

**JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL
PUBLIC NOTICE
February 19, 2025**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida Division of Emergency Management have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) consideration to provide funding in the form of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funds will be provided in accordance with Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

Under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), federal actions must be reviewed and evaluated for feasible alternatives and for social, economic, historic, environmental, legal, and safety considerations. Under Executive Order (EO) 11988 and EO 11990 FEMA is required to consider alternatives to and to provide public notice of any proposed actions in or affecting floodplains or wetlands. EO 12898 also requires FEMA to provide the opportunity for public participation in the planning process and to consider potential impacts to minority or low-income populations.

Funding for the proposed project will be conditional upon compliance with all applicable federal, tribal, state and local laws, regulations, floodplain standards, permit requirements and conditions.

Applicant:

Lee County Electric Cooperative

Project Title:

HMGP 4673 (709) - N Ft Myers looping of the transmission system between Piney and Tropic Isles Substations

Location of Proposed Work:

The area affected by this project consists of ~~homes~~ one structure in the following locations:

To be Determined Transmission Route Between the Piney Substation [1259 Piney Road, North Fort Myers, FL 33903] and the Tropic Isles Substation [2331 Hancock Bridge Parkway, North Fort Myers, FL 33900]

Proposed Work and Purpose:

The project consists of the design and construction of approximately 6 miles of new Transmission Poles and Lines to create a loop between the Piney and Tropic Isles Distribution Substations, allowing for electric distribution service to continue if the primary transmission feed to either substation was disrupted. Taking this action will benefit at least 30,900 meters and LCEC members. The new line will be designed and constructed to withstand higher wind speeds (~170 mph) than that of the existing line (~ 143 mph)

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the "No Action" alternative and 2) to perform and "in and out" by tying LCEC's 303 Transmission line to the Slater Substation, creating a second method for supplying transmission to the Piney Substation. The "No Action" alternative has been reviewed and rejected, as it is important to establish a second path for transmission. It is also essential to upgrade to transmission line that is designed to resist higher wind speeds than the existing transmission line to either substation. The in and out alternate was similarly reviewed, but would not allow the Piney Substation to back feed the Slater Substation. For these reasons, the proposed alternative will be pursued through the HMGP.

Comment Period:

Comments are solicited from the public; local, state or federal agencies; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of the proposed project. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Recovery and Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 15 days of this notice March 7, 2025. The State will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed. Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

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State Environmental Specialist Team
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