

Airport Obstruction Review

Project and Program Delivery Manual

Chapter 3

Airport Obstruction Review

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Revised: xx-xx-xx

Introduction

To protect navigable airspace from encroachment by either construction or other alterations, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) may require filing of a Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration, if construction or an alteration is more than **200 feet above ground level, has any devices emitting a frequency or is within 20,000 feet of a public-use airport**. This can include, but is not limited to, terrain changes, new structures, towers, light poles, and construction equipment such as excavators and cranes.

The best way to tell if your project is within 20,000 feet of an airport is to search on the FAA website. Their tool uses **latitude** and longitude to check against known airports. The search tool only allows entry of spot locations, so it is recommended to check the beginning and end of your project and at least every mile for longer corridors. This tool should be used as early as possible during the development **process**, for example during the concept D00/B00 and field exam D02.

The search tool can be found at this link: <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/oe3a/main/#/noticePrescreen>

You will have the option of either entering latitude and longitude of project points or by clicking on a location in the map within the tool. Below is a screenshot of this FAA tool:

Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

Effective 6/15/2025, the FAA will disable OE/AAA Helpdesk phone support but will continue to provide professional support via email at oeaaa-helpdesk@faa.gov (note new email address). Please review the User Guides in the OE/AAA Library and on-screen instructions to try to resolve issues before requesting assistance from the helpdesk.

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: Bridge

☐ On Airport ☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude: 41 34 26.88 Longitude: 95 51 13.43 Datum: WGS 84 Height: 5 Site Elevation: 1081

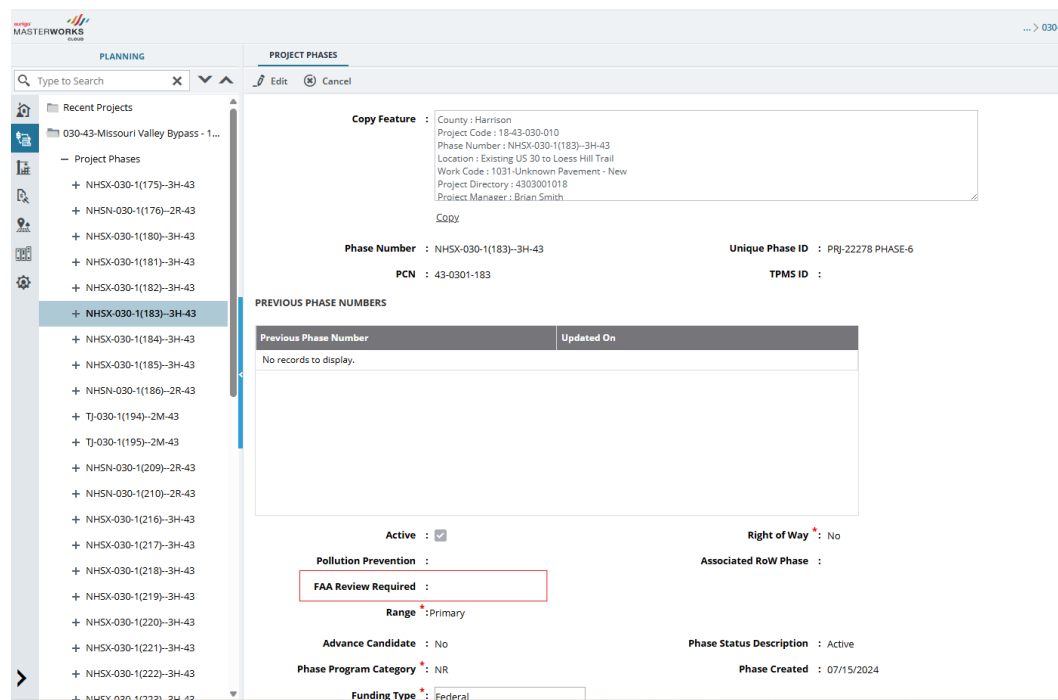
Latitude: 41 33 58.97 Longitude: 95 52 01.43 Datum: WGS 84 Height: 5 Site Elevation: 1034

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

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

Clicking “Next” will open another window which will allow refinement of your search. Adjust the criteria as applicable and click “Submit Search” at the bottom right. If any results are returned for an airport, additional screening will be necessary. If the search tool does not indicate an airport within 20,000 feet, but your project includes equipment that transmits frequencies (traffic sensors, some signal systems), a submittal still may be required.

