



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND
HISTORICAL PRESERVATION & HERITAGE COMMISSION

Old State House 150 Benefit Street Providence, RI 02903

Telephone 401-222-2678
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www.preservation.ri.gov

June 25, 2025

2024-12-004

Via email: gdubell@palinc.com

Gregory R. Dubell, RPA
Energy Projects Manager
The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
26 Main Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

Re: RIHPHC Project No. 18355
TNEC Line F184-E183 Rebuild
Bristol and Warren, Rhode Island

Dear Mr. Dubell:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) staff has reviewed the information that you provided for the above-referenced project. The Narragansett Electric Company (TNEC) is proposing to rebuild Line F184-E183 in Bristol and Warren, RI. The project will require permits from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and various state agencies.

On behalf of TNEC, the Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL) has completed cultural resources due diligence to support the state and federal permit applications as is required per the National Historic Preservation Act, the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Act, and RI General Laws. The project consists of replacement of existing wood pole structures within an existing right-of-way for 5.2 miles from the Massachusetts border to the Bristol TAP north of Gooding Avenue. New poles will be steel mono- and double-poles within the same locations, the poles may increase in height with the tallest being 107 feet. The project includes other improvements such as installing shield wires, replacing associated wiring and equipment, and improving access roads.

Archaeological Resources

The RIHPHC staff has reviewed PAL's technical memorandum describing the results of the Phase I archaeological survey for the above-referenced project. This survey located seven archaeological sites, to which we have assigned the following site numbers—

- Palmer River Site- RI 2914
- Haile Farm Site- RI 2915
- Taddy Ave Site- RI 2916
- Remington Site- RI 2917
- Cottage Street Find Spot- RI 2918
- Autumn Archer Find Spot- RI 2919



- Autumn Archer Site- RI 2920

We concur that the Palmer River, Haile Farm, Taddy Avenue, Remington, and Autumn Archer sites are potentially eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places, and that the Cottage Street and Autumn Archer find spots are not. Please send us site forms for these sites.

It is our understanding that project impacts to the five potentially eligible site cannot be avoided. We have reviewed PAL's proposal for limited archaeological mitigation at the Palmer River, Haile Farm, Taddy Avenue and Autumn Archer sites. We have determined that this mitigation, along the implementation of PAL's proposed ASAPP, for this project, will result in a finding of no adverse effect to significant cultural resources.

RIHPHC permit 20-10 has been amended to include the proposed limited archaeological mitigation and will now expire on 6/24/26.

Architectural Resources

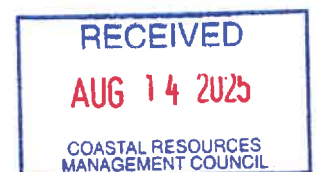
As the proposed project includes replacement of wood poles with metal pole that may be significantly taller than the existing, PAL has defined the area of potential effect (APE) as a 0.25-mile radius from the project site to account for indirect effects to above-ground historic properties. PAL completely survey work within the APE to identify historic properties which included National Register evaluations for properties over 45 years old. For those properties that are listed or were determined eligible, PAL completed an effects assessment.

The Warren Waterfront Historic District, Warren United Methodist Church and Parsonage, and the Cutler Manufacturing Company, which are either listed or have been previously determined eligible for listing, are within the APE. PAL has recommended the following properties as eligible for listing:

- Serpentine Road Rural Historic District
- Warren Waterfront Historic District (Boundary Increase – Child and Coles Streets)
- James A. Seymour House, 388 Child Street, Warren
- Levi Haile House, 384 Market Street, Warren
- Country Club Cleansers, 260 Child Street, Warren
- Parker Mill, 426 Metacom Ave. Warren

PAL has recommended the following previously identified properties as ineligible for listing:

