

# FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Service Commission dba Santee Cooper has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the South Carolina Emergency Management Division (SCEMD) 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 to 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:** Public Service Commission dba Santee Cooper

**Project Title:** 119779 - Utilities - Black River Transmission Line

**Location of Proposed Work:**

Facility	Address	Latitude	Longitude	Date of Construction
Black River Transmission Line	On Choppee Road in Georgetown County between County Road S 22-900 and Annie Village Road	33.469262	-79.258848	1974

A map showing the location of all properties is available by contacting Robbie Fleming, manager of area transmission engineering, at [robbie.fleming@santeecooper.com](mailto:robbie.fleming@santeecooper.com).

**Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:** This project is for the repair of an electrical right-of-way embankment that is located in flood zone AE. Confirmation of location in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) was made by reference to the latest Flood Insurance Rate Maps, Panel # 45043C0332G. The proposed work conforms to all applicable State of South Carolina and local floodplain regulations including U.S. Army Corps permitting conditions. The proposed work has the potential to be affected by its location in an SFHA.

**Proposed Work and Purpose:**

Public Service Commission dba Santee Cooper is requesting funds to for the replacement of soil erosion caused by surface water flooding. The repairs will return the site to pre-disaster design, function, and capacity. The embankment’s purpose and need are to ensure the continued structural integrity of a high-

voltage power transmission structure and protects the waterbody from the structure failing and falling into the waterbody during periods of higher volume flow due to occasional strong tropical weather events.

**Project Alternatives:**

Alternatives to the proposed action were considered, as follows:

**Alternative #1:** If no action is taken to replace the soil eroded, the next storm could potentially result in complete destruction of the nearby power transmission structure causing major power outage. Additionally, the damaged structures may cause an additional burden to critical actions such as hospital, fire departments, and other emergency response services.

**Alternative #2:** Relocating the embankment outside the mapped flood zone is not practicable as it is connected to the power utility right-of-way. In other words, the embankment cannot perform its intended purpose of protecting the power transmission structure unless it is located in close proximity to water.

**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. Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting: U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency – Region IV - EHP, 3003 Chamblee Tucker Rd – Office #255, Atlanta, GA 30341-4112 or by email at [FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov). Please include in the subject line of the email “DR-4464-SC EHAD.”

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

**POSTED ON:** April 24, 2020

**End of Notice**