With your search done you will need to mark in Masterworks if a FAA review is needed or not. To do this open the Road Design tab under the appropriate phase in Masterworks and find the toggle named “FAA Review Required”. If results were returned in the search tool steps outlined above, toggle “Yes”. You should also toggle “Yes” if frequency transmitting equipment will be installed as part of the project. If neither of these criteria are met and you are confident that no additional screening is necessary, toggle “No”.



Other Restrictions

Any highway project financed with Federal highway funds shall comply with Section 318 of Title 23 U.S.C., Highway Relocation Due to Airport. This code section does not allow Federal participation in highways which serve an airport, or which must be relocated or reconstructed to accommodate airport improvements, unless such participation has been found to be in the public’s interest, as determined by the Iowa DOT and the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA).

During activities on, or in proximity to an airport, including maintenance or construction, the LPA shall contact the airport manager and comply with FAA Advisory Circular No. [150/5370-2F](#), “Operational Safety on Airports During Construction”, and FAA Advisory Circular No. [150/5210-5D](#), “Painting, Marking, and Lighting of Vehicles Used on An Airport.”

Any highway construction that may create a potential wildlife attractant within 5,000 feet of an airport serving piston powered aircraft, or 10,000 feet of an airport serving turbine powered aircraft, should also comply with the FAA Advisory Circular No. [150/5200-33B](#), “Hazardous Wildlife Attractants on or Near Airports.”

If “No” was marked in Masterworks

You are done with this review.

If “Yes” was marked in Masterworks

There are several steps to be taken to ensure your project will not adversely affect the adjacent airport airspace.

First, you will need to identify all the features on your project being added or modified that might impact the airport airspace or FAA operations. Below are a few common items to consider for DOT projects:

- Bridge Height Increase (including barrier, fencing, lighting and/or other elements on the bridge)
- Signing
- New ITS Message Boards
- Traffic Signals (and Signal/lighting combos)
- Lighting
- Grade Raises
- Cameras, traffic sensors or other devices (may be mounted on own pole or on top of other elements)
- Devices emitting frequency (such as traffic sensors, signal radar or cameras, or other devices)

The list above contains just a few examples. The important thing is to identify any item added by the project that could encroach into the airspace of aircraft approaching and leaving the airport or that could affect communications with aircraft. Make sure to consider all phases and disciplines of a project. It is possible a temporary stage could have the most impact. As you are developing this list you can add them to an aerial “FAA Item Display” for the project with text labels and an “FAA Item Table” spread sheet.

Linked below is an example of an FAA Item Display layout and Item Table: [FAA Item Display Example](#) [FAA Item Table Example](#).

For each item, the following information is needed:

- Item Label Number (There is a naming guide in the spreadsheet)
- Item Description
- Latitude and Longitude
- Ground Elevation at the Object (Finished Grade)
- Height of object from the ground (Finished Grade to highest elevation such as top of sign, top of light fixture, etc.)
- Does the object have any frequency associated with it
 - If there is a frequency, please note in the spreadsheet for later review
 - Current link to approve frequencies <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2022-07-05/pdf/2022-14306.pdf> If the frequencies are not on the approved list they will need a case submitted for review,

[Shell FAA Item Table](#) This link will take you to a blank copy of the FAA Item Table.

The table list of new features is used to check each item using the FAA “Pre-Screening Tool”. The link below will take you to this tool, and the screen capture shows what the tool looks like. Using this tool does not send anything to the FAA, so you can practice without worry. It is important to know the horizontal datum for your project. Speak with the person that did the survey work to confirm the datum.

