September 27, 2016

Mr. Jay Vogt
Director, South Dakota State Historical Society
State Historic Preservation Officer
900 Governors Dr.
Pierre, SD 57501

RE: Section 106 Consultation for a National VHA Member Services call center at the VA Black Hills Health Care System, Hot Springs Campus, Fall River County, South Dakota

Dear Mr. Vogt,

I am very pleased to initiate consultation with your office under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 USC § 306108) for a recently proposed National Veterans Health Administration Member Services call center in Buildings 3 and 4 at the National Historic Landmark Hot Springs campus of the VA Black Hills Health Care System (VA BHHCS). This federal undertaking will involve outfitting interior space of the vacant historic buildings to accommodate approximately 120 employee workstations.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(b), VA BHHCS finds, subject to your review of the attached documentation required by 36 CFR 800.11(e), that creating the National VHA Member Services call center in Buildings 3 and 4 will have no adverse effect on historic properties. I hope you concur with this determination, allowing VA BHHCS to quickly implement this undertaking.

The implementation of this call center would not impact the still pending decision regarding the reconfiguration of health care services in the VA BHHCS service area. The National VHA Member Services call center, if implemented, will not be managed by VA BHHCS. This initiative will be pursued by the National program office regardless of the ultimate decision regarding the reconfiguration proposal.

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me by email at sandra.horsman@va.gov or by phone at (605) 720-7170.

Sincerely,

Sandra L. Horsman
Director

Pursuant to 36 CFR part 800.13, if historic properties are discovered or unanticipated effects on historic properties found after the agency official has completed the Section 106 process, the agency official shall avoid, minimize or mitigate the adverse effects to such properties and notify the SHPO/THPO, and Indian tribes that might attach religious and cultural significance to the affected property within 48 hours of the discovery.

Sandra L. Horsman
Director