



Hub City Energy Park

Aberdeen, South Dakota

Application for an Energy Conversion Facility Permit

Docket EL26-XXX

Appendix L – FAA Pre-Screening Tool

October 2026

Appendix L – FAA Pre-Screening Tool Results

NorthWestern Energy Public Service Corporation d/b/a NorthWestern Energy (NorthWestern) is developing an approximate 131 megawatt (MW) simple-cycle, natural gas fired combustion turbine (CT) power generation facility, known as the Hub City Energy Park (Project).

The Project will be located south of the City of Aberdeen, South Dakota in Brown County at the intersection of 135th Street and South 5th Street and will be adjacent to, but across the street from, NorthWestern's existing Siebrecht substation and Aberdeen Generating Station (AGS). Drawings showing the conceptual layout of the equipment and buildings on the Project site are included as Attachment A to this document.

This document summarizes the findings of a Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) pre-screening analysis which was performed to evaluate FAA filing requirements for the Project. The FAA requires notification and approval for structures that may impede airspace near airports as well as for structures over 200 feet above the site ground elevation. To facilitate the determination of required interface / notification with the FAA, the FAA has an on-line Obstruction Evaluation / Airport Airspace Analysis (OEAAA) site pre-screening tool that was used to perform this assessment.

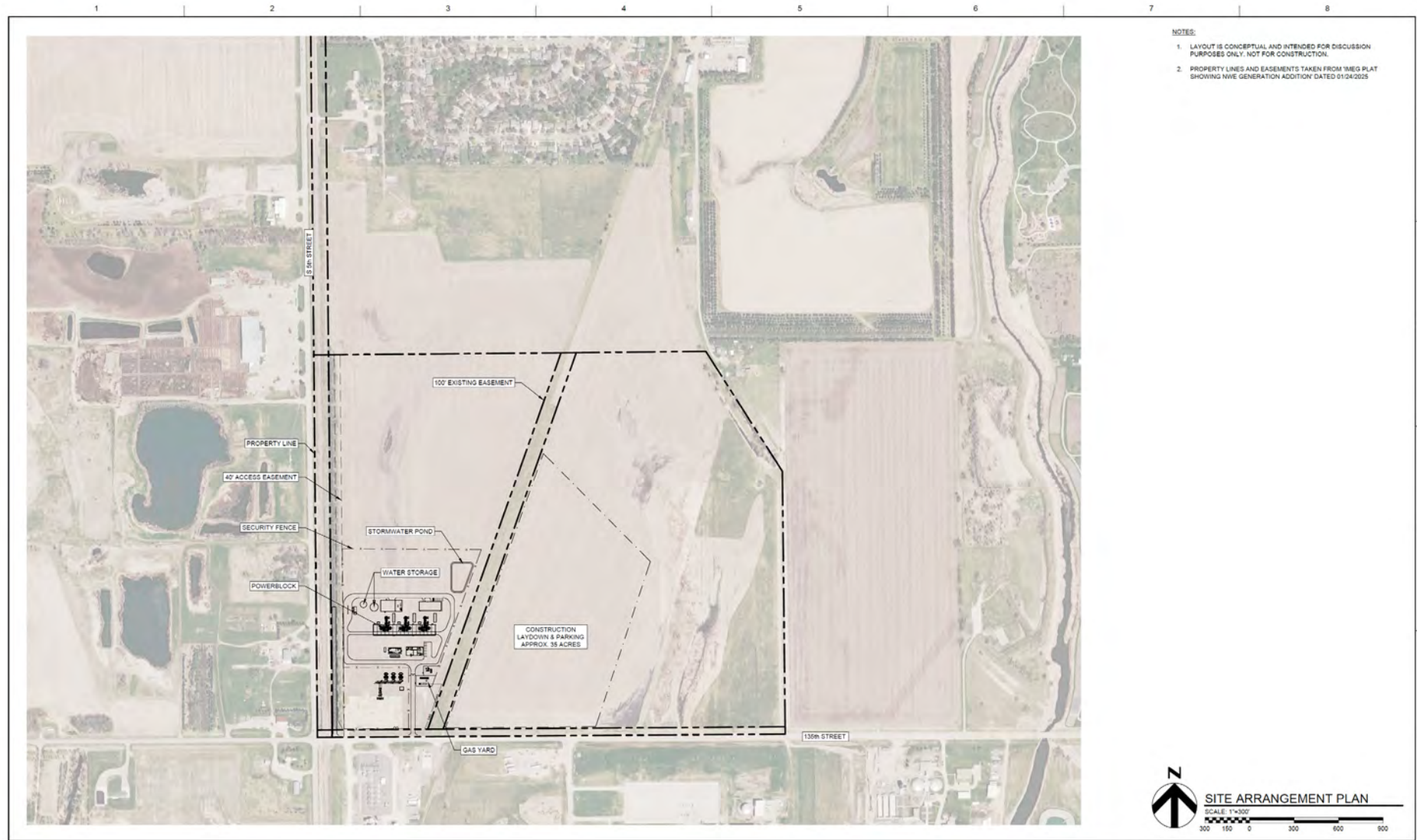
The Project site is west and slightly south of the Aberdeen Regional Airport (airport ABR) which is a city-owned, public-use airport located two nautical miles east of the central business district of Aberdeen. The Project site is not in the direct flight path of the airport. The Project will include the addition of three (3) new Solar Titan 350 CTs with emission control modules and associated exhaust stacks. The exhaust stacks are expected to be the tallest permanent structures on the site at an expected height of 90 ft. Other permanent structures on the site include the combustion turbine inlet filters, combustion turbine engine hall, administration and warehouse buildings, various equipment buildings, auxiliary equipment such as the dew point heater, fire pump, and emergency diesel generator, and electrical switchgear and transmission infrastructure. These structures are expected to be less than the stack heights for the CTs.

