

## Supplemental Instructions on Determining the Level of Effort for Additional Cultural Resources Field Investigations for Type 3 Wind Applications and Plans of Development in the California Desert District

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The following provides additional guidance and instruction for implementing the *Supplemental Procedures for Solar and Wind Power Generation Applications* amendment to the State Protocol Agreement. This guidance focuses on the level of effort for additional cultural resources field investigations for Type 3 wind applications and plans of development (POD) in the California Desert District. This guidance has been developed in consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office. This guidance does not change any of the requirements or procedures stipulated in the *Supplement*, but further refines and elaborates the guidance provided at Section II(3) of the *Supplement* regarding the manner in which BLM determines the level of effort for additional cultural resources field investigations.

1. The area of potential effect (APE) for considering direct effects is still defined as the area subject to the Federal Action, or issuance of the right-of-way.
  - a. Upon acceptance of a Type 3 wind application and plan of development (POD), the APE is defined to be the necessary lands included within the entire right-of-way regardless of the extent of lands in the POD.
  - b. For the final POD and areas of direct impact or disturbance:
    - i. BLM will conduct a Class III survey of all areas proposed for development within the POD, including a 100 foot buffer around the area included within the POD. A 100 foot buffer will be applied uniformly around the external perimeter of the POD, including turbine locations, roads, transmission corridors, staging areas and other supporting infrastructure improvements.
    - ii. Sites located during field investigations will be recorded completely within the APE, even if the boundaries of the site extend outside the buffered area of the POD.
  - c. For the areas located within the final ROW and APE, but outside the area of direct effects as described in the POD and subjected to BLM Class III survey, a BLM Class II field investigation will be conducted.
    - i. The Class II field investigation strategy should be based on results of information garnered during Tribal consultation and the literature review, may include some broad transect survey, or may be targeted at areas with increased probability of containing sites.
    - ii. The Class II strategy will be developed in consultation with the proponent or proponent's designated consultant and should be a statistically based sample survey, designed to aid in characterizing the probable density, diversity, and distribution of cultural properties in an area, to develop and test predictive models, and to answer significant research questions.

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- iii. Where the final POD footprint has not been completely finalized (tower locations, etc.), the applicant may move forward with Class III survey of the POD plus the 100 buffer for the most likely development scenario, understanding that additional field investigations may be required if the final development scenario includes areas outside the lands surveyed.
2. The ROD and ROW may be conditioned to require a cultural resources management plan or other monitoring strategy to ensure appropriate management (avoidance, monitoring) for known sites within the ROW.