

U.S. Department of Homeland Security

9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300

Kansas City, Missouri, 64114-3372

PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

HAVENS TO POLK TRANSMISSION LINE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

POLK AND MERRICK COUNTIES, NEBRASKA

FEMA-1770-DR-NE

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) is proposing to fund the Polk County Rural Power District request to construct the Havens to Polk Transmission Line under the authority of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, 42 USC 5121-5207, as amended (Stafford Act, Public Law 93-288). FEMA was authorized under a Presidential disaster declaration (FEMA-1770-DR-NE) to provide Federal hazard mitigation assistance statewide severe storms, tornadoes, and flooding during the period starting May 22, 2008.

Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 et seq.), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft Environmental Assessment (DEA) was written to evaluate the potential impacts of the actions considered on the human and natural environment. The DEA summarizes the purpose and need, project evaluation process, affected environment, and potential environmental consequences associated with the considered options.

Polk County Rural Power District preferred option is to build a 69-kV Sub-Transmission tie between Polk Substation and Haven Substation consisting of 8.9 miles to reduce importance on single source and to bring redundancy to an area historically impacted by power outages. Other options considered in the DEA are "no action" where no FEMA funds are provided for the project.

The public comment period will be from June 18, 2012 to July 18, 2012. Written comments on the DEA can be faxed to FEMA's Region VII Office at (816) 283-7018, emailed to [kenneth.sessa@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:kenneth.sessa@fema.dhs.gov), or mailed to Regional Environmental Officer, FEMA Region VII, 9221 Ward Parkway, Suite 300, Kansas City, MO, 64114-3372.

The DEA can be viewed locally at 115 West 3rd Street, Stromsburg, NE or downloaded from FEMA's website at: <http://www.fema.gov/plan/ehp/envdocuments/ea-region7.shtm>. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.