



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL SEA SYSTEMS COMMAND
1333 ISAAC HULL AVENUE
WASHINGTON NAVY YARD DC 20376-2701

IN REPLY REFER TO

4510
Ser 333/074
16 March 2011

Mr. Mark Wolfe
State Historic Preservation Officer
P.O. Box 12276
Austin, TX 78711

Subj: SECTION 106 CONSULTATION REGARDING THE EX-TEXAS (BB-35)

Dear Mr. Wolfe:

The purpose of this letter is to inform you of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) proposal to construct a permanent dry berth for the ex-TEXAS (BB-35) museum ship and to initiate Section 106 consultation pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) and its implementing regulations codified in 36 C.F.R. Part 800.

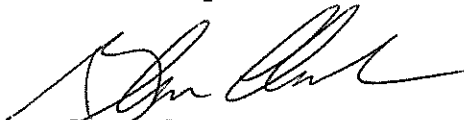
The U.S. Navy received formal notification by TPWD letter of February 22, 2011 regarding its intent to design and construct a permanent dry berth for ex-TEXAS to preserve it from further deterioration.

Ex-TEXAS is owned by the State of Texas; however, the TPWD's proposed dry-berthing project is considered a federal undertaking because: (1) P.L. 649 of the 79th Congress which authorized the transfer of the ship to the State of Texas stipulated that the State is required to maintain the vessel in a condition that is satisfactory to the Navy and; (2) the Battleship Texas Foundation received funding through a federal grant and has agreed to give TPWD the funding for use towards the proposed dry-berthing project. In addition, ex-TEXAS is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Thus, a Federal undertaking and the presence of an historic property requires that the Navy comply with Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Navy identified the TPWD as a consulting party for Section 106 consultation and would like to partner with your office to identify other potential consulting parties. As we progress through Section 106 consultation, we will post announcements and the status of this process on the Navy Inactive Ship Program's web site at www.navsea.navy.mil/teamships/Inactiveships/Inactiveships_News.aspx.

You may contact us at any time during this consultation process. My point of contact is Jim Poles, (202) 781-0149, james.poles.ctr@navy.mil.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Glen Clark". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "G" and a long, sweeping underline.

Glen Clark.

Deputy Program Manager

Navy Inactive Ships Program (PMS 333)