



**FEMA**

**U.S. Department of Homeland  
Security**  
Region IX  
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Oakland, CA 94607-4052

**Notice of Availability  
Programmatic Environmental Assessment  
Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System  
Land Mobile Radio Project**

**U.S. Department of Homeland Security  
Federal Emergency Management Agency**

The U. S. Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) proposes to provide Federal financial assistance for the installation of emergency communications facilities in the Los Angeles region at sites primarily in the County of Los Angeles and in adjacent portions of Orange and San Bernardino counties in southern California (Proposed Action). The Proposed Action is referred to as the Los Angeles Regional Interoperable Communications System (LA-RICS), Land Mobile Radio (LMR) Project. Funding assistance would be provided by FEMA's Grant Programs Directorate Homeland Security Grant Program Urban Area Security Initiative sub-program, through the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), to the Los Angeles-Long Beach Urban Area Partner Jurisdiction, with the City of Los Angeles serving as the local fiscal agent. Funding assistance would also be provided by FEMA's State Homeland Security Grant Program sub-program, through Cal OES, to Los Angeles County. The Proposed Action would be completed by the LA-RICS Joint Powers Authority.

The Proposed Action would consolidate existing LMR systems with proposed new LMR sites to enable public safety agencies in the Los Angeles region to operate under one shared interoperable LMR system. The Proposed Action would establish a shared communications system for emergency responders that would allow for an efficient and coordinated response to emergencies in the Los Angeles region. The Proposed Action would include up to 90 sites and would involve the placement of public safety communication facilities, including the placement of lattice towers, monopoles, antennas, emergency generators, and other equipment on sites throughout the Los Angeles region.

FEMA, as the lead Federal agency, has prepared a Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) to evaluate the environmental impacts of the Proposed Action. The PEA has been prepared according to the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States Code §§ 4321–5327), and FEMA's implementing regulations (44 Code of Federal Regulations Pt. 10). The Federal Communications Commission is the Federal agency charged with regulating and licensing the construction and operation of the LMR facilities and is a cooperating agency under NEPA.

FEMA is making the PEA available for public review and comment. The PEA is available for review during normal business hours at LA-RICS Joint Powers Authority, 2525 Corporate Place, Suite 100, Monterey Park, California 91754. The PEA is also available for review online on FEMA's website at <http://www.fema.gov/environmental-planning-and-historic-preservation-program/environmental-documents-public-notice-5>, and on the LA-RICS Joint Powers Authority website at [www.LA-RICS.org](http://www.LA-RICS.org).

Requests for a copy of the PEA or comment on the PEA should be sent to the Environmental and Historic Preservation Office, FEMA Region IX, 1111 Broadway, Suite 1200, Oakland, California 94607 or e-mailed to Jill Dale, Senior Environmental Specialist, at [Jill.Dale@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:Jill.Dale@fema.dhs.gov). For more information, contact FEMA's Region IX Environmental Office at (510) 627-7728.

Comments on the PEA must be received by 5:00pm (Pacific Time), on April 5, 2016. FEMA will take no further action on the Proposed Action until that date.