



NATRONA COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

AGENDA

Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner
Forrest Chadwick, Commissioner
Rob Hendry, Commissioner
Brook Kaufman, Commissioner
Jim Milne, Commissioner

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 5:30 p.m.
Natrona County Courthouse, 200 North Center, Casper, Wyoming
2nd Floor, District Courtroom #1

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN & VICE CHAIRMAN**
- IV. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
- V. APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA**
- VI. PUBLIC HEARINGS**
 - A. CUP19-6 a request by Anticline Wind, LLC to install a meteorological tower on a portion of land north of the Town of Bar Nunn in the SW/4 SE/4 OF Section 8, Township 36N, Range 79W.
- VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- VIII. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

agenda is subject to amendment



**NATRONA COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**

Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner
Forrest Chadwick, Commissioner
Rob Hendry, Commissioner
Brook Kaufman, Commissioner
Jim Milne, Commissioner

CONSENT AGENDA

Tuesday, January 7, 2020 5:30 p.m.
Natrona County Courthouse, 200 North Center Street, Casper, Wyoming
2nd Floor, District Courtroom #2

I. APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 17, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

II. APPROVAL OF BILLS \$

III. CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, RESOLUTIONS

A. Emergency Natrona County Utility Scale Solar System Regulations (Resolution 01-20 Declaring an Emergency Related to Utility Scale Solar Energy Systems &

IV. Adopting Emergency Regulations)

LICENSE

V. A. Ginsback Construction -Robertson Road/CR #305-Approach-lic. #29-19-38

STATEMENT OF EARNINGS

Mtn/Parks \$5,575.00

Planning \$36,765.00

Lake \$16,833.14

County Clerk \$92,116.20

VI. TAXROLL CORRECTIONS 2019: Karstoft, Kenneth \$-842.75, Leory W Ahrndt & Molly Ahrndt Living Trust \$-203.67, Moser Engine Service Inc. \$-13,902.44, Michael & Kathy Tyler Living Trust \$-1,292.22, Michael & Kathy Tyler Living Trust \$-695.87

agenda is subject to amendment

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
December 17, 2019**

The regular meeting of the Board of County Commissioners was brought to order at 5:30 p.m. by Chairman Hendry. Those in attendance were Commissioner Paul Bertoglio, Commissioner Jim Milne, Commissioner Brook Kaufman, Commissioner Forrest Chadwick, County Attorney Eric Nelson, County Clerk Tracy Good and Commissioners' Assistant Michelle Maines.

Consent Agenda:

Commissioner Chadwick moved for approval the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Bertoglio seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Public Comments:

Chairman Hendry opened the floor to Public Comments.

Tracy Lamont (Casper) and Sean O'Brien (Casper)

Hearing no further comments, the floor was closed.

Commissioner Comments:

Chairman Hendry opened the floor to Commissioner Comments.

Hearing no comments, the floor was closed.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners, Chairman Hendry adjourned the meeting at 6:16 p.m.

BOARD OF NATRONA COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Robert L. Hendry, Chairman

ATTEST:
NATRONA COUNTY CLERK

Tracy Good

Natrona County Utility Scale Solar System Regulations

a. Introduction

A Utility Scale Solar System (Solar Farm) is a commercial facility that converts sunlight into electricity, whether by photovoltaics (PV), concentrating solar power (CSP), or other solar conversion technology, for the primary purpose of wholesale sales of generated electricity.

b. Design Standards

1. Utility Scale Solar System shall be enclosed by perimeter fencing to restrict unauthorized access.
2. All Utility Scale Solar Systems shall comply with the National Electrical Code, current edition and applicable ICC Codes. In addition, all solar energy components shall comply with the standards of the Wyoming Department of Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety.
3. All Utility Scale Solar Energy Systems shall not exceed twenty five feet in height.
4. All Utility Scale Solar Energy Systems that are proposed within the Growth Management Area shall be sent to the corresponding municipality for review and comment.
5. On-site power lines shall be placed underground.
6. Greater Sage Grouse Areas. No Utility Scale Solar Energy System shall be located within the Greater Sage Grouse Core Areas as defined by Governor Order 2011-5 or as amended, or Sage Grouse Priority Habitat and Focal Areas as defined by the BLM approved Resource Management Plan Amendment for Greater Sage Grouse. When the Governor's Sage Grouse Executive Order and the BLM approved Resource Management Plan amendment for Greater Sage Grouse conflict the more restrictive of documents shall apply.
7. Wildlife. Utility Scale Solar Energy Systems shall incorporate wildlife requirements imposed by Wyoming Game & Fish, United States Fish and Wildlife service and other governing state and federal agency.

