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# FEMA

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY  
FREDONIA SUBSTATION PROJECT  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT  
FREDONIA, WILSON COUNTY, KANSAS  
FEMA-1711-DR-KS

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) for the construction of a substation and related facilities. The original substation was substantially damaged by the storms and flooding that began on June 26, 2007. Due to the high cost associated with restoring and elevating the facility out of the 100-year floodplain, the City of Fredonia has decided to apply to FEMA to use the eligible funds for an alternate project. FEMA was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1711-DR-KS) to provide Federal disaster assistance to the City of Fredonia in Wilson County, Kansas as a result of damages incurred during the storms beginning on June 26, 2007 (Section 408 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5206, as amended (Stafford Act, Public Law 93-288)).

A new substation (100 feet x 76 feet) would be constructed in the planned Fredonia Industrial Park on North 15<sup>th</sup> Street 0.5 miles south of U.S. Highway 400. A 1.9 mile transmission line would be constructed from the substation to an existing 69kV Westar transmission line to the west. From the substation, the new transmission line would follow North 15<sup>th</sup> Street south for approximately 1,200 feet. From that point, it would turn west along Fillmore Street for approximately 8,800 feet before connecting to the existing Westar line. The construction of the new facilities would consist of site preparation (grading and/or excavation) and construction of the substation. The existing utility poles along the route would be removed and replaced with new poles.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a DEA has been prepared to evaluate the proposed action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The DEA summarizes the purpose and need, site selection process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action. The DEA is available for review between June 15, 2009 to July 14, 2009 at the Fredonia Library located at 807 Jefferson Street, Fredonia, Kansas. The DEA can also be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm>. Written comments on the DEA can be faxed to FEMA's Regional Office in Kansas City, Missouri at (816) 283-7018. Comments should be received no later than 5:00pm on July 14, 2009. If no substantive comments are received, the DEA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice. The DEA will then be moved to the archives page at [http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives\\_index.shtm](http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives_index.shtm).