

**JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL
PUBLIC NOTICE
August 1, 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 4337-298-R Lee County Electrical Cooperative, Reinforce Utility poles, Utility Mitigation

Location of Proposed Work:

The area affected by this project consists of structures in the following locations:

1.4-mile segment of County Road 92, between Curcie Road and Goodland Drive, in Naples, Florida 34114.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Lee County Electric Cooperative (LCEC) proposes an infrastructure retrofit project to strengthen and protect the existing power supply system along a 1.4-mile segment of County Road 92, between Curcie Road and Goodland Drive, in Naples, Florida 34114.

The project aims to enhance approximately 1.4 miles of 25-kilovolt (kV) electric distribution lines by installing 40 new 55-foot Class H6 spun concrete poles, each with an ultimate moment capacity of 360 kip-feet (K-Ft), embedded 18 feet deep, resulting in an above-ground height of 37 feet, along with associated hardware to improve the resilience of the electrical distribution system. Specifically, the project includes replacing 22 existing 45-foot Class III square concrete poles, each with an ultimate moment capacity at the ground line of 94.9 kip-feet (K-Ft), embedded 6 to 7 feet deep, resulting in an aboveground height of 37.5 feet, and installing 18 new mid-span concrete poles to improve line stability and performance. The new poles will be designed to withstand wind speeds of approximately 146 miles per hour (MPH) a significant improvement over the existing poles, which are rated for approximately 65 MPH. Additionally, the existing 3/0 Aluminum Conductor Steel Reinforced (ACSR) wire will be replaced with standard 336.4 Aluminum Conductors, Aluminum-Clad Steel Reinforced (ACSR/AW) wire. A stronger, wind-rated distribution pole is expected to reduce the likelihood of damage or failure during high-wind events, thereby minimizing physical damage and repair needs to the pole and associated infrastructure, while also preventing—or significantly reducing—the duration of electric service interruptions for LCEC's customers.

All project components shall be protected against a 500-year (0.2% annual chance) flood event by implementing specific activities or by locating them outside the Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), comply with applicable National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) requirements and shall be protected against wind based on location requirements per ASCE 7 standards effective at the time of permitting. Activities shall be completed in strict compliance with Federal, State and Local applicable Rules and Regulations.

Project Alternatives:

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the “No Action” alternative and 2) the design and conversion of this string to an underground configuration. The “No Action” alternative has been reviewed and rejected, as it is important to strengthen this line against the risk of high winds. The underground conversion option has been reviewed and has also been rejected. The water table and general soil conditions in the project area would make the underground conversion extremely challenging, if even feasible. 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 (August 16, 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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