

Public Hearing Report

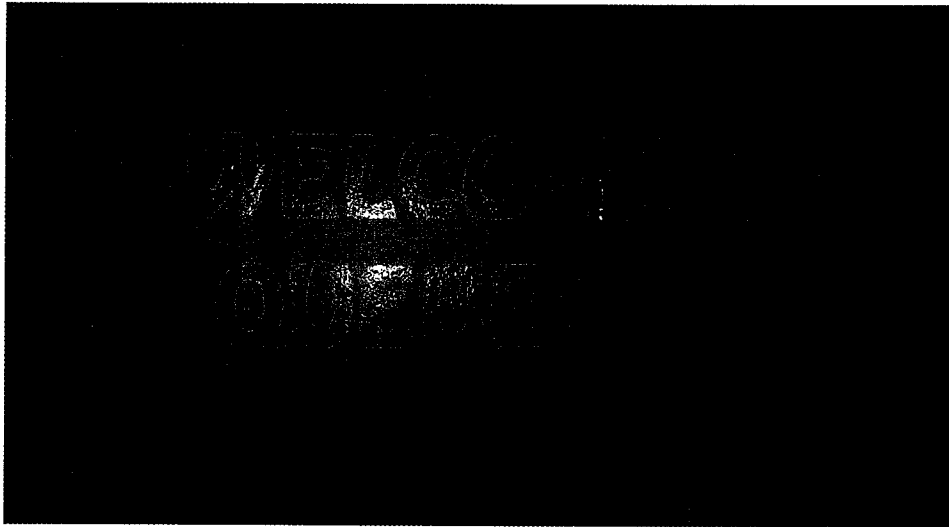
Quebec #1 Missile Alert Facility

October 26, 2015

General Overview

Pursuant to 36-8-1601 (b)(i), “The department of state parks and cultural resources shall hold a public hearing to receive input on how operating the facility as a historic site may affect adjacent landowners and on the advisability of proceeding with the lease or use agreement”. On Monday October 26, 2015 the Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources held a public hearing from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM in the multi-purpose room of the Barrett Building to discuss the Quebec #1 Missile Alert Facility (Quebec #1).

The meeting was advertised in the Cheyenne Tribune-Eagle and Casper Star. The meeting was also advertised on the Department website. Additionally, written invitations were sent to numerous community leaders, political leaders and interested public. A list of invitees is in Attachment #1. Twenty-two people signed the sign in sheets, but reviewing the meeting photos it appears closer to 30 people attended the meeting. A copy of the sign in sheets is in Attachment #2.



Presentation

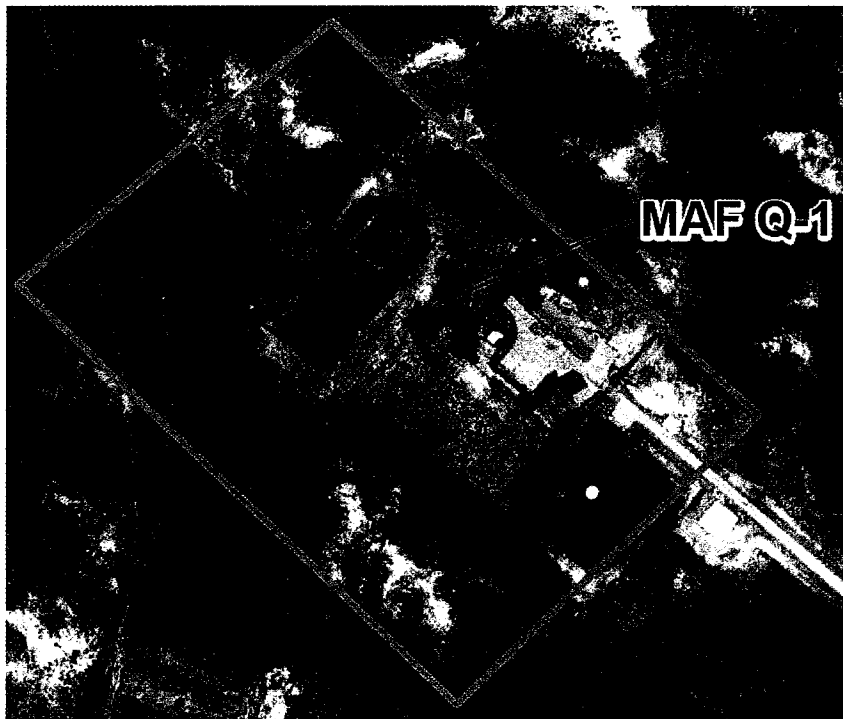
The meeting started with a presentation on the Peacekeeper Missile System. This included a brief background of the Peacekeeper missile system, the role of Quebec #1, other interpreted missile systems, and an update on legislation and the current status of Quebec #1.