c. Site Management

1. Drainage from the site shall not adversely affect upstream and downstream properties.
2. Shall avoid soil erosion and controlled runoff. Disturbance and construction on the erodible soils and slope shall be avoided.
3. Dust control within all phases of the project is mandatory by means acceptable to Natrona County and WDEQ.
4. Noxious Weed and Invasive Species control, as defined by Wyoming Statutes, except where rules are superseded by a governing agency, shall be required in all phases of the

solar project. Invasive species, as defined by Natrona County Weed and Pest, shall be controlled in all phases of the solar project.

5. Damage to existing vegetation shall be minimized. Disturbed areas shall be reseeded in accordance with WDEQ regulations and the reclamation plan approved by the Board, except where rules are superseded by a governing agency.

d. Visual Appearance

1. Utility Scale Solar System buildings and accessory structures shall, to the extent reasonably possible, use materials, colors, and textures that will blend the facility into the existing environment.
2. Appropriate landscaping and/or screening material may be required to help screen the project area.
3. No Utility Scale Solar Energy System shall be placed such that concentrated solar glare projects onto adjacent properties or roadways within 1-1/4 mile of the project site.
4. Solar panels shall not be placed in the vicinity of any airport in a manner that would interfere with the airport flight patterns. Acknowledgement of approval from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) will be necessary.
5. Lighting of the Utility Scale Solar Energy System and accessory structures shall be limited to the minimum necessary and full cut-off lighting (e.g. dark sky compliant) may be required when determined necessary to mitigate visual impacts.

e. Setbacks

1. Utility Scale Solar Energy System structures shall be setback from all property lines and public rights-of-way at least fifty feet. Additional setback may be required to mitigate noise and glare impacts, or to provide for designated road or utility corridors, as identified through the review process. Utility Scale Solar Energy System structures shall be setback a minimum of 1.25 miles from any residentially zoned properties or residences not associated with this permit.
2. Solar panels will be kept at least five hundred feet from a residence that is on the same lot associated with this permit.

f. Decommissioning

1. Utility Scale Solar Energy Systems which have not been in active and continuous service for a period of one year shall be removed at the owner's or operator's expense.
2. The site shall be restored in accordance with the approved reclamation plan within six months of the removal.

3. Unless exempt by the Public Service Commission, proof of financial assurance for complete decommissioning and site reclamation shall be provided in accordance with WECS regulations.

g. Application Requirements

1. Signatures from all surface property owners upon which the Utility Scale Solar Energy System will be located shall be submitted on the application.
2. General Scope. Relevant information on the project including general location of the project, timeframe for construction including the schedule for phasing, project life, markets for the electricity produced and status of power purchase agreement.
3. Public Utility Information. Documentation that the proposed Utility Scale Solar Energy System is owned or operated by the Public Utility and subject to the requirements of the Public Service Commission, if applicable.
4. Summary of the Utility Scale Solar Energy System. Provide a description of the project including its total nameplate generating capacity and a nameplate capacity for each module, the equipment manufacturer, types of solar modules, complete component list of the system, number of solar arrays, the maximum solar energy system height, and the distance between the ground and the top of the solar array.
5. Social and Economic Report. The social and economic reporting requirements shall include the following:
 - a. The estimated amount of property, sales, and other taxes to be generated by the project in Natrona County.
 - b. Estimated local expenditures of construction materials in Natrona County.
 - c. The estimated number of construction jobs and estimated construction payroll. Estimated number of local construction job opportunities.
 - d. Estimate the construction workforce spending in Natrona County.
 - e. Estimate the number of permanent jobs and estimated continuing payroll.
6. Drawings, prepared by a qualified professional Licensed in the State of Wyoming, prepared to a suitable scale on 24"X36" sheets.
 - a. Utility Scale Solar Energy Systems boundary lines and property lines shall be shown.
 - b. Legal description of the project boundary.
 - c. All existing and proposed structures, rights-of-ways, utility easements, and above and below ground facilities and utilities within the project scale.
 - d. All proposed and existing public and private access roads and turnout locations including dimensions.
 - e. Topographic line showing the existing topography of the project and surrounding area.
 - f. Fencing detail.

