

# FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Atchison-Holt Electric Cooperative has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding through Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) as a sub- recipient.

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, and to provide a 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 and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

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.

**Sub-Applicant:** Atchison-Holt Electric Cooperative

**Project Title:** DR-4435-MO-0008 Atchison-Holt Electric Cooperative Craig Conversion 2020

## **Location of Proposed Work:**

Facility	Address	Latitude	Longitude	Date of Construction
Atchison-Holt Electric Cooperative facility (roughly 9.3 miles of power line)	Line section to be mitigated runs along Highway 111 and begins near Craig, MO in Holt County and ends near Langdon, MO in Atchison County	Point A: 40.205103  Point B: 40.290614	Point A: -95.442469  Point B: -95.5027	Unknown

## **Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:**

All work is located in Flood Zones AE and A, areas of 100-year flooding. Confirmation of location in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) was determined by the Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Panels Number: 29087C0010B dated 1/6/1988 and 2900090200B dated 3/01/1990. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of Missouri and local floodplain regulations. There is a potential for the facility to be impacted by future flooding events due to its location within the 100-year floodplain. While the proposed work will not take place in wetlands per the United States Fish and Wildlife Service National Wetlands Inventory, it is located adjacent to wetlands. The addition of a few new poles to an existing power line is unlikely to impact or affect wetland values.

**Proposed Work and Purpose:**

The proposed project would upgrade facilities along an existing electric powerline corridor, replacing power poles and conductor wires. The corridor follows Highway 111 for about 9.3 miles, beginning near Craig, MO in Holt County and ending near Langdon MO in Atchison County. The work will consist of replacing about 165 wooden poles and 3-phase #2 ACSR conductor wire, with about 195 new wooden poles and 3-phase 4/0 ACSR conductor wire. Installation of the new power poles will involve drilling holes approximately 5-7 feet in depth, 14-16 inches in diameter. The only ground disturbance will be the drilling for the new poles, which will be placed approximately 250 feet apart, as the heavier wire requires shorter spans than the existing line. The poles will also be at least 50 feet tall to allow greater ground clearance. These upgrades would strengthen the system and greatly decrease the risk of lengthy power outages to the nearby communities dependent on this electrical infrastructure in the event of a severe weather event.

**Project Alternatives:**

**Alternative #1** (No action): The 'no action' alternative would ultimately result in a negative impact on the communities reliant on the electrical grid. In the event of a severe weather event such as heavy ice or wind, the nearby communities could be without power for extended periods of time due to the vulnerability of the existing power wires and poles.

**Alternative #2** (Converting existing overhead lines [OH] to underground lines [UG]) Switching from OH to UG would decrease or eliminate extended outages due to flooding or severe weather, but this option is very expensive. The proposed project offers similar protections for surrounding communities but is more cost effective than this potential alternative.

**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 following email: [kate.stojsavljevic@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:kate.stojsavljevic@fema.dhs.gov). Please send comments with the subject line [DR-4435-MO-0008 11988 COMMENT].

All comments are due by no later than 15 days of the posted date of this notice.

**POSTED ON:** January 5, 2021

**End of Notice**