

**JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
October 6, 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.

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, Inc.

**Project Title:**

HMGP 4673-294-R (673) Lee County Electrical Cooperative, Pine Island, Infrastructure Retrofit

**Location of Proposed Work:**

The area affected by this project consists of upgrading existing wooden and concrete poles to a higher wind-rated classification of concrete pole in the following locations:

- Approximately 15 linear miles of overhead distribution right-of-way on Stringfellow Road, Pine Island running north to south
- Approximate 3 linear miles of overhead distribution right of way between Matlacha and Pine Island Center

**Proposed Work and Purpose:**

The proposed consists of upgrading up to 614 existing wood and concrete distribution main feeder poles to a higher class and wind-rated concrete pole. Taking this action will reduce the potential for the loss of a main feeder pole during a high wind event and the subsequent loss of electrical supply to the impacted LCEC members/meters. This project will benefit over 7,500 LCEC member meters on Pine Island.

**Project Alternatives:**

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the "No Action" alternative and 2) converting the existing overhead distribution circuits to an underground configuration. These alternatives to the proposed project are not viable because under Alternative 1) Pine Island has experienced multiple mass outage events over the last 10 years, and LCEC believes it is essential to improve its infrastructure's resiliency against wind hazards for this vulnerable area, and Alternative 2) the additional cost associated with the directional bores and trenching, along with the difficulty of burying electrical equipment in a barrier island environment are not practicable.

**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 Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 15 days of this notice October 20, 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:

Karen Vivian  
Lee County Electric Cooperative, Inc.

(239) 656-2236  
Karen.vivian@lcec.net

State Environmental Specialist Team  
Florida Division of Emergency Management

[MitigationEnvironmental@em.myflorida.com](mailto:MitigationEnvironmental@em.myflorida.com)