For a new power plant site, the FAA pre-screening tool utilizes four (4) coordinates to define the site boundary. At each of the four coordinates, a site elevation of 1,300 ft (the FAA tool indicated 1,299 ft) and a structure height of 100 ft and 150 ft was specified. As a result of this evaluation and as indicated in Attachments B-1 and B-2 to this document, the FAA pre-screening tool indicated a determination of no impact to air space for the planned on-site permanent structures.

As a further evaluation considering the potential height of temporary cranes and equipment required for construction of the Project, increasing structure heights were evaluated to determine at which height there would be an impact on air space as modeled by the FAA pre-screening tool. Attachment C and D present the results of this evaluation with a higher stack height of 160 ft and also with a temporary structure height of 150 ft. As can be noted in Attachment C and D, the pre-screening tool indicated that there would be an impact on air space at a hypothetical height of 160 ft and a Notice of Proposed Construction to the FAA would be required in this scenario. However, all structure heights below and including a threshold value of 150 ft indicated no impact on air space. Based on this information, the FAA pre-screening tool indicates a determination of no impact to air space associated with the Project with its tallest permanent structure being planned at 90 ft and the tallest temporary construction equipment being planned at a maximum height of 150 ft. While Attachment C identifies the threshold height below which structures at the Project site would comply with FAA requirements, it is also beneficial in that it shows the relative location of the Project site to the Aberdeen Regional Airport and its associated flight paths.

Based on the results of the FAA pre-screening tool, no further filing with the FAA is required for the Project for its current configuration with the turbine exhaust stacks and other permanent structures on the site being under 100 ft and the temporary construction equipment being below 150 ft in height, assuming a site elevation of 1,300 ft.

Attachment A: Project Site Arrangement and Equipment Configuration



0	08/17/2025	FOR APPLICATION	CMV	MAH	CTS	CTS
ISSUE	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	ENGINEER	CHECKED	APPROVED

