Appendix A:

LETTER OF CONCURRENCE, DESHPO

M. Petraglia
Parsons

STATE OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
DIVISION OF HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICE
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November 24, 1999

Mr. Joseph T. Wutka, Asst. Director
Division of Planning
Delaware Department of Transportation
P.O. Box 778
800 Bay Road
Dover, DE 19903

RE: Rte. 13 Relief Rte. (SR 1), Smyrna to Pine Tree Corners; Determination of Eligibility and Data Recovery Proposal for the Blackbird Creek Site (7NC-J-95D)

Dear Mr. Wutka:

As we informed your staff via e-mail, we have completed review of the revised Management Summary, Determination of Eligibility and Data Recovery Plan for the Blackbird Creek Site. We would like to offer the following comments on the site and the documents.

National Register Eligibility:
We concur that the Native American component of the Blackbird Creek Site is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. We also concur that, based on the information that is currently available, the historic component of the site is not eligible for listing in the National Register. The revised Determination of Eligibility addresses many of our previous comments (meeting of August 27, 1999). However, we suggest that a few, minor technical revisions be undertaken, as indicated in the attached list.

Effects on the Frederick Lodge Site Complex:
The project will have an Adverse Effect on the Frederick Lodge Site Complex, as the work will result in physical destruction of the site. The site is in the centerline of the proposed SR1 corridor. We have been informed that relocation of the proposed highway alignment is not possible; thus, avoidance of the site for in-place preservation is not an option. Therefore, DelDOT must implement the proposed data recovery plan for this National Register eligible site, in accordance with our Memorandum of Agreement for the Relief Route Project.

Letter to J. Wutka
November 24, 1999
Page 2

Mitigation of Effects:
The revised Data Recovery Plan outlines an approach to recover the significant information contained in the Blackbird Creek Site. As already conveyed in our previous email consultation with DelDOT and Parsons, we approve the overall approach to the recovery, and concur that field work may begin. We have a few additional comments on the details of the plan, which are outlined in the attached list. Our approval is conditioned on these comments being addressed. We request that the final revised Data Recovery Plan be submitted within 15 days of the consultant's receipt of these comments.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you or Parsons have any questions or need clarification of our comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Gwenyth A. Davis
Archaeologist

Enclosure

cc: Robert Kleinburd, Federal Highway Administration
Robert McCleary, SR 1 Project Manager, DelDOT
Kevin Cunningham, Archaeologist, Planning, DelDOT
Kenneth Clark, Sr., Chief, Nanticoke Indian Association
Michael Petraglia, Principal Investigator, Parsons Engineering Science w/encl.