The Missile-X (a.k.a. MX or Peacekeeper) is the most advanced and destructive InterContinental Ballistic Missile System ever built. The Peacekeeper is credited with ending the Cold War. Upon completion of the Peacekeeper, the Soviet Union decided they could no longer compete with the U.S. missile program. The Peacekeeper is entirely within Wyoming and contains 5 missile Alert Facilities (MAF) and 50 Launch Facilities (LF). On February 5, 2011 a revised version of the START Treaty was finalized mandating the Peacekeeper be dismantled. The

United States Air Force (USAF) was required to have all of the LFs demolished by February 13, 2014. The below ground facilities at four of the MAFs have been demolished. One MAF, Quebec #1, has been disabled and can be retained as an interpretative/educational facility. Quebec #1 is the only Peacekeeper facility remaining in the world.

Dismantling the Peacekeeper requires compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). Pursuant to NEPA, an Environmental Assessment has been prepared. A Finding Of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been finalized for this project. Pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA Quebec #1 is eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places and dismantling this system will result in an adverse effect. On March 4, 2013, the Wyoming State Historic Preservation Office and the USAF entered into a programmatic agreement proposing one MAF be preserved, interpreted and made available for the public. On January 11, 2013, the USAF formally requested Wyoming State Parks, Historic Sites & Trails (SPHST) evaluate Quebec #1 for inclusion in the state historic site system.

Quebec #1 is approximately 25 miles north of Cheyenne and within a half mile of exit 39 on Interstate 25. There is better public access to Quebec #1 than any of the other public missile facilities. The City of Cheyenne owns an Atlas Missile site west of the City, F.E. Warren AFB has a missile museum, and Quebec #1 is north of Cheyenne. The Atlas is the first of the ICBMs and the Peacekeeper is the most advanced of the ICBMs. Cheyenne is the only place in the country with this kind of clustering of missile resources. This will give Wyoming an excellent opportunity to interpret the Cold War. Additionally, SPHST is in the process of restoring and interpreting the World War II POW building in Douglas. There are three other facilities in the state that are interpreting the World War II experience in Wyoming. These are the F.E. Warren



ICBM and Heritage Museum in Cheyenne. This museum depicts the rich heritage from 1867 to present including the development of the ICBM systems. The second building is the Wyoming Veterans Memorial Museum in Casper. This facility consists of the enlisted men's club and focuses on the U.S. Army Air Corp during WWII. Finally, there is the Heart Mountain Japanese Internment Camp near Powell. This facility focuses on the experiences of the Japanese internees during WWII. Promotion of

all of these five sites as a corridor and make an excellent WWII and Cold War tour. Combined with all of the Frontier Era military sites, Wyoming has a unique opportunity to interpret and promote the western military experience, especially for those people traveling to Yellowstone National Park.

Facility Condition

The USAF prepared a Historic Structures Report for Quebec #1. Quebec #1 is on approximately 5 acres of land. There are two buildings above ground; the Launch Control Support Building and the Shop building. There is also an air intake, exhaust ducts, antenna array, helipad, parking areas, recreation facilities, sewer lagoon and chain link fence topped by barbed wire. Below ground there is the access shaft with elevator, tunnel junction, launch control center and launch control equipment building. In 1962 Quebec #1 was constructed as a Minuteman I site. Through the years the site was upgraded to a Minuteman III site. In 1986 it was converted to a Peacekeeper site. In 2005, Quebec #1 was placed in caretaker status. At that time all technical equipment was removed from the facility, the buildings were boarded up and the electrical, plumbing and mechanical systems were taken off line. Since that time vandals have removed much of the copper plumbing and wiring, they also broke windows and did some other minor damage. There is a sewer lagoon on-site and it is still permitted. The liner has been punctured, but otherwise the lagoon is functional. There is a water well on site that is still permitted. Structurally the buildings are in good shape. The elevator was functioning when it was taken offline and it is assumed it will work if it is reconnected and some general maintenance is performed. The cost estimate is a little over \$1,000,000 to make all repairs, restore the facility to its 2005 appearance and convert to a museum. The USAF has approximately \$300,000 set aside to implement the terms of the START Treaty. The USAF is looking for other sources of funding to implement the remainder of the work.

