

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
for  
**FLINT HILLS RURAL ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE  
K-57 SUBSTATION CONSTRUCTION  
GEARY COUNTY, KANSAS  
HMGP-DR-4640-02-KS**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations in order to provide federal funds to the Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative (Flint Hills REC), through Kansas Division of Emergency Management (KDEM). Severe winter storms and straight-line winds and flooding throughout Kansas resulted in a Presidentially declared Major Disaster Declaration FEMA-4640-DR-KS declared on February 17, 2022. This declaration makes Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) funding available in accordance with the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act of 1974 (Stafford Act; 42 U.S.C. 5172), as amended.

Flint Hills REC purchased 15 acres of pastureland to build a new electric substation and associated structures, including a substation transformer with a concrete containment basin underneath, regulators, bus support structures including overhead conduit that carries/supports the conductors/wires, and protection equipment such as electronic reclosers. The GPS coordinates of the 4 corners of the project location are:

- 39.018864, -96.764369
- 39.018917, -96.761681
- 39.016569, -96.764203
- 39.016578, -96.761553

Less than 700 feet of 115kV transmission line will be constructed approximately two miles southeast of Grandview Plaza Kansas to provide the substation with a source of power. The new substation will be on a separate transmission grid and will be positioned between an existing substation in Grandview Plaza, Kansas and an existing substation near Dwight, Kansas.

FEMA prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (Draft EA) for the proposed project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and FEMA's Implementing Instruction 108-1-1. The Draft EA assesses the potential impacts of the proposed action on the human and natural environment. It evaluates alternatives for compliance with applicable environmental laws and executive orders, including the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), Endangered Species Act (ESA), Clean Water Act (CWA), and Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management), 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), and 12898 (Environmental Justice).

The Flint Hills Rural Electric Cooperative K-57 Substation Construction EA will be available for download from FEMA's website at [Region 7 - Environmental Documents and Public Notices | FEMA.gov](#). The appendices are available upon request. A copy of the EA will be available at the Flint Hills REC office. This public notice will also be publicized in the Junction City Daily Union, posted on the website of Kansas Department of Emergency Management (KDEM), and mailed to the adjacent property owners. Input received during the 30-day public comment period will be documented, together with responses thereto, in a subsequent Final Environmental Assessment and FEMA decision document. In accordance with 44 CFR Part 9.12(c) this notice will also constitute a final public notice for Step 7 of the 8-Step Floodplain Analysis required by EO 11988, Floodplain Management.

The public comment period will end 30 days after the date of this publication on the FEMA website listed above. Written comments on the EA can be mailed or e-mailed to the contact below. If no substantive comments are received, the EA will become final and a Finding of No Significant Impact will be signed. Substantive comments will be addressed as appropriate in the final documents. Contact: FEMA Region

7-DR 4640, Attn: Regional Environmental Officer, Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation Branch, Mitigation Division, FEMA Region 7, 11224 Holmes Road, Kansas City, MO 64131, or via email to the FEMA Region 7 Regional Environmental Officer at [teri.toye@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:teri.toye@fema.dhs.gov)