- g. A complete electrical layout of the entire system including substations, transmission collector, and gathering lines and other ancillary facility components.
- 7. Drainage, Erosion, Dust Control, Grading and Vegetation Removal Plan prepared by a Wyoming Licensed Engineer which includes the following:
 - a. Existing and proposed contours.
 - b. Existing wetlands and floodways.
 - c. Water management structures.
 - d. Drainage flow direction.
 - e. Effect on downstream and upstream properties.
 - f. Erosion mitigation and runoff control.
 - g. Dust control plan.
- 8. Waste Management Plan. A waste management plan that includes the inventory of estimated solid wastes to be generated and a proposed disposal program for the construction, operation and eventual decommissioning of the proposed Utility Scale Solar Energy System.
- 9. Reclamation and Decommissioning Plan. Describe the decommissioning and final land reclamation to be followed after the anticipated useful life, or abandonment or termination of the project, including evidence of proposed commitments with affected parties (county, any lessor or property owner, etc.) that ensure proper final reclamation of the solar energy system.
- 10. Environmental Analysis. In the absence of a required state or federal agency environment review for the project (e.g. NEPA), the Commission and Board may require an environmental report in accordance with the WECS regulations prepared by a licensed professional.
- 11. Visual Impacts, Appearance, and Scenic Viewsheds. Potential visual impacts may be caused by components of the project such as mirrors, solar towers, cooling towers, steam plumes, above ground electrical lines, accessory structures, access roads, utility trenches and installations, and alteration to vegetation. Those projects that are within sensitive viewshed, utilize reflective components (e.g., exposed mirrors), shall provide a viewshed analysis of the project, including visual simulations of the planned structures. The number of visual simulations shall be sufficient to provide adequate analysis of the visual impacts of the proposal, which shall be from no less than ten vantage points that together provide a view from all sides of the project. The County may require analysis from significantly more vantage points, such as different distances and sensitive locations.
- 12. The applicant shall provide an analysis from solar glare hazard analysis software for PV systems that provide a quantified assessment of when and where glare will occur throughout the year onto nearby properties and public roadways. If glare is predicted,

the applicant shall provide mitigation measures to address the impacts of solar glare. Mitigation measures may include and are not limited to textured glass, antireflective coatings, screening, and angling of solar PV modules in a manner that reduces glare to surrounding land uses.

13. A traffic study if deemed necessary by the Development Department.
14. Transportation Plan for Construction and Operation Phases. Indicate by description and map what roads the project will utilize during the construction and operation/maintenance phases of the project, along with their existing surface and condition. Specify any new road and proposed upgrade or improvements needed to the existing road system to serve the project. If significant impacts to the transportation system are anticipated, the County may require financial guarantees to ensure proper repair/restoration of roadways or other infrastructure damaged or degraded during construction to dismantling of the project.
15. Notice of Mineral Rights. Applicant(s) shall certify that notice has been provided to the record owners and claimants of mineral rights located on or under the lands where the proposed Utility Scale Solar Energy System facility will be constructed. Such notice shall contain the location of the proposed project, underground wiring and may include notice by publication. The certification of notice shall be provided with the application. The notice shall comply with all standards and requirements adopted by the Wyoming Industrial Siting Council.
16. Definitions:
 - Concentrating solar power (CSP)** plants use mirrors to concentrate the sun's energy to drive traditional steam turbines or engines that create electricity. The thermal energy concentrated in a CSP plant can be stored and used to produce electricity when it is needed, day or night.
 - Nameplate Capacity.** The maximum amount of electric energy that a generator can produce under specific conditions, as rated by the manufacturer
 - Photovoltaic (PV) system.** A system composed of one or more solar panels combined with an inverter and other electrical and mechanical hardware that uses energy from the Sun to generate electricity.
 - Solar Module.** Also called solar panels, a solar module is a single photovoltaic panel that is an assembly of connected solar cells. The solar cells absorb sunlight as a source of energy to generate electricity. An array of modules are used to supply power to buildings