We then discussed other missile facilities the public is able to tour. There is an Atlas Missile silo owned by Weld County near Greeley, Colorado. This site is free and available by appointment only. We were not able to find information on visitation at this site. There is a Titan Missile Silo near Sahuarita, New Mexico at the Titan Missile Museum. This site charges \$9.50 for adults and \$6.00 for children. The site is open year round, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM in the summer, with reduced hours in the winter. This site had approximately 55,000 visitors in 2012. The movie War Games was filmed at this site. The National Park Service manages a Minuteman II



MAF near Badlands National Monument in South Dakota. This site is free. The site is open year round, 8:00 AM to 4:30 PM in the summer, with reduced hours in the winter. This site had over 70,000 visitors in 2012. The North Dakota Parks and Recreation

Department, manages another Minuteman II MAF in North Dakota. This site charges \$10.00 for adults and \$3.00 for children. The site is open 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM in the summer, with reduced hours in the spring and fall, and by appointment in the winter. This site is a considerable distance from any population center and received less than 10,000 visitors in 2012.

We showed a copy of an article titled "On The Nuclear Trail" in the September, 2013 issue of Hemispheres Magazine. The article pointed out Atomic Tourism is one of the fastest growing niches in the tourism industry. A book came out in 2011 called "A Nuclear Family Vacation" that increased awareness of the Cold War and the public's opportunity to visit these sites. The Pima Air & Space Museum, the New Mexico Museum of Nuclear Science & History, along with the aforementioned missile sites have had significant increases in visitation in the last few years.

The audience was then specifically asked what are the potential impacts of the Quebec #1 project? The audience was also asked how should SPHST proceed concerning Quebec #1? We had a meeting recorder to record verbal comments. We handed out comment cards that could be turned in later and the public was able to comment on the State Park website. A copy of the meeting agenda is in Attachment #3. Copies of comment cards are in Attachment #4.

The following is a recounting of the public comment during the question and answer period.

Todd Thibodeau: Asked for public input on the two questions required per the Legislation:

Public: is there a NEPA or environmental impact study in existence. Travis Beckwith: they did an



Environmental Analysis (EA) in 2005 when they decommissioned the Peacekeeper System. They did another EA to assess the demolition. Both EA's lead to a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), USAF is completing an Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) to identify any environmental risk, but this has been previously evaluated and they do not think they will find anything. All documents are public and available.

Public: Did you get rid of all of the batteries? Travis: Yes, they have removed any of the known concerns. Discussed encapsulate any lead based paint. He pointed out the MAF is where the Missileers were located and not where the missiles were located. Many of the environmental concerns are associated with processes related to missile maintenance, not the launch center where the Missileers are located.

Todd: Discussed what we are required to do from the Legislation.

Public: Indicated he was concerned about some tumors that are growing on local animals.

Milward Simpson: Do you think we will get a lot of visitors? Heads nodded. Talked about nuclear tourism and our historic corridors we are beginning to start. This is a rich part of Wyoming's history.

Public: Rod Hottle: National Park Service took Delta 1 in South Dakota and restored it. There is a reservation list to go downstairs. The popularity is there with a huge waiting list.

Public: Donny: the other missile sites are ways away from a major road.

Public: How big is the elevator? Todd: It is big, and indicated it is the state's intention to do guided tour and will be able to keep people moving. He went into some of the stories from Missileers that were down the hole.

Public: Sen Esquibel: Look at the history would be interesting in what lead up to needing these missiles.

Public: Think that it was top secret that made it more important. Milward: talked about cars that may have stopped a little too long near a missile facility would get a visit by security forces. Todd: talked about how for Baby Boomers the missile facilities are the most tangible aspect of the Cold War.

Public: Donny: We need to show how important it was to Wyoming history. Todd: the Peacekeeper was only deployed in Wyoming and is a uniquely Wyoming story.

Public: Neighbor: Need to get it going pretty fast!

Public: Lindy: There are many stories that need to be told. Talked about Rochelle learning center and how they used technology to drill down into the interpretation. This could be a good way to tell the story.

Milward: May have an opportunity to have a concession operation. Public: RH: Should have them sell frozen meals that they had to eat back in the day. Milward: indicated that a convenience store would be unlikely on this property.

Public: Scott Fox: talked about the need to discuss and interpret multiple missile systems. Milward: Said yes, he didn't think that it would be as impactful without telling the entire story. Public: Rod Hottle: It wasn't easy to go from Minute Man to Peacekeeper...could be a good topic as well.