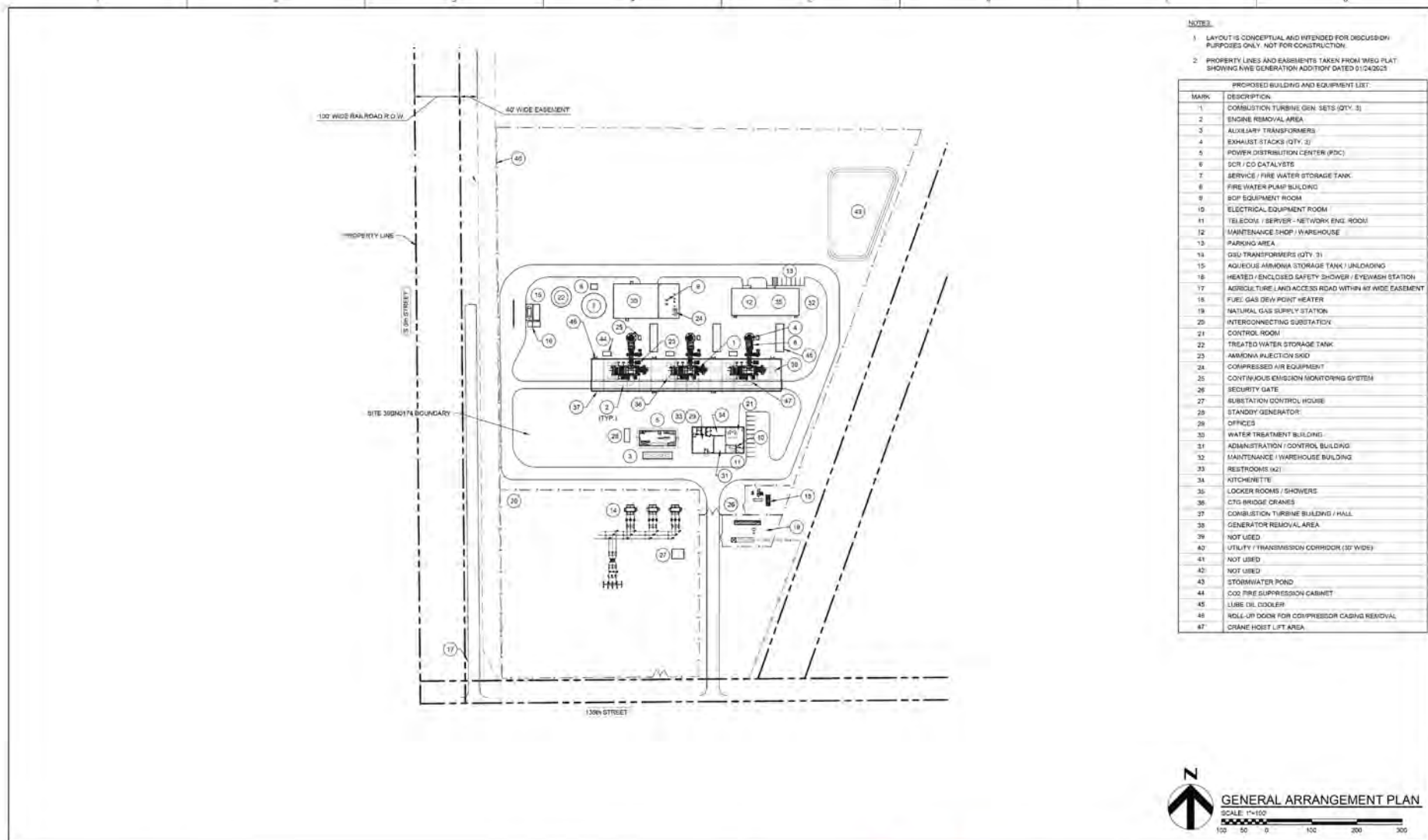
PRELIMINARY
NOT FOR CONSTRUCTION



NORTHWESTERN ENERGY
HUB CITY ENERGY PARK
SITE ARRANGEMENT

FILENAME | C1001.dwg
SCALE | AS NOTED

SHEET
10450080-0GA-C1001



Attachment B-1: FAA Pre-Screening Tool Results for the Project (100 ft tall stacks)



Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

Login

Version: 2026-MAX.1

- Home
- Reports
- Search
- Download
- Pre-Screening Tool
- Tools
- FAQ & Resources

Pre-Screening Tool

Use this tool to pre-screen your structure to determine if your proposed construction or alteration project requires notice to FAA. Select structure type and enter the point information to run the Pre-Screening Tool.

Structure Type:

☐ On Airport ☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude	Longitude	Datum	Height	Site Elevation
✓ 45 26 19.59 N	98 29 18.93 W	WGS 84	100	1300
✓ 45 26 19.54 N	98 29 40.74 W	WGS 84	100	1300
✓ 45 25 50.25 N	98 29 41.04 W	WGS 84	100	1300
✓ 45 25 50.25 N	98 29 32.89 W	WGS 84	100	1300

[Find Coordinates by Address](#)

Based on the information you provided, you are not required to file notice with the FAA.