<https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/oe3a/main/#/noticePrescreen>

Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis

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 coordinates.

Structure Type: Select

☐ On Airport ☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude: DD or DMS

Longitude: DD or DMS

Datum: Datum

Height: ft

Site Elevation: ft

Find Coordinates by Address

Clear
Submit
Print

As you input each item from your table into the FAA Pre-Screening Tool,

1. Notice the results that will appear below the table after clicking “Submit”. It will note the following options:
 - a. “Based on the information you provided, you are not required to file notice with the FAA.”
 - b. “Based on the information you provided, you are required to file notice with the FAA....”
2. Read the Results Note carefully. Occasionally the result is based on input error in the table, and the user needs to check and correct the input.
3. Beneath the input table there is a button to “Print”. Whether or not the item passes the Pre-Screening Tool check, print the page to PDF and name the file using the Item Label Number so that it matches what was listed in the FAA Item table. Save the PDF to the project file in Projectwise for documentation.
4. Specify in the FAA Item Table if an item passed or if a submittal to FAA is needed.

Below is an example of an item that failed in the Pre-Screening Tool and will need to file notice with the FAA.

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 coordinates.

Structure Type: Light Pole

☐ On Airport ☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude: 42 22 01.08 N

Longitude: 96 19 45.53 W

Datum: NAD83

Height: 100

Site Elevation: 1092

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.

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

If the Pre-Screening Tool indicates that you are required to file notice with the FAA, this does not mean the design is not acceptable or not allowable, but it could result in restrictions to the airport airspace that could affect aviation and ultimately use of the airport. For each item that does not pass, the user should

visit with the Owner and designer(s) to determine if design changes are possible (such as lowering light fixtures or shifting the location of a sign/sign-truss, etc. The Pre-Screening Tool can be used to check what maximum elevations might “pass” at certain locations, so the user can help back-into a design elevation and location that will avoid impacts to the airport.

Once it is determined the proposed design is optimized for elevation and location, and it still does not pass the FAA Pre-Screening Tool check, a case needs to be submitted to the FAA for their review. As shown in the image above, a link to complete a Notice of Proposed Construction is included in the results area of the Pre-Screening tool if it is determined that you need to submit. Click on the link and follow the instructions on FAA’s website to submit the notice.

Each submittal can have one or multiple items listed in the submittal (each item is considered a case). It might be good to group the items by type of item such as lights or equipment transmitting a frequency. To submit cases you will need to setup an account and log in to the FAA website. There is very good documentation on the home page of the FAA website to assist you with that submittal process. See the link below.

<https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/content/instructions.jsp>

There is an FAA spreadsheet that must be used to submit multiples items at one time. If you only have one item to submit for review, the FAA site has a single item submittal option on the home page. With the submittal you will want to include some attachments such as the FAA Item Display and other relevant documents (e.g. specifications for equipment transmitting a frequency; roadway plans; signing scroll, etc.) to help the review go quickly and smoothly. Cases should be submitted as soon as practical so that adjustments to the design can be considered without impacting the letting schedule. Reviews can take as much as 90 days, depending on FAA workload. Construction should not begin until a determination is received back from the FAA.

Below is the screen capture from the previous version of the software. You will want to select the “Add New Case (Off Airport)” button if you only want to submit a single case

Notice Criteria Tool

Distance Calculation Tool

OE/AAA Account

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My Cases (On Airport)

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My Circ Comments

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Add New Case

Add Supplemental Notice (7460-2 Form)

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My Case Transfer History

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Instructions

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Information Resources

☐ 2025-ACE-745-O

☐ 2025-ACE-746-O

☐ 2025-ACE-1044-O

☐ 2025-ACE-1045-O

☐ 2025-ACE-1046-O

Move To ▼ Archive

Add a new project / case to 10 of 10

Draft: Cases that have been submitted but not yet reviewed.

