#### **Kalaupapa National Historical Park**

Rehabilitate and Upgrade the Existing Electrical System
Environmental Assessment





#### You're Invited!

The National Park Service (NPS) is requesting input and mana'o on options to rehabilitate the existing electrical system at Kalaupapa National Historical Park (the park) and the Kalaupapa Settlement (settlement), located on the island of Molokai in Hawai'i. NPS is committed to fulfilling its responsibilities as a steward of this special landscape. Please help safeguard the future of this outstanding resource by participating in the planning process and attending the virtual public scoping meeting.

## **Background**

The current electrical system at the park was installed in 1969 and is owned by State of Hawai'i Department of Health (HDOH) and the State of Hawai'i Department of Land and Natural Resources. An overhead power line, owned by the Maui Electrical Company (MECO), follows the Kalaupapa trail and terminates at the 300kVA MECO-owned substation on the Kalaupapa peninsula; the existing overhead system is tied in and managed by the NPS.

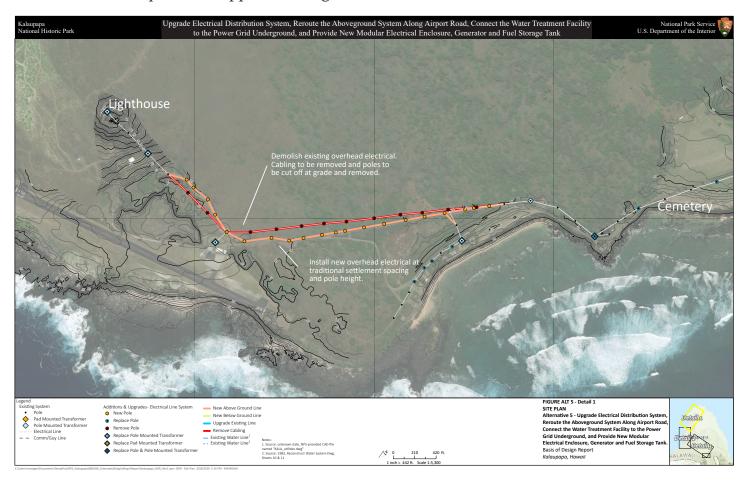
Power outages occur frequently within the park because of deteriorated transformers, worn and frayed transmission lines, and pole and insulator failures. Surges from the MECO-owned electrical system also result in loss of power. The park's electrical system is outdated and inadequate, creating health and safety concerns for patient-residents, NPS and HDOH staff, and visitors. Rehabilitating and upgrading the electrical system would improve efficiency, comply with current electrical code standards, improve reliability, reduce deferred maintenance, and remove health and safety concerns.

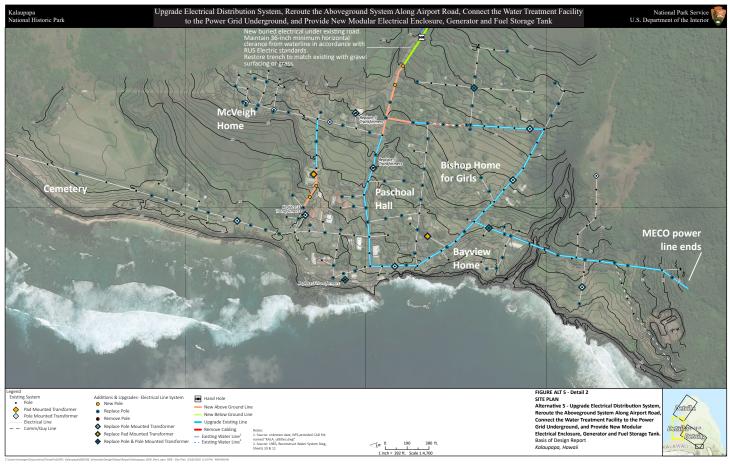
The electrical system throughout the Kalaupapa peninsula has components that are part of the original power supply system and are contributing elements to the National Historic Landmark nomination. Work to upgrade and replace these components and newer components and lines will be guided through appropriate consultation to determine relocations and installation.

