

PUBLIC NOTICE

**The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's
Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)
Draft Environmental Assessment
FEMA-DR-1843-AK
Hope Power Distribution Line Section 2 Relocation**

Notice is hereby given that FEMA plans to assist the Chugach Electric Association, Inc. (CEA) by providing partial funding to relocate Section 2 of the Hope power distribution line adjacent to the Hope Highway in the Kenai Peninsula Borough, Alaska. FEMA is proposing to fund 75 percent of the cost for this project through its Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP), with the remainder coming from CEA or other nonfederal sources. Federal financial assistance would be provided pursuant to the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

FEMA has prepared a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed project pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and FEMA's implementing regulations. The draft EA will be finalized after agency and public review and input. The EA evaluates alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, which would not provide funding, and Alternative 2, the Proposed Action, which would relocate Section 2 of the Hope power distribution line from poles 31 to 69 to a site closer to the Hope Highway where maintenance and repairs would be safer, easier, faster, and less expensive.

This notice will constitute as the final notice as required by Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, and Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands. If no significant issues are identified during the comment period, FEMA will finalize the EA, issue a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and fund the project.

The draft EA is available for viewing at the Hope U.S. Post Office, the CEA office in Anchorage, and online at www.chugachelectric.com and www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/index.shtm for a 30-day public review and comment period. Please submit your written comments to Science Kilner, FEMA Region X Deputy Environmental Officer, no later than midnight on June 8, 2012. Comments can be submitted by:

1. By mail to: U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region X
130 228th Street SW
Bothell, WA 98021-9796
2. Fax at: (425) 487-4613
3. E-mail at: science.kilner@fema.dhs.gov

After the public comment period ends, the final EA and the FONSI will be available for viewing at: www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/archives_index.shtm.