Waiting: Wind Turbine/Measurement cases that are waiting for a decision.

Accepted: Cases that have been accepted for construction.

Add Letter: Cases that have been accepted for construction and a letter has been added.

Work in Progress: Cases that are currently being reviewed.

Interim: Cases that have been accepted for construction and a letter has been added.

Determined: Cases that have been accepted for construction and a letter has been added.

Terminated: Cases that have been accepted for construction and a letter has been added.

Please allow the FAA a minimum of 90 days to complete the review process.

Case Transfer:

- Use the check box(es) to select the cases you want to transfer.
- Select the "Transfer" button.

Note: Drafts and cases in progress will be transferred to the new system.

[Click here to contact the FAA for more information.](#)

This is the screen you will need to fill out to submit a single case.



Note: This is a previous version of the software.

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Add New Case (On Airport)

Add Supplemental Notice (7460-2 Form)

Add Multiple Cases (Off Airport)

Add Multiple Cases (On Airport)

Add a New Case (Off Airport) - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.1

Add a New Case (Off Airport) for Wind Turbines - Met Towers (with WT Farm) - WT-Barge Crane - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.1

Sponsor (person, company, etc. proposing this action)

* Sponsor:

Construction / Alteration Information

* Notice Of:

* Duration:

if Temporary: Months: Days:

Work Schedule - Start: (mm/dd/yyyy)

Work Schedule - End: (mm/dd/yyyy)

* For temporary cranes: Does the permanent structure require separate notice to the FAA? To find out, use the Notice Criteria Tool. If separate notice is required, please ensure it is filed. If it is not filed, please state the reason in the Description of Proposal.

State Filing:

Structure Summary

* Structure Type:

* Structure Name:

NOTAM Number:

FCC Number:

Prior ASN: - - - OE

Structure Details

* Latitude: N

* Longitude: W

* Horizontal Datum:

* Site Elevation (SE): (nearest foot)

* Structure Height (AGL): (nearest foot)

* Current Height (AGL): (nearest foot)

* For notice of alteration or existing provide the current AGL height of the existing structure. Include details in the Description of Proposal

Minimum Operating Height (AGL): (nearest foot)

* For aeronautical study of a crane or construction equipment the maximum height should be listed above as the Structure Height (AGL). Additionally, provide the minimum operating height to avoid delays if impacts are identified that require negotiation to a reduced height. If the Structure Height and minimum operating height are the same enter the same value in both fields.

* Requested Marking/Lighting:

Other:

Proposed Frequency Bands

Select any combination of the applicable frequencies/powers to be evaluated by the FAA with your filing. If not within one of the frequency bands listed below, manually input your proposed frequency(ies) and power using the Add Specific Frequency link.

Add Specific Frequency

	Low Freq	High Freq	Freq Unit	ERP	ERP Unit
☐	6	7	GHz	55	dBW
☐	6	7	GHz	42	dBW
☐	10	11.7	GHz	55	dBW
☐	10	11.7	GHz	42	dBW
☐	17.7	19.7	GHz	55	dBW
☐	17.7	19.7	GHz	42	dBW
☐	21.2	23.6	GHz	55	dBW
☐	21.2	23.6	GHz	42	dBW
☐	614	698	MHz	1000	W
☐	614	698	MHz	2000	W
☐	698	806	MHz	1000	W
☐	806	901	MHz	500	W
☐	806	824	MHz	500	W

Narigon, Linda

Aircraft Information Linkline Custom (ANDL)

If you want to submit multiple cases at once you will need to select the “Add Multiple Cases (Off Airport)” button on the menu. The input window will look like the capture below.



Note: There is a link to a sample spreadsheet at the top of the form.
This is a previous version of the software.

