



**UNITED STATES  
NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20555-0001

August 7, 2015

Everett Bandy  
Tribal Historic Preservation Office  
Quapaw Tribe of Oklahoma  
P.O. Box 765  
Quapaw, OK 74363

**SUBJECT: US NUCLEAR REGULATORY COMMISSION, CONTINUING  
PALEOLIQUEFACTION FIELD WORK ALONG SELECTED RIVER SEGMENTS  
IN ARKANSAS**

Dear Mr. Bandy:

The United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) has performed the field work described in our National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Section 106 consultation letter sent to your office, dated August 23, 2012 (enclosed). The field work identified various paleoliquefaction features in Arkansas for the purpose of assessing seismic hazards to commercial nuclear power plants. The NRC's contractor conducted this field work along various river segments in Arkansas (please see Figure 1 below for the location of the work conducted previously) during September through December 2013 and 2014.

The NRC plans to continue the field work described in its letter of August 23, 2012 in Arkansas during the months of September through December 2015. Figure 2 shows additional river segments in northern Arkansas that may be the subject of the NRC's continuing field work. Due to the limited scope and minor disturbance of this field work, the NRC has determined that the expansion of the field work to these additional river segments will have no adverse effect on any historic properties or tribal cultural resources located along or in these river segments, assuming such properties or resources are present.

In the event that the NRC considers any particular site along any of the subject river segments to be a candidate site for a paleoliquefaction study, which may involve the excavation of a trench, the NRC will determine the area of potential effects and then initiate consultation with your office, the appropriate State Historic Preservation Officer(s), and other interested consulting parties. The NRC considers such paleoliquefaction study, if pursued, to be a separate undertaking than the field work described in our August 23, 2012 letter.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> In an e-mail to your office, dated September 25, 2014, Dr. Thomas Weaver of my staff described a proposed paleoliquefaction study, involving the excavation of two sites in Arkansas. The September 25, 2014 e-mail transmitted various supporting documents. Your office, by letter dated October 7, 2014, concurred with the findings of the Arkansas Historic Preservation Program for these studies (AHPP Tracking Number 78798.1).

E. Bandy

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Please provide your comments on our determination of no adverse effect for the proposed field work at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Thomas Weaver by phone at (301) 415-2383 or by email at [Thomas.Weaver@nrc.gov](mailto:Thomas.Weaver@nrc.gov). All written correspondence should be sent to the NRC at the following address with attention to the Document Control Desk. We look forward to your feedback.

ATTN: Document Control Desk  
U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission  
Washington, DC 20555-0001

Sincerely,

***/RA Kathryn M. Brock for/***

Brian E. Thomas, Director  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosure:  
Letter from NRC to the Quapaw dated August 23, 2012

E. Bandy

-2-

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Brian E. Thomas, Director  
Division of Engineering  
Office of Nuclear Regulatory Research

Enclosure:  
Letter from NRC to the Quapaw dated August 23, 2012

cc: Mr. Eric Gillilad  
Senior Archeologist/106 Review Coordinator  
The Department of Arkansas HeritageArkansas  
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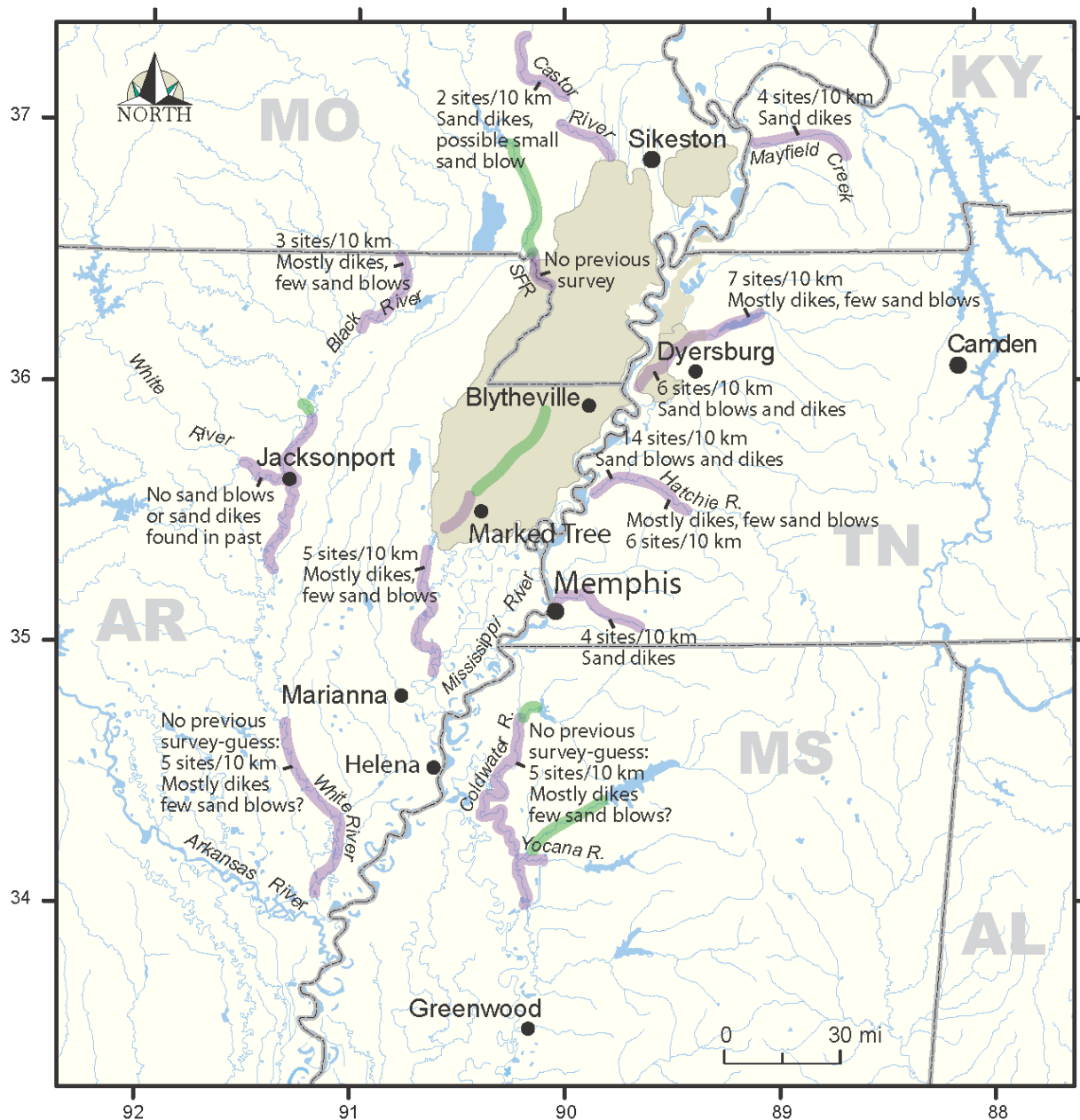
Dr. Thomas Weaver, P.E., NRC/RES/DE/SGSEB  
Mr. Andrew Pessin, Esq., NRC/OGC/GCLR/RMR  
Mr. Stuart Easson, NRC/NMSS/MSTR/FSTB

