

**JOINT FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL  
PUBLIC NOTICE  
March 13,2025**

The Federal Emergency Management Agency and Florida Division of Emergency Management have received the following application for Federal grant funding. Final notice is hereby given of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) consideration to provide funding in the form of Hazard Mitigation Grant Program. Funds will be provided in accordance with Section 404 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act, Public Law 93-288, as amended.

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 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 or low-income populations.

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.

**Applicant:**

*Beaches Energy Services*

**Project Title:**

Remove, Raise and Install New Transformer and Associated Equipment at Fort Diego Substation

**Location of Proposed Work:**

The area affected by this project consists of homes in the following locations:  
158 Roscoe Blvd N, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

**Proposed Work and Purpose:**

Remove, elevate, and install a new transformer along with control house and emergency generator at the Fort Diego Substation to protect critical electrical infrastructure from flood damage. Raising this equipment will enhance the reliability of power in the area for years to come and significantly reduce the need for annual flood mitigation efforts, as well as lower ongoing maintenance and capital costs associated with recurring flood-related damages.

**Project Alternatives:**

The alternatives to the project that have been and will be considered are 1) the no action alternative and 2) Relocation of the substation to a new location above the flood plane. These alternatives to the proposed project are not viable because under Alternative 1); Recurring flooding would not be addressed. As flooding persists, portions or all of the electrical equipment at the substation could fail, resulting in the inability to provide power to residents, utilities, and businesses in the surrounding area; and Alternative 2) The projected cost of \$42 million, which is neither funded nor approved, combined with a lead time of 3 to 5 years, makes this option unfeasible. The burden of these costs would fall on the local residents and businesses. As responsible stewards of public resources and affordable power, it would conflict with our core values and the public's interest to pursue a solution that is eight times more expensive for the same outcome.

**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. The comments should be made in writing and addressed to the Florida Division of Emergency Management, Bureau of Mitigation, 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd., Tallahassee, FL 32399-2100. These are due within 30 days of this notice. The State will forward comments to applicable regulatory agencies as needed. Interested persons may submit comments, obtain more detailed information about the proposed action, or request a copy of the findings by contacting:

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State Environmental Specialist Team  
Florida Division of Emergency Management

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