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[Add New Multiple Cases Off Airport - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.1](#)
[Add Multiple Cases \(Off Airport\) for Wind Turbines - MET Towers - WT-Barge Crane - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.1](#)
[Sample Spreadsheet](#)

Sponsor (person, company, etc. proposing this action)

* Sponsor: Iowa Department of Transportation

Construction / Alteration Information

* Notice Of:

* Duration:

if Temporary :

Months: Days:

Work Schedule - Start: (mm/dd/yyyy)

Work Schedule - End: (mm/dd/yyyy)

State Filing:

* Will your structure transmit frequencies?

Structure Details

* Structure Type: Select a Structure Type

* Nearest City:

* Nearest State:

* Description of Location:

* Description of Proposal:

Proposed Frequency Bands

* Note: All required information must be entered before importing your spreadsheet data.
Structure names should be unique for a given project and structure names should not be updated.

Download Spreadsheet template for loading project - [OECASEDataSpreadsheet v2.0](#) (Right click and then click on 'Save Link As' to locally save it)

Select file to import Case(s) information: Choose File No file chosen Read File

* Note: The data imported from you spreadsheet will be displayed in this section.

Cancel

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Once you have completed the submittal, you will receive an email letting you know the results of the case review can be found by logging into the FAA website and searching for the case number provided in the e-mail. You can also log in to the FAA website to review the status of the case submittal at any time. If you submitted multiple items, they will be listed individually, see the capture below. If the number of cases does not match the number of items you submitted, it is possible there was an error in the lines that did not show up. You will need to correct the error and resubmit just the items with the error.



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User Name:

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IP Address:

Actions:

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OEAAA External User Guide V_2022-NOV

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Circularized Case Notification

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FAA Acronyms

Help:

OE/AAA Support Desk

Phone: 202-580-7500

Email: oeaaa_helpdesk@cghtech.com

My Account

My Cases (Off Airport) | Add New Case (Off Airport)

Add Multiple Cases (Off Airport)

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Off Airport Contacts

My Circ Comments

My Cases by Status:

Draft	0
Waiting	0
Accepted	0
Add Letter	0
Work in Progress	3
Interim	0
Determined	7
Circularized	0
Terminated	0
All	10

Draft: Cases that have been saved by the user but have not been submitted to the FAA.

Waiting: Wind Turbine/Met Tower (w/WT Farm) cases that have not been submitted to the FAA and are waiting for an action from the user, either to verify the map or attach specific documents

Accepted: Cases that have been submitted to the FAA.

Add Letter: Cases that have been reviewed by the FAA and require additional information from the user.

Work in Progress: Cases that are being evaluated by the

Off Airport Construction
(includes on Military Airport)

On Airport Construction
(excludes on Military Airport)

Please file all Modification of Standards requests at <https://adip.faa.gov>

Please file all Wind Turbine/Met Tower (w/WT Farm) as Off Airport

My Cases (On Airport) | Add New Case (On Airport)

My Sponsors | Add New Sponsor

Landing Area Proposal data collection has been disabled in OE/AAA. Please use the FAA's Airport Data and Information Portal (ADIP) to submit all your future LAP/7480-1 applications: <https://adip.faa.gov>

On Airport Contacts

Manage Airport Operations Staff

My Cases by Status:

Draft	0
Waiting	0
Accepted	0
Add Letter	0
Work in Progress	0
Determined	0
Terminated	0
All	0

Draft: Cases that have been saved by the user but have not been submitted to the FAA.

Waiting: Cases that have not been submitted to the FAA and are waiting for an action from the user, either to verify the map or attach a document.

Accepted: Cases that have been submitted to the FAA.

Add Letter: Cases that have been reviewed by the FAA and require additional information from the user.

On Airport Construction
(excludes on Military Airport)

Narigon, Linda

If you select “My Cases (Off Airport)” on the screen above you will be able to review the cases/items in a grid, seen below. The item names you used will show up under the “Structure Name” column. The FAA unique ID is in the ASN column. You can see the status for each case individually, the date accepted, and the date determined.