Public: Scott Fox: Opportunity to be able to tell the story in what is currently being used and how we got here with the technology and the treaty.

Todd: talked about how the community and nation were affected, ie. Duck and cover, bomb shelter

Public: need to collect the living history while we have the opportunity. Milward: this is important. Looking into recorded history and asking for volunteers to sit in and give tours. She also talked about her daughter was a commander at the site and how the female officers were integrated into the missileers.

Public: Is it going to be a year round facility? He thinks that it should be open. Just need to ask neighbors to help...they would love it. Milward: Initially talked about it being a seasonal facility. Discussed costs may be detrimental to keep open all winter or may do reduced hours.

Milward: Asked what about charging fees? Public: are they going to have camping sites? Milward: there will not be camping. Public: Rod Hottle: They should charge fees. Public: it costs to operate, therefore, you need to charge. Public: Sen. Wayne Johnson: he expects to be charged, everyone agreed.

Public: Lindy: Talked about the local fire department use of the garage. Milward: discussed using the garage. Darin Westby discussed being a good neighbor and we need to have those discussions.

Public: Have you done any projected numbers of visitation? Todd: talked about the other facilities and thought that within a few years it would reach 50,000.

Public: what about support utilities? Todd: the site has a permitted sewer lagoon and well. This USAF is working to return electrical and telephone service.

Public: what about parking? Todd: talked about the existing parking and the need for more parking

Public: Sen. Wayne Johnson: Have you initiated talks with WYDOT on signage? Todd: we are several years from leasing or acquiring the site. State Parks has a good relationship with WYDOT for signage and they will work with them as the time get near. Milward: concurred when things start rolling, we will have those discussions.

Public: Donny: the USAF has all of the history of the facility and of the entire system

Public: Sen Esquibel: how has UW or any of the schools embraced the project? Milward: talked about the buzz regarding the project and the educational opportunity with this site. Great learning environment

Public: discussed about directing visitors from CFD and FDA Russell days to send out there.

Public: are we going to be having any more public meetings? Todd: indicated as we move along, we will need to work with the public and garner more support for the project.

Public: talked about the legislators and being cautious. They need to set aside some money for this project. Would like to see some guarantees from them to ensure this project happens. Milward: very grateful for what we have to date and what our agency does for the tourism product and how our agency plays an important economic impact roll in the state's success.

Public: will the state be able to receive private funds? Milward: yes, and we have currently reached out to some private companies. Public: talked about approaching Boeing and Martin Marrietta. All of them were trained here and should be willing to help.

Public: is the slide show able to be downloaded? Todd: said that he would upload the slide show to our website.

Public: there are no restrictions to set up a foundation? Milward: that is correct

Public: encountered two busses at another site...need to ensure that there will be adequate facilities.

Public: Scott Fox: Need to contact the Association of AF Missileers

Todd & Milward thanked everyone for attending and for their input. Meeting ended shortly before 7:30.

ATTACHMENT I

List of Individuals Invited to Public Hearing October 26, 2015

Wyoming State Legislators

Sue Wilson - State Representative HD7
Tony Ross State - Senator SD4
Stan Cooper – State Senator TRW
James Lee Anderson – State Senator TRW
Paul Barnard – State Senator TRW
Bernadine Craft – State Senator TRW
Wayne Johnson – State Senator TRW
Ruth Petroff – State Representative TRW
Fred Baldwin – State Representative TRW
Eric Barlow – State Representative TRW
Scott Clem – State Representative TRW
John Freeman – State Representative TRW
Dan Kirkbride – State Representative TRW
Dan Laursen – State Representative TRW
Andy Schwartz – State Representative TRW
Cheri Steinmetz - State Representative TRW

Laramie County Commissioners

Troy Thompson – County Commissioner
Amber Ash – County Commissioner
Buck Holmes – County Commissioner
Linda Heath – County Commissioner
Ron Kailey – County Commissioner

State Personnel/Commissions

Mary Hopkins – State Historic Preservation Office
Christina Bird - Superintendent Historic Governors' Mansion
Michelle Panos – Governor's Office
Dan Barks – President, State Parks and Cultural Resources Commission

Public

Carly-Ann Anderson – Alliance for Historic WY
Lindi Kirkbride – adjacent landowner
Paula Taylor – Director, FE Warren ICBM and Heritage Museum
Brian Jacobsen – JL&L, LLC (adjacent landowner)
Barbara Stafford
Darren Rudloff – Director, Cheyenne Convention Center and Visitor's Bureau
Jill Pope – Visit Cheyenne
Danny Sprong – Retired Missileers Association
Travis Beckwith - F.E. Warren AFB
Scott Fox – President, Warren Military Historical Association