Clear

Submit

Print



Attachment B-2: FAA Pre-Screening Tool Results for the Proposed Project (hypothetical 150 ft tall permanent structures)



Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

Login

Version 2026-AUG

- Home
- Reports
- Search
- Download
- Pre-Screening Tool
- Tools
- FAQ & Resources

Pre-Screening Tool

Use this tool to pre-screen your structure to determine if your proposed construction or alteration project requires notice to FAA. Select structure type and enter the point information to run the Pre-Screening Tool.

Structure Type: Power Plant

☐ On Airport

☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude	Longitude	Datum	Height	Site Elevation	
✓ 45 25 50.08	N 98 29 41.07	W WGS 84	150	1299	✈
Latitude	Longitude	Datum	Height	Site Elevation	
✓ 45 25 50.08	N 98 29 32.59	W WGS 84	150	1299	✈
Latitude	Longitude	Datum	Height	Site Elevation	
✓ 45 26 20.62	N 98 29 17.09	W WGS 84	150	1297	✈
Latitude	Longitude	Datum	Height	Site Elevation	
✓ 45 26 20.55	N 98 29 41.28	W WGS 84	150	1299	✈

Find Coordinates by Address

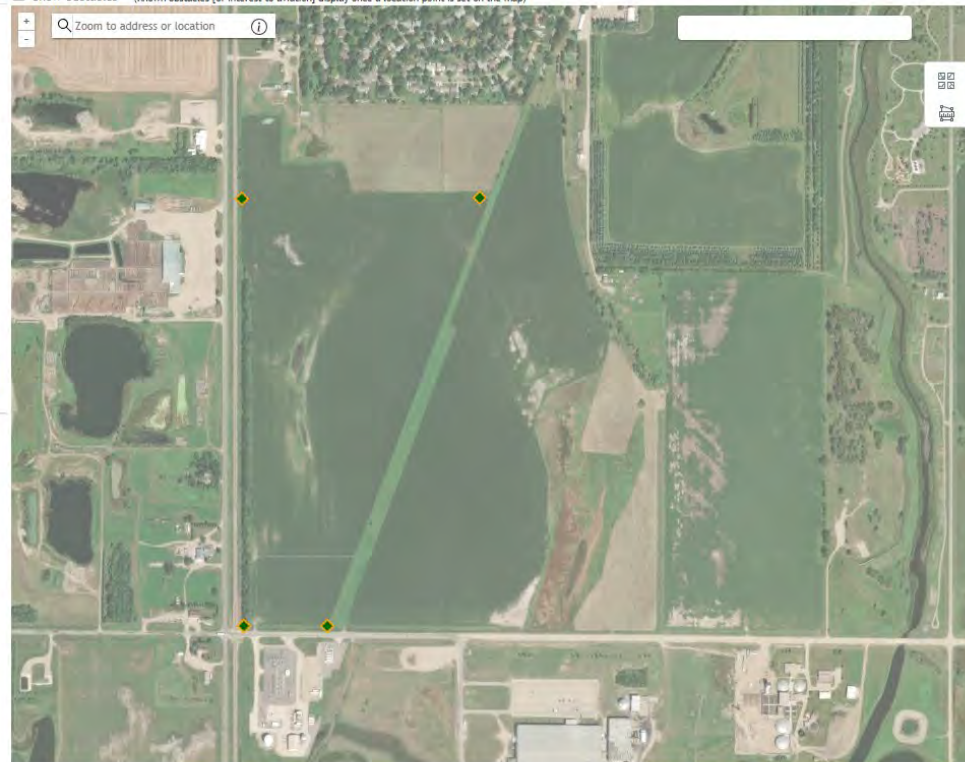
Based on the information you provided, you are not required to file notice with the FAA.

Clear

Submit

Print

☐ Show Obstacles (Known obstacles [of interest to aviation] display once a location point is set on the map)



Attachment C: Indicative FAA Pre-Screening Tool Results for Hypothetical Project with 160 ft tall Stacks



Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

Login

Version 2026-MAR-1

- Home
- Reports
- Search
- Download
- Pre-Screening Tool
- Tools
- FAQ & Resources

Pre-Screening Tool

Use this tool to pre-screen your structure to determine if your proposed construction or alteration project requires notice to FAA. Select structure type and enter the point information to run the Pre-Screening Tool.