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« OE/AAA

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ALL of My Cases (Off Airport)

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Please refer to the assigned ASN on all inquiries to the FAA

All Cases

Show All Cases (10)

Filter by Case Status

Draft (0) | Accepted (0) | Work in Progress (3) | Interim (0) | Determined (7) | Circularized (0) | Terminated (0)

Cases Requiring Action

Waiting (0) | 7460-2 Required (7) | Add Letter (0) | Cases Due to Expire (0)

Records 1 to 10 of 10

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View Folder Create Folder Manage Folders Transfer Cases

Transfer Cases - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.0

ASN	Folder Name	Project Name	Structure Name	Status	Date Accepted	Date Determined	7460-2 Received	City	State
☐ 2024-ACE-5785-OE		IOWA -000892463-24	C1	Determined	10/23/2024	11/06/2024		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2024-ACE-5786-OE		IOWA -000892463-24	C2	Determined	10/23/2024	11/06/2024		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2024-ACE-5787-OE		IOWA -000892463-24	C3	Determined	10/23/2024	11/06/2024		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2024-ACE-5788-OE		IOWA -000892463-24	C4	Determined	10/23/2024	11/06/2024		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2024-ACE-5789-OE		IOWA -000892463-24	C5	Determined	10/23/2024	11/06/2024		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2025-ACE-745-OE		IOWA -000911763-25	pedestrian_RFB1	Determined	02/13/2025	03/03/2025		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2025-ACE-746-OE		IOWA -000911763-25	pedestrian_RFB2	Determined	02/13/2025	03/03/2025		Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2025-ACE-1044-OE		IOWA -000915681-25	Traffic-sensor1	Work In Progress	03/07/2025			Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2025-ACE-1045-OE		IOWA -000915681-25	Traffic-sensor2	Work In Progress	03/07/2025			Cedar Rapids	IA
☐ 2025-ACE-1046-OE		IOWA -000915681-25	Traffic-sensor3	Work In Progress	03/07/2025			Cedar Rapids	IA

If you select an individual case, you will be able to see more detail on that case as well as additional attached documents including the determination document. Any stipulations to the approval will be included in that document. Depending on the stipulations, notes may need to be added to the plans or contract documents, so the contractor and inspectors are aware of the requirements.



Federal Aviation
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« OE/AAA

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Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration - Off Airport

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Add a New Case (Off Airport) - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.1

Add a New Case (Off Airport) for Wind Turbines - Met Towers (with WT Farm) - WT-Barge Crane - Desk Reference Guide V_2018.2.1

Project Name: IOWA -000892463-24

Sponsor: Iowa Department of Transportation

Details for Case : C5

Show Project Summary

Case Status

ASN: 2024-ACE-5789-OE

Status: Determined

7460-2 (PART 2) required within 5 days after the construction reaches its greatest height.

Add Supplemental Notice (7460-2)

Public Comments: None

Date Accepted: 10/23/2024

Date Determined: 11/06/2024

Letters: 11/06/2024  ONE

Documents: None

Project Documents: 10/23/2024  52-3806-435_(452)... 10/23/2024  52-3806-435_FAA T... 10/23/2024  52-3806-435_FAA P... 10/23/2024  OECASEDataSpreads...

Construction / Alteration Information

Notice Of: Construction

Duration: Permanent

if Temporary : Months: Days:

Work Schedule - Start: 10/01/2024

Work Schedule - End: 12/01/2027

*For temporary cranes-Does the permanent structure require separate notice to the FAA? To find out, use the Notice Criteria Tool. If separate notice is required, please ensure it is filed. If it is not filed, please state the reason in the Description of Proposal.

