



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RICK SCOTT
Governor

KEN DETZNER
Secretary of State

Mr. Jim Pepe
Janus Research
1107 N. Ward Street
Tampa, Florida 33607

July 31, 2012

Re: DHR Project File No.: 2012-03047 / Received by DHR: June 28, 2012
Additional Testing at Five Sites within the Mosaic DeSoto Mine, DeSoto County, Florida

Dear Mr. Pepe:

Our office received and reviewed the above referenced survey report in accordance with Chapters 267, 380, and 403 of the *Florida Statutes*, for possible adverse impact to cultural resources (any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object) listed, or eligible for listing, in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

Between October 2011 and January 2012, Janus Research, Inc. (Janus) conducted an archaeological and historical testing at five sites recommended for preservation (8DE14, and 8DE31 – 8DE34) in the vicinity of the proposed DeSoto Mine. The survey was conducted on behalf of Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC.

Janus conducted archival research and shovel testing for the portion of historic Pine Level (8DE14) within Mosaic property in order to delineate the site as far as possible and determine its eligibility for listing in the NRHP. Janus determined that Site 8DE14 appears to be eligible for listing in the NRHP and will need to be preserved.

Janus placed shovel tests around Mizell Mound A (8DE31), Mizell Mound B (8DE32), Mizell Mound C (8DE33), and the Cunningham Mound (8DE34) and assisted with the professional land surveys to delineate the site boundaries. All the mounds are recommended for preservation.

During the course of testing at historic Pine Level, two previously unrecorded prehistoric archaeological sites (8DE850 and 8DE851) and two archaeological occurrences were identified. The sites are low density and lack solid diagnostic artifacts; they do not appear to be eligible for listing in the NRHP.

DIVISION OF HISTORICAL RESOURCES

R. A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0250

Telephone: 850.245.6300 • Facsimile: 850.245.6436 • www.flheritage.com

Commemorating 500 years of Florida history www fla500.com



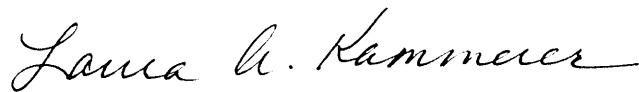
Mr. Pepe
July 31, 2012
Page 2

Mosaic Fertilizer, LLC plans to avoid and preserve all sites with a minimum of a 100 foot buffer zone around the site boundaries. Additionally, Mosaic will stagger mining operations so as to avoid placing the sites within an island at any time. Based on the proposed plans, Janus Research determined that the proposed mine will have no adverse impact on historic properties listed, or eligible for listing in the NRHP.

Based on the information provided, our office concurs with these determinations and finds the submitted report complete and sufficient in accordance with Chapter 1A-46, *Florida Administrative Code*. However, as an additional protection for the mound sites after mining and reclamation has been completed, our office recommends that the mounds be placed in permanent conservation easements in the deed.

For any questions concerning our comments, please contact Rudy Westerman, Historic Preservationist, by electronic mail at Rudy.Westerman@DOS.MyFlorida.com, or by phone at 850.245.6333. We appreciate your continued interest in protecting Florida's historic properties.

Sincerely,



Laura A. Kammerer
Historic Preservationist Supervisor
Compliance Review Section
Bureau of Historic Preservation