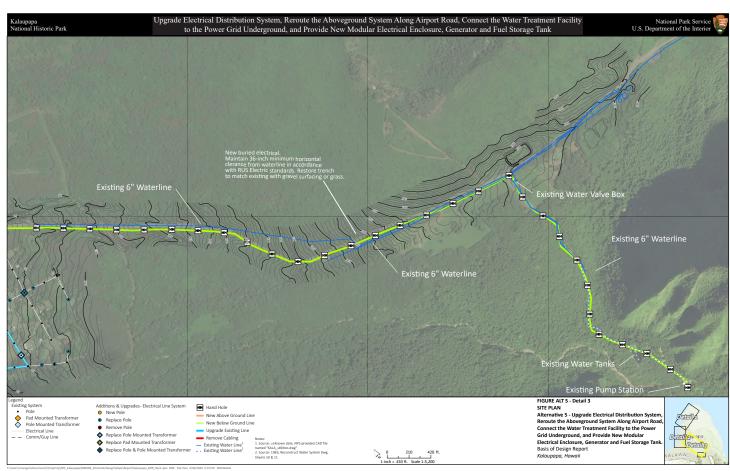
# **Purpose and Need for Action**

The purpose of taking action is to provide the park and its settlement with a reliable electrical system that is readily and easily serviceable and complies with federal regulations.

This action is needed because the condition of the electrical system is substandard, inadequate, and presents risks to the park's visitors, inhabitants, and structures. The existing components that make up the electrical distribution system are at or near the end of their useful service life, and rehabilitation is required to support existing facilities.







#### **Potential Alternatives**

As part of the environmental assessment (EA), NPS has developed two preliminary alternatives :a no-action alternative and one action alternative.

#### **No Action**

The no-action alternative would not rehabilitate the failing electrical system at the park and its settlement.

This alternative would repair and upgrade the settlement's single and three-phase overhead electrical system to a looped system and connect the existing water pump house and backup generator locations. Improvements would meet current industry standards and codes for MECO requirements, remove documented safety hazards, improve reliability, and reduce deferred maintenance.

Within the existing electrical system alignment and settlement area, this project would:

- Replace 110 power poles
- Upgrade 13 poles from single phase to three phases
- Upgrade insulators and attachment hardware for all poles
- Replace and upgrade 39,000 linear feet of overhead wire as needed
- Replace 2 pad-mounted and 23 pole-mounted transformers
- Install a new alignment of 20 poles along Kamehameha Street to reduce potential impacts on cultural resources and documented archeological sites and facilitate access for pole maintenance

To connect the water pump house and backup generator locations to the system:

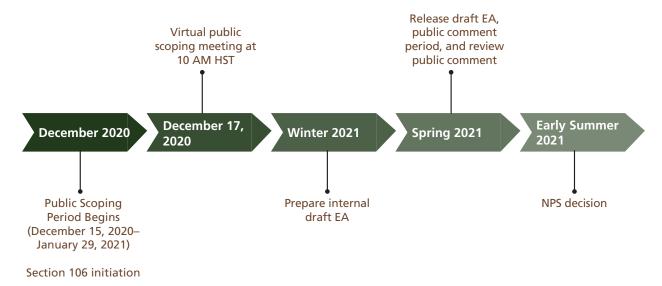
- Install 2 new poles with cross arms, insulators, and hardware in existing pole locations near the east end of the settlement
- Bury cable underground, starting at the east end of the settlement adjacent to the existing water line utility trench in the road corridor
- Remove the diesel generator, fuel tank, and backup power generation equipment and demolish existing structures down to the concrete pads
- Install the new power supply equipment and outlet to the existing backup generator and pump house location at existing concrete pads

# Rehabilitate the Existing Electrical System

## The Planning Process

This public scoping comment period represents the first opportunity for the public to be involved in the planning process. Once NPS has gathered input on the proposed action, preliminary alternatives, and potential impacts associated with the proposed action, it anticipates moving on to the EA phase of the project. The park also welcomes comments during this period about potential effects to historic properties to assist in compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. A second opportunity for public comment on the project will be provided upon publication of the EA.

Important steps in the planning process are below.



#### **How to Comment**



On the web (preferred method) at: https://parkplanning.nps.gov/KALA



By email at: KALA consultation@nps.gov



By mail: Rehabilitate and Upgrade the Existing Electrical System EA Superintendent Erika Stein Espaniola P.O. Box 2222 Kalaupapa, HI 96742

The public scoping 45-day period starts December 15, 2020 and ends on January 29, 2021. The NPS will also hold a virtual public scoping meeting to provide the opportunity for members of the public to learn more about the project. The meeting will be held using Zoom. On December 17, 2020 at 10:00 AM HST, please use the following hyperlink to join by PC, Mac, tablet, or smartphone:

https://zoom.us/j/92529223600

Or join by phone by dialing one of the numbers below and entering the Webinar ID:

+1-669-900-6833 +1-833-548-0276 (Toll Free)

Webinar ID: 925 2922 3600 #

<u>Note:</u> Comments will not be accepted by fax or any other way than those specified above. Please also note that your entire comment—including personal identifying information such as your address, phone number, and e-mail address—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so. Comments submitted by individuals or organizations on behalf of other individuals or organizations will not be accepted.