Not filed with State

Structure Summary

Structure Type: POLE | Light Pole

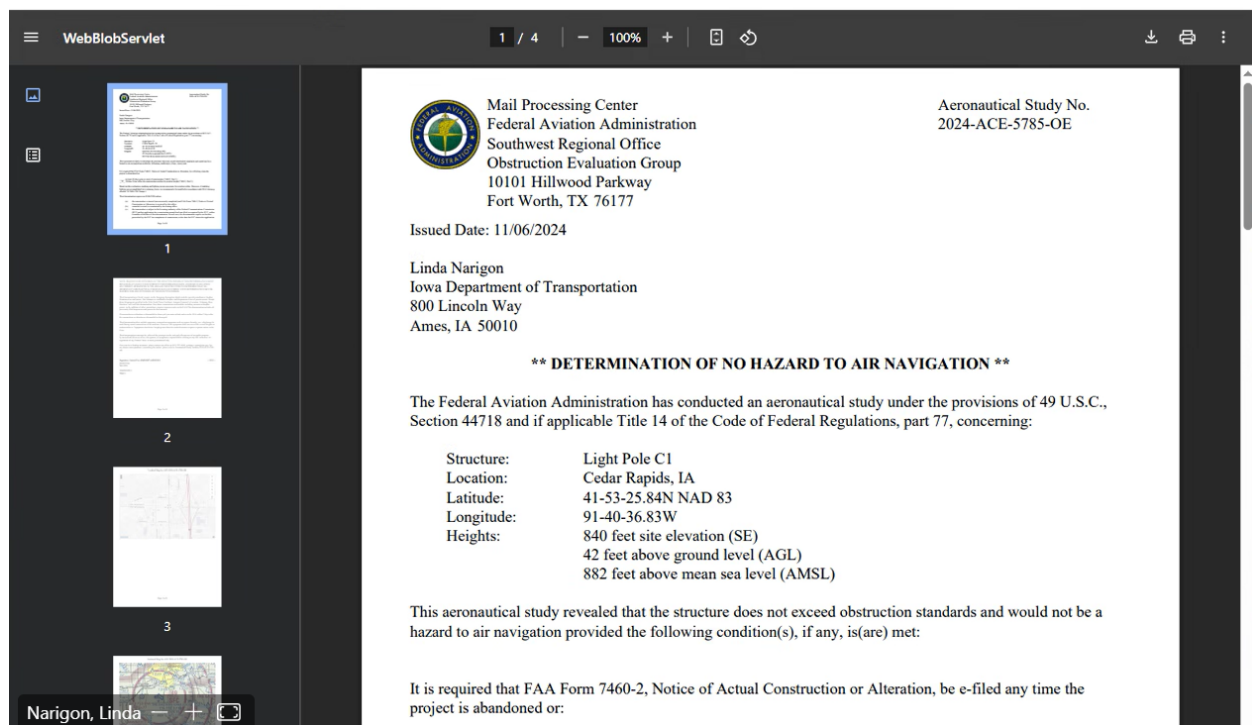
Structure Name: C5

FDC NOTAM:

NOTAM Number:

FCC Number:

Prior ASN:



Determinations from the FAA can be issued in three ways:

Determination of No Hazard - The subject construction did not exceed obstruction standards and marking/lighting is not required.

Determination of No Hazard with Conditions - The proposed construction/alteration would be acceptable contingent upon implementing mitigating measures such as the marking and lighting of the structure.

Determination of Hazard - The proposed construction/alteration is determined to be a hazard to air navigation.

The FAA does not control local land use. If a project with determination of hazard moves forward, it could result in safety concerns or significant impacts to air navigation procedures. Iowa law authorizes cities and counties to protect local airports from incompatible land uses through zoning ordinances. Many municipalities and counties in Iowa have adopted tall structure zoning ordinances that protect the airspace around airports. If a determination is issued that causes an impact to a nearby airport, close coordination will be needed with local zoning and airport officials to ensure aviation safety is not impacted. An airport sponsor may object to the construction as they are federally obligated to protect the airspace surrounding their airport. It is important also to note that determination letters do not preempt local zoning ordinances.

Chronology of Changes to Manual Section:

3.4.2 AIRPORT OBSTRUCTION REVIEW

07/28/2025 NEW