- Child Street-Market Street Area, Warren
- Child Street-Metacom Avenue Area, Warren
- Gooding Avenue Farm District, Bristol
- Back Roads Historic District, Bristol¹
- Butterworth-Weazer Farm, 335 Market Street, Warren (demolished)
- St. Casimir's Church, 228 Child Street, Warren (demolished)



¹ This district includes the Timothy Fales Farm at 646-648 Metacom Ave., which was determined eligible in 1993 through a CDOE. It is identified as demolished by PAL, however, based upon further discussion, it was concluded by the RIHPHC that this would need to be verified in the field as the Fales House is set far back (500 feet) from the road and is not visible from the public right-of-way. Only the western edge of the property is within the APE. Therefore, no additional information is needed at this time as the project will not affect this property.

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- Joseph Sherman House, 261 Child Street, Warren (demolished)
- Lemuel C. Richmond-Usher House, 616 Metacom Avenue, Bristol (demolished)

In addition to the above-mentioned resources, PAL identified more than 900 properties at least 45 years old in the APE. These were “recommended not eligible for listing in the National Register because they lack sufficient historical significance and/or architectural integrity. An additional approximately 300 properties that intersect the Project study area did not meet survey criteria because they are less than 45 years old” (16).

Based upon the information provided, the RIHPHC concurs with these findings of National Register eligibility except for the Timothy Fales Farm as mentioned above. More information would be needed to concur with this determination.

For all of the properties that are listed or found eligible for listing in the National Register, PAL completed an effects assessment. The existing line is visible from some of the properties, and the new line may be more visible due to an increase in structure height and change in material. However, for these properties, PAL has indicated that the project will not adversely affect these resources (see report of individual analysis). Based upon the provided information, the RIHPHC concurs with these findings.

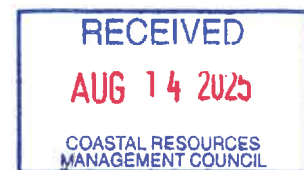
These comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, the Rhode Island Historic Preservation Act and Rhode Island General Laws. If you have any questions, please contact Charlotte Taylor, RIHPHC principal archaeologist, at charlotte.taylor@preservation.ri.gov.

Sincerely,


FOR

Jeffrey Emidy
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer

Cc: John Brown, Cora Pierce, and Mark Andrews (NITHPO)





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August 28, 2024

Via email: gdubell@palinc.com

Gregory R. Dubell, RPA
Energy Projects Manager
The Public Archaeology Laboratory, Inc.
26 Main Street
Pawtucket, RI 02860

Re: RIHPHC Project No. 18355
Line F184-E183 Rebuild Project
Warren and Bristol, Rhode Island *2024-12-004*

Dear Mr. Dubell:

The Rhode Island Historical Preservation and Heritage Commission (RIHPHC) staff has reviewed the information that you provided for the above-referenced project. The Narragansett Electric Company (TNEC) proposes to replace the existing wood structures of Line F184-E183 between the RI/MA border in Warren south to Gooding Avenue in Bristol. The new structures will be steel, the project will likely require access road improvements, and will require a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

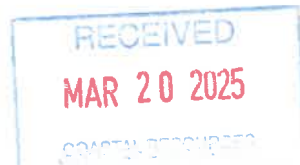
The Public Archaeology Laboratory (PAL) on behalf of the applicant has submitted a cultural resources due diligence report to our office, which lists previously identified above-ground historic resources within ¼ mile of the line. PAL opines the project may affect historic properties and recommends continued consultation with our office; we concur with this statement. Further efforts to identify historic properties and effects assessments may be required depending upon project details. The RIHPHC has also received the Phase 1 archaeological survey permit application and has responded under separate cover.

These comments are provided in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. If you have any questions, please contact RIHPHC Project Review Coordinator Elizabeth Totten at 401-222-2671 or elizabeth.totten@preservation.ri.gov.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Totten
FOR

Jeffrey Emidy
Executive Director
State Historic Preservation Officer





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Elizabeth Totten
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Executive Director
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