ATTACHEMENT #2

Sign In Sheets From Public Hearing October 26, 2015

MEETING ATTENDANCE FORM				DATE:	TIME:
MEETING NAME:		RUEBEL #1 PUBLIC HEARING		10-26-15	6:30 PM
ATTENDEES					
NAME	COMPANY/OFFICE	TITLE	TELEPHONE NUMBER	E-MAIL ADDRESS	
ED Drey	-	-	635-5832	ED.Drey@M.N.CAN	
Scott Fox	-	-	630-0859	scott@foxplace.net	
Johnne Best	Adjacent landowner	-	856-6114	jmbest@hughes.net	
Danny G. Spong	USAF/RC	PR JDR WPA SPC	307-631-4395	dg_spong@guilford.com	
Kristin Gillaspie	RCUCL	PR HISTORICAL	6317883	undia.gillaspie@rcucl.org	
FRD ENRICH	WYD Senator	-	6317883	-	
Normie McKeown	Private Citizen	-	631-8246	normie@normie.net	
m. Sengela	-	148CR 236	307-251-1067	-	
Wayne Johnson	Snake	Snake	-	-	
Karla Bayler	Monteagle Museum	Director	773-2987	-	
VERONICA PEREZ	RCUCL	-	631-1340	-	
Veronica Perez	QDMW Public Affairs	2LT	307-173-3381	veronica.perez.5@us.af.mil	
RAD Hottle	USAF 12th	-	307-214-7882	hottle.klaus@us.af.mil	
Spencer Kucharski	-	-	307-214-3205	linkkucharski@gmail.com	

ATTACHEMENT #3

**Meeting Agenda From Public Hearing
October 26, 2015**

AGENDA

Quebec #1 Missile Alert Facility Public Meeting

**6:00-7:30 PM, Monday October 26, 2015
Multi-Purpose Room, Barrett Building**

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

HISTORIC SIGNIFICANCE OF THE PEACEKEEPER MISSILE SYSTEM

PRESENTATION

- Property Description
- Brief History
- Legislation
- Project Status

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Potential impacts of project?
- How should SPHST proceed?

ADJOURN

ATTACHEMENT #4

Comment Cards From Public Hearing October 26, 2015



Quebec 1 Missile Alert Facility Comments

Great Project! Would love to see missile Hauler
and "let out" showing a missile. Display was
heads. Show impacts in WYO.



Quebec 1 Missile Alert Facility Comments

This is a most worthwhile project. It is to be
hoped that the legislation will find favor to make
this a reality. Economic impact to the state
would appear significant. Environmental impact appears
to be well covered. And as the site is not
close to populated areas, social impact would appear
to be slight.





Quebec 1

Missile Alert Facility Comments

- ① The FEMA Aspect has been solved.
- ② What about civilian input Ask for help
- ③ THIS IS AN OUTSTANDING PROJECT



Quebec 1

Missile Alert Facility Comments

Who is considered adjacent landowner?

There is a road grader sitting on the road side.
Can it be replaced with a replica?



ATTACHEMENT #5

Newspaper Article in Wyoming Tribune-Eagle Concerning Public Hearing on October 26, 2015

WTE 10-27-15 P. A3

Hearing draws strong support for preservation of missile site

By Matt Murphy
mmurphy@wyomingnews.com

CHEYENNE — One thing was certain at a public hearing Monday night — the Quebec-1 Missile Alert Facility should be preserved.

Deactivated in 2005, Quebec-1 was one of five facilities under the 400th Strategic Missile Squadron that oversaw Peacekeeper missiles — the only places in the nation where the missiles were stored.

The site is being restored to its historic appearance in preparation for conversion to a state historic site.

Under the START II treaty — which never fully came into effect — the U.S. dismantled its Peacekeeper missile systems but was permitted to keep one missile alert facility for inter-

What's next?

The Air Force is planning to finish restoration of the Quebec-1 Missile Alert Facility north of Cheyenne by Sept. 30, 2017.

At that point, control of the site will go to the Wyoming parks department, which will build parking facilities and other visitor amenities, officials say.

pretive purposes.

After reviewing the sites, the U.S. Air Force offered Quebec-1 to the Wyoming Department of State Parks and Cultural Resources for preservation.

"We think it's something that could have great benefits for tourism here locally," department Director Milward Simpson said.

