

FINAL PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Service Commission dba Santee Cooper has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Public Assistance (PA) Program funding through the South Carolina Emergency Management Department (SCEMD) as a sub- recipient.

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, and to provide a 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 and low-income populations. This notice may also fulfill requirements under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA).

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.

Sub-Applicant: Public Service Commission dba Santee Cooper

Project Title: 4677 - Cat F - Jefferies Hydro Generating Station Tainter Gate

Location of Proposed Work:

Facility	Latitude	Longitude
Jefferies Hydro Generating Station Tainter Gate	33.24443	-79.99192

Special Flood Hazard Area Zone:

This project is for the removal and replacement of the Tainter emergency gate, two (2) concrete gate stops, and steel chains. All work is located in an AE (1% annual chance flood elevation with velocity hazard). Location in a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA) was determined by the Berkely County Insurance Rate Map, Panel Number: 45015C0405E, dated 12/09/2018. The work conforms to all applicable State of South Carolina and local floodplain regulations. There is a potential for the facilities to be impacted by future flooding events due to its location within an AE Zone.

Proposed Work and Purpose:

Public Service Commission dba Santee Cooper will repair the following: one (1) each of the Tainter emergency gate 60' wide x 36' diameter radius, two (2) each concrete gate stops, one (1) each 1-3/8" DI-Lock steel chain, 75' long. Mitigation will be achieved by the replacement of the

steel chain with a hot dipped galvanized 75' 1-1/8" Di-Lock steel chain, that will reduce the risk of future damages to serve its intended purpose to provide control of water flow.

Project Alternatives:

Alternative #1 (No action): The 'no action' alternative would have an adverse social, economic, and public safety impact in the community. If the Tainter gates are not repaired, the ability to control water flow would hinder the ability to prevent severe flooding, which would be a hazard to health and safety. Therefore, the “no action” alternative is not practicable solution.

Alternative #2 (Relocation): Relocation of the Tainter gates is not a feasible alternative because it would have a social, economic, and public safety impact on the community. It is also not feasible because there is nowhere else to relocate the gates and still have them perform their function. Therefore, this alternative is not a practicable solution.

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:

FEMA Internal 11988 Reviewer
FEMA Region 4
3005 Chamblee-Tucker Road
Atlanta, Georgia, 30341

Alternatively, comments may be emailed to: FEMA-R4EHP@fema.dhs.gov. Please send comments with the subject line [DR-4677-SC-00150 11988 COMMENT].

All comments are due by no later than 30 days of the posted date of this notice.

POSTED ON: August 4, 2023

End of Notice