RESOLUTION No. 01-20

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING AN EMERGENCY RELATED TO
UTILITY SCALE SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS AND ADOPTING EMERGENCY
REGULATIONS**

WHEREAS, it has come to the attention of the Natrona County Board of County Commissioners ("BOCC") that the development of a utility scale solar installation is contemplated and may be imminent within Natrona County; and

WHEREAS, whereas the BOCC is desirous of promoting responsible economic development while at the same time protecting the public health, safety and welfare of Natrona County; and

WHEREAS, the construction of a utility scale solar installation presents unique challenges and potential negative consequences for the public health, safety and welfare of Natrona County if it is not constructed properly; and

WHEREAS, Natrona County currently does not have any specific regulations governing the siting or construction of a utility scale solar energy system; and

WHEREAS, the BOCC is committed to allowing development while concurrently protecting public health, safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to W.S. § 16-3-103(b) the BOCC has the authority to adopt emergency rules without notice or opportunity for hearing when it finds that an emergency exists; and

WHEREAS, any emergency rules adopted by the BOCC shall be effective upon filing with the Natrona County Clerk and shall remain in full force an effect for up to one-hundred twenty (120) days; and

WHEREAS, the rules attached hereto as Exhibit "A" are necessary to allow development of a utility scale solar energy system while protecting the public health, safety and welfare of Natrona County.

WHEREFORE, the BOCC resolves to declare an emergency due to the imminent planned development of a utility scale solar energy system and hereby adopts Exhibit "A" as emergency rules pursuant to W.S. § 16-3-103(b).

APPROVED: January 7, 2020

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Robert L. Hendry, Chairman

Attest:

Tracy Good, County Clerk

Approved as to form:

Eric K. Nelson
Natrona County Attorney



NATRONA COUNTY

Development Department

200 North Center Street, Room 202
Casper, WY 82601

AGENDA
BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS MEETING
January 7, 2020

Planning Commission Recommendations

- 1. Planning Commission Recommendation:** **Approve**
CUP19-6 - A request by Anticline Wind, LLC to install a meteorological tower on a portion of land north of the Town of Bar Nunn in the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 8, Township 36N, Range 79W.



NATRONA COUNTY

Development Department

200 North Center Street, Room 202
Casper, WY 82601

MINUTES OF THE NATRONA COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION September 10, 2019

MEMBERS PRESENT: Harold Wright, Jim Brown, Bob Bailey, Tom Davis and Hal Hutchinson

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Gutierrez, Trish Chavis and Peggy Johnson

OTHERS PRESENT: Charmaine Reed, Deputy County Attorney

Chairman Wright called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ITEM 1

Brown moved and Davis seconded a motion to approve the September 10, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

ITEM 2

Chairman Wright opened the hearing for **CUP19-6** - A request by Anticline Wind, LLC to install a meteorological tower on a portion of land north of the Town of Bar Nunn in the SW/4 SE/4 of Section 8, Township 36N, Range 79W.

Gutierrez gave the staff report. Staff proposes that the Planning and Zoning Commission enter a motion and vote to recommend approval of the requested Conditional Use Permit by the Board of County Commissioners and incorporate by reference the conditions and all findings of fact set forth in the staff report and this public hearing.

Discussion between Planning Commission and Staff

Public hearing open

Those speaking in favor- Christine Mikell, Utah.

