



South Louisiana Electric Cooperative Association

P.O. BOX 1126
AMELIA, LOUISIANA 70340

P.O. BOX 4037
HOUMA, LOUISIANA 70361

July 13, 2022

Dear Camp Owner:

In regard to the rebuilding of our lake lines in Lake Decade, Grand Pass, Lake Fields and the island at the end of Four Point (boat access only) due to the historic damage of Hurricane Ida, we wanted to write you to address any concerns you have and to dispel any rumor or hearsay about the future of these lines.

First, we want to thank you for your patience and understanding as SLECA continues to rebuild from the worst and costliest natural disaster to ever impact its service territory. Second and most importantly, we want to go on record and reassure all camp owners and those who enjoy the "camp experience" that, as of this time, SLECA has every intention of rebuilding these damaged lake lines. To that end, in the next few weeks contract crews will be in the lakes removing damaged poles and transformers, downed wire and other storm debris. But this is only the beginning.

SLECA is still very much in hurricane mode. We are still running new services to hundreds of FEMA trailers and to rebuilt homes and businesses; installing thousands of street lights and removing tons of debris. But even with all of these ongoing activities, please know that we have not forgotten our camp owners nor have we put this issue on the backburner.

Since the storm, we have been meeting with consultants, engineering firms and especially the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to plan and execute the best course of action and to do what is in the best interest of our camp owners.

The good news is FEMA is willing to rebuild the lines in the lakes. But because of the ongoing and regular damage to our lake lines, whether due to repeated hurricanes or just strong thunderstorms, FEMA rules and regulations will allow us to rebuild the lake lines to withstand hurricane force winds. We are currently looking at all of our options for the rebuild including both wood and steel pole designs. This however is a very lengthy process that will require engineering work; permits must be secured from the Corps of Engineers; the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources



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and the Louisiana Department of Environmental Quality must provide oversight and FEMA will be involved throughout the entire process. The permits alone could take up to a year to secure but again, FEMA will foot the bill.

The only other alternative would be to rebuild the lake infrastructure the way it was prior to Hurricane Ida and not harden the system. Estimates are that this could still cost tens of millions of dollars and, if selected, FEMA may not reimburse SLECA for expenses to make repairs caused by storms in the future since the lines would not have been hardened. This approach has not been ruled out, however if FEMA were not to reimburse SLECA, this would potentially create a major financial problem for camp owners who would have to be assessed the amount to make any repairs.

Please know that we are looking at all options for the rebuild but we promise that the ultimate decision that is made will be for the betterment of SLECA's system and you, our camp owners.

Again, we want to THANK YOU for being so considerate. We truly appreciate our camp owners and we apologize for the inconvenience this situation has caused you. We sincerely hope this letter has given you a clearer understanding of the path forward and, like you, we look forward to life returning back to normal as soon as possible.