



Preserving America's Heritage

June 4, 2014

Ms. Caroline M. Blanco
Assistant General Counsel
National Science Foundation
4201 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1265
Arlington, VA 22230

Ref: *NSF Cooperative Agreement with Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT)*
NSF Award 0443999
Mauna Kea, Hawaii

Dear Ms. Blanco:

The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) has recently received inquiries about the referenced project and the status of the National Science Foundation's (NSF) compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations, "Protection of Historic Properties" (36 CFR Part 800), for this undertaking.

A number of Native Hawaiian Organizations (NHOs) have expressed concerns that NSF is providing a grant to help fund the undertaking but has not complied with Section 106 or consulted with NHOs who have concerns about the effects of the project on historic properties of great significance to them. We have no record of notifications about this undertaking or determinations of adverse effects to historic properties. We would appreciate you apprising us of the current status of this project, including steps the NSF has taken to comply with the requirements of the Section 106 process.

We thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this matter. Should you have questions, please contact Dr. John T. Eddins at 202-517-0211 or by email at jeddins@achp.gov.

Sincerely,

Charlene Dwin Vaughn, AICP
Assistant Director
Federal Permitting, Licensing, and Assistance Section
Office of Federal Agency Programs

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON HISTORIC PRESERVATION

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