Structure Type: Power Plant

☐ On Airport ☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude	Longitude	Datum	Height	Site Elevation
✓ 45 26 19.59 N	98 29 18.93 W	WGS 84	160	1300
✓ 45 26 19.54 N	98 29 40.74 W	WGS 84	160	1300
✓ 45 25 50.25 N	98 29 41.04 W	WGS 84	160	1300
✓ 45 25 50.25 N	98 29 32.89 W	WGS 84	160	1300

Find Coordinates by Address

Based on the information you provided, you are required to file notice with the FAA. You must submit notice at least 45 days before the start of the proposed construction or alteration or the date an application for a construction permit is filed, whichever is earliest.

The Structure Type you selected is identified as an Energy structure. If you are ready to file notice with the FAA now, we will send your submission to the DOD for formal review during our aeronautical study. If you are not ready to file notice yet, you may need to request an Informal Review of your project from the Department of Defense (DOD) Energy Siting Clearinghouse. Visit the [DOD Clearinghouse](#) to learn more.

Note: If you propose construction or alteration that is subject to the licensing requirements of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), you must submit notice to the FAA on or before the date that an application is filed with the FCC. Visit [FCC Licensing](#) to learn more.

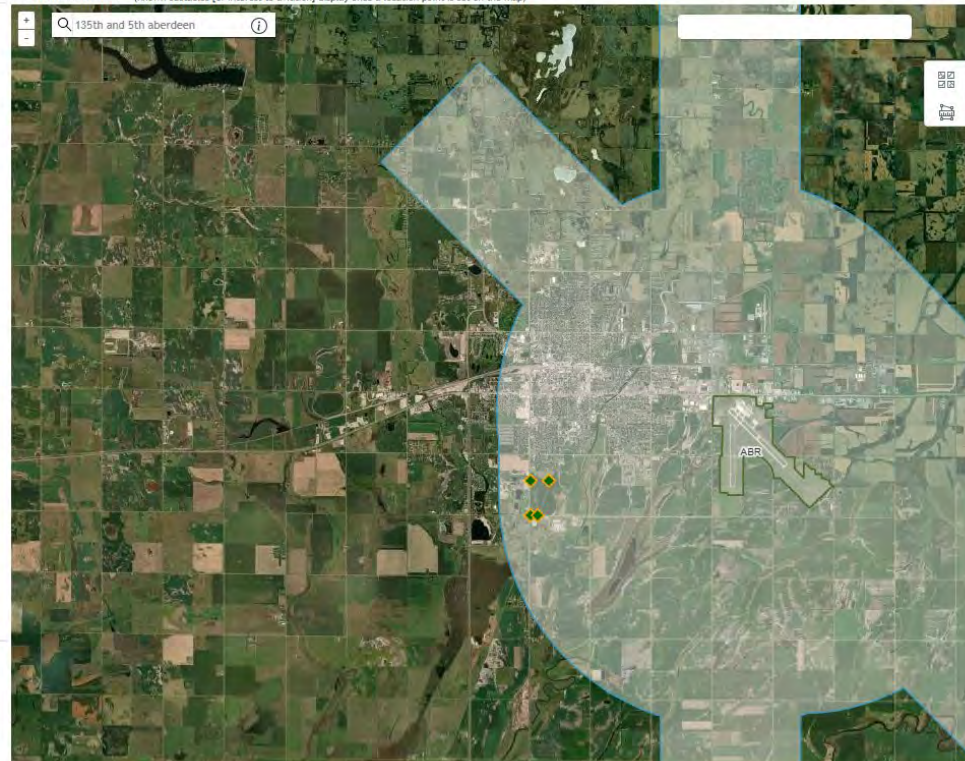
Please login to Complete Notice of Proposed Construction

Clear

Submit

Print

☐ Show Obstacles (Known obstacles [of interest to aviation] display once a location point is set on the map)



Attachment D: Indicative FAA Pre-Screening Tool Results for Project with Temporary 150 ft tall Crane



- Home
- Reports
- Search
- Download
- Pre-Screening Tool
- Tools
- FAQ & Resources

Pre-Screening Tool

Use this tool to pre-screen your structure to determine if your proposed construction or alteration project requires notice to FAA. Select structure type and enter the point information to run the Pre-Screening Tool.

Structure Type

☐ On Airport

☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude Longitude Datum Height Site Elevation

[Find Coordinates by Address](#)

Based on the information you provided, you are not required to file notice with the FAA.

Clear

Submit

Print

