or subsurface, including equipment storage, staging, traffic/parking (vehicle and heavy machinery), or hand/machinery excavation.

The DB Entity shall provide an Archaeological Monitoring Plan to RIDOT for review and approval, to be prepared by a Qualified Archaeologist, outlining protocols adequately addressing the following:

- On-site delineation of archaeologically sensitive areas (fencing, flagging, etc.);
- Posted on-site signage for compliance within archaeologically sensitive areas;
- Investigation and documentation of potential archaeological materials/deposits, including a plan for discard/sampling of common artifact types with low research potential;
- Communication/notification plan for discovery of potentially significant resources
- Preparation of a post-construction report with the methods, results, and recommendations resulting from archaeological monitoring

The Archaeological Monitoring Plan shall be provided to RIDOT at least 90 days prior to scheduled ground-disturbance activities to ensure adequate time for review and approval by RIDOT and RIHPHC. During monitoring, the Qualified Archaeologist shall be allowed adequate time to investigate and document suspected archaeological materials/deposits, as determined by the Qualified Archaeologist. Any ground disturbance occurring within archaeologically sensitive areas without the Qualified Archaeologist actively monitoring will be considered non-compliant.

The Department shall have the authority to inspect the worksite to ensure the Archaeological Monitoring Plan is being followed. The Department shall also have the authority to suspend Project work in the area of suspected significant archaeological materials/deposits, as identified by the Qualified Archaeologist. The DB Entity shall reschedule its work to minimize any loss of the time needed to complete the Project while the State determines the need to further evaluate, record, or salvage the archaeological materials/deposits.

Extra work ordered by the Department in connection with significant archaeological materials/deposits will be paid for in accordance with Part xx of the RFP. Delays caused by archaeological investigation beyond intermittent stoppages required by the Qualified Archaeologist,

and which the DB Entity demonstrates have delayed completion of the Project, will be treated under the provisions for extension of time.