United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Death Valley National Park
PO Box 579
Death Valley, California 92328

IN REPLY REFER TO:
L7617, xD5039

June 29, 2010

Dear Interested Party:

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes to replace approximately one mile of waterline that services the Death Valley Scotty Historic District (Scotty's Castle) (the District) in Death Valley National Park, California. The purpose of this letter is to solicit scoping comments on the proposed action.

The District's water system was originally installed starting in 1925 and was used to provide water for domestic use, operation of some mechanical and utility systems (power generation and construction related machinery), irrigation, and landscape water features. Later, the water line was extended for fire suppression. The one mile section of water line that requires replacement is in poor condition and continues to deteriorate. Several short sections of the waterline have been replaced over past years due to breakage. The park needs to continue providing potable water for visitors and residents and must ensure water is supplied for fire suppression within the District. Replacement of the entire waterline will avoid potential major breaks that in the past have temporarily shut off water in the District.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, the NPS is conducting scoping in order to identify potential issues and determine the appropriate level of NEPA documentation. Surveys are currently underway for wildlife, plants and archaeological sites. Assessments are also being conducted to determine viable methods for replacing the waterline. Enclosed for your review is a map of the project area showing the approximate location of the existing waterline.

Comments are currently being accepted on this project. Comments must be received no later than **July 31, 2010**. Public comment may be submitted online at the NPS Planning, Environment and Public Comment website: http:parkplanning.nps.gov/deva or by mail to:

Park Superintendent
Death Valley National Park
ATTN: Scotty's Waterline Comments
PO Box 579
Death Valley, CA 92328

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, be advised that your entire comment –including your personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold from public review your personal identifying information, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Sincerely yours,

Kelly Fuhrmann

for Sarah Craighead
Park Superintendent