"There was no other place in the world where the Peace-

keeper was deployed. It really is a Wyoming story."

Comments about the project may be directed to Christie Christensen at 307-777-2416 or at Christie.Christensen@wyo.gov. Officials say a website about the project also will be available.

(Peacekeepers carried 10-12 independently targeted nuclear warheads, known as MIRVs, and 50 of the missiles were deployed all in this region.)

Monday's hearing was hosted by state parks to get public input about the site's future.

Several airmen who were stationed at missile sites —

they were known as missileers — were present as were state politicians and community members.

One of those in attendance was Naomi McGowen, whose daughter was among the first females to serve at an underground missile alert facility at Quebec-1.

McGowen said it would be "sacrilege" to not preserve the site, a sentiment echoed across those in attendance.

"It's imperative we do this," she said. "It's just such a part of our history we really need to preserve."

McGowen also noted that many missileers who worked at Peacekeeper sites are still alive, providing the chance to record those service members' stories.

See *Missile*, page A6

WTFE 10-27-15 RKL

Missile: Restoration work at around \$1M

Continued from A3

Currently, the Air Force is renovating Quebec-1 to look like the last day it was used. Much of the missile-related equipment was removed, but the Air Force is in the process of putting it back before handing control of the site off to the state.

"We are going to turn this over to the state of Wyoming in the state that it was when it was decommissioned in 2005," said Travis Beckwith, F.E. Warren's cultural re-

sources manager with the base's 90th Civil Engineering Squadron.

"We've conducted a comprehensive search to find all of the old equipment that was in there."

Todd Thibodeau is the planning and grants manager with the Division of State Parks and Historic Sites. He said the restoration work being performed by the Air Force is valued at around \$1 million.

The state, meanwhile, has \$175,000 set aside to begin operation of the facility as a historic site.

Part of Quebec-1's value to the parks department lies in its location. It is within a few hundred yards of Exit 39 on Interstate 25 in northern Laramie County,

making it accessible to the public.

"That's one of the things that was really desirable about this site," Thibodeau said.

The Quebec-1 project only includes the missile alert facility itself and not the dozen or so missile silos scattered in Laramie and Platte counties that the facility controlled.

Still, Simpson said Quebec-1 will add to the state's portfolio of military historic sites, which may increase tourism.

"We're starting to build a pretty impressive military history corridor in the state," he said.

Quebec-1 is tentatively set to be open to the public in 2019.

Other sites where missile facilities are preserved have proven popular.

Minuteman Missile National Historic Site along Interstate 90 in South Dakota, for example, has had no fewer than 50,000 annual visitors since 2011 and had a high of 76,000 visitors in 2013, according to the National Park Service.



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ARTS. PARKS. HISTORY.

Wyoming State Parks & Cultural Resources

Field Support Section
State Parks, Historic Sites & Trails
2301 Central Ave., Barrett Bldg 4th
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-6711
307-777-6005 (fax)

MEMORANDUM

TO: Milward Simpson
FROM: Darin Westby
DATE: October 13, 2015
RE: Quebec 1 Adjacent Landowner Meeting

On October 13, 2015, we met with local district State Representative Eklund and adjacent landowner Mr. Bryan Jacobson. The meeting went very well.

Mr. Jacobson's concerns were the potential of unnecessary traffic on the road past the turn off to the MAF. He would like to see a cattle guard at this junction. I suggested appropriate signage at the turn would help as well. We also discussed the potential of paving the road from the underpass to the turn as well. All would help minimize his concern of traffic going further on the County Road than necessary.

He was also concerned with the potential of rowdy kids creating issues, and I informed him that most kids would not travel to this site to create mischief. I explained our consumer model for this site is skewing more older demographically and if kids come to the site, it would probably be with parents, grand parents, etc. This would not be like our water based parks where they come to let their hair down, etc.

He did talk about the potential use of the garage for storage of an emergency vehicle. It would have to be heated. We talked about the costs to heat and he said that we could negotiate this cost. He did indicate that it helps them with their insurance pricing to have multiple buildings, etc. We discussed this having to go through the military for approval based on the agreement.

I informed them of the upcoming public hearing and explained what we would do at this event.

Their numbers are: Mr. Jacobson [307-701-9111](tel:307-701-9111); Rep. Eklund [307-630-6232](tel:307-630-6232).

They wanted to make sure they were invited to the public meeting. Mr. Jacobson indicated that he would invite the Vol. Fire Dept contact (Tim Ash).



Matthew H. Mead, Governor
Milward Simpson, Director