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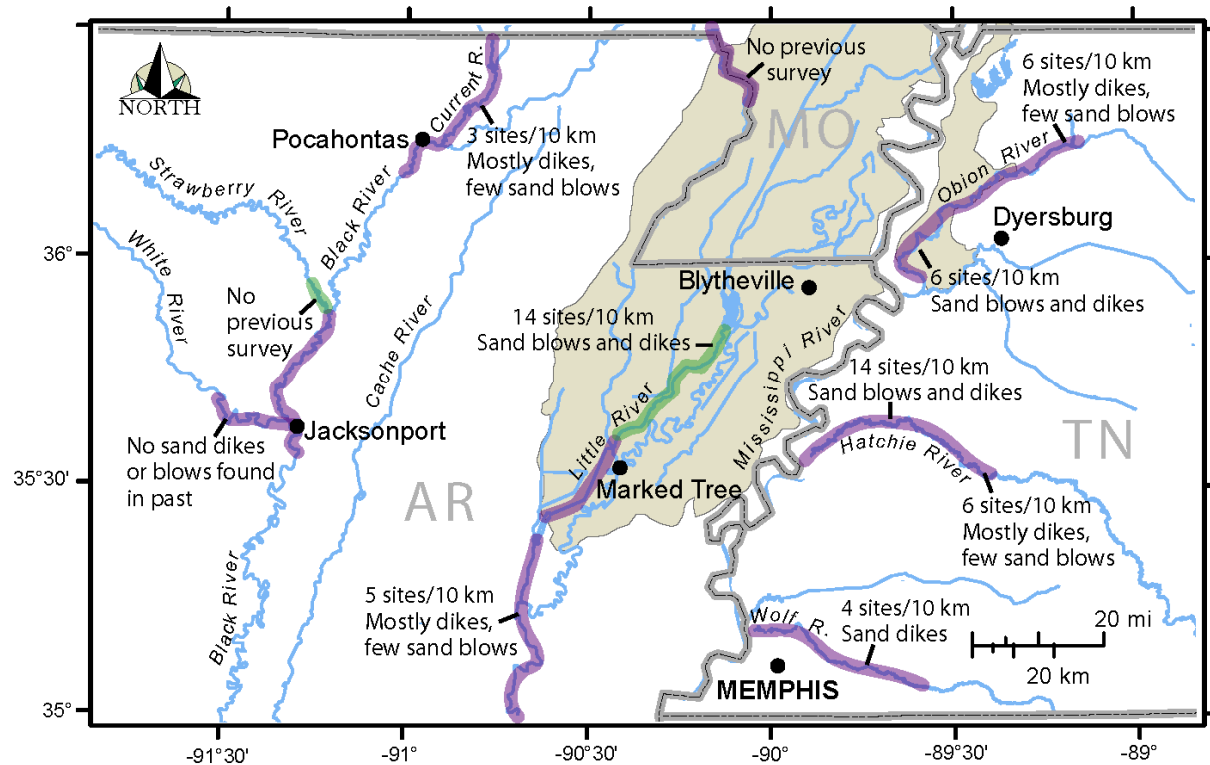
**RES No:**

OFFICE	RES/DE/SGSEB	RES/DE/SGSEB	OGC (via email)	D: RES/DE
NAME	JPB for T. Weaver	J. Burke	A. Pessin	KMB for B. Thomas
DATE	08/06/15	08/06/15	7/23/15	08/07/15

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**Figure 1 Map of paleoliquefaction study area in the Central U.S. River segments identified in the NRC's letter of August 23, 2012 are delineated in purple. The NRC has conducted, and may continue, field work in these purple delineated river segments. Additional river segments where the NRC proposes to expand its field work are delineated in green.**



**Figure 2 Map of paleoliquefaction study area in northern Arkansas. River segments identified in the NRC's letter of August 23, 2012 are delineated in purple. The NRC has conducted, and may continue, field work in these purple delineated river segments. Additional river segments where the NRC proposes to expand its field work are delineated in green.**