Those speaking in opposition - None

Public hearing closed

Brown makes a motion to recommend approval of CUP19-6 by the Board of County Commissioners as presented by staff and incorporate by reference the conditions and all findings of fact. Bailey seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**Planning Commission Minutes
December 10, 2019
Page 2**

Public Comment - None

Meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.

**Harold Wright, Chairman
Natrona County Planning and Zoning Commission**

**Tracy Good
Natrona County Clerk**



NATRONA COUNTY

Development Department

200 North Center Street, Room 205
Casper, WY 82601

Jason Gutierrez, PE, Director
County web: www.ratronacounty-wy.gov

Phone: 307-235-9435
Fax: 307-235-9436
Email: jgutierrez@natronacounty.wy.gov

"The purpose of the Natrona County Development Department is to provide necessary services to implement sound land use planning and economic development policies to protect and enhance the quality of life for present and future inhabitants of Natrona County."

MEMORANDUM

To: Board of County Commissioners
From: Jason Gutierrez, P.E., Director *J.G.*
Date: December 11, 2019 */*
RE: Allow the installation of a MET Tower
cc: Applicant, County Attorney, File

Planning and Zoning Commission Recommendation:

Approve

At its December 10, 2019 meeting, the Planning Commission, with all Commissioners present, acted to recommend approval of the requested Conditional Use Permit to the Board of County Commissioners with the following conditions:

1. Towers are to be marked and lighted per FAA regulations;
2. Tower are to be painted in accordance with F M regulations;
3. High visibility aviation orange spherical balls are attached to guy wires;
4. High visibility sleeves be installed on the guy wires;
5. That this Conditional Use Permit shall expire in five (5) years from the date of final approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

(Motion passed unanimously).

Board of County Commissioners Review and Procedure: The following options are available to the Board of County Commissioners when acting on an item:

- Approve the application as recommended by the Planning Commission;
- Approve the application as submitted;
- Approve the application on its own conditions;
- Deny the application;
- Remand the application to the Planning Commission for reconsideration;
- Table to a date specific; or with the express consent of the applicant, the Board may table indefinitely or dismiss the application.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT APPLICATION

(Please read GENERAL INFORMATION AND APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS before filling out.)

I (We), the undersigned, do hereby petition the Board of County Commissioners of Natrona County, Wyoming, for a Conditional Use Permit, as provided in Chapter 11, 2000 Natrona Zoning Resolution.

Applicant's Name:

Applicant's Address:

Applicant's Phone:

Owner's Name:

Owner's Address:

Owner's Phone:

Explain why you are requesting this conditional use permit and detail the proposed use:

Legal description and size of property (If within a platted subdivision, give subdivision name, block and lot number. If not within a platted subdivision, give quarter-section, section, township and range.):

Current zoning of property:

Type of sewage disposal: Public Septic Holding Tank Other

Source of water:

This property was purchased from:

The date this property was purchased:

On separate sheets of paper, please respond to the following questions and provide explanations for your answers:

- * Will granting the conditional use permit contribute to an overburdening of County Services?
- * Will granting the conditional use permit cause undue traffic, parking, population density or environmental problems?
- * Will granting the conditional use permit impair the use of adjacent property or alter the character of the neighborhood?
- * Will granting the conditional use permit detrimentally affect the public health, safety and welfare?

I (We) hereby certify that I (We) have read and examined this application and know the same to be true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge. Granting this request does not presume to give authority to violate or cancel any State or local laws. All information within, attached to or submitted with this application shall become part of the public record. I **(We) further understand that all application fees are non-refundable.** By signing the application I am (We are) granting the Development Department access to our property for inspections.

Applicant: _____
(Signature)

Date: _____ 2011

Print Applicant Name: Christine Mikell

Owner: _____
(Signature)

Date: _____

Print Owner Name: _____

I (We) hereby certify that I (We) have read and examined this application and know the same to be true and correct to the best of my (our) knowledge. Granting this request does not presume to give authority to violate or cancel any State or local laws. All information within, attached to or submitted with this application shall become part of the public record. **I (We) further understand that all application fees are non-refundable.** By signing the application I am (We are) granting the Development Department access to our property for inspections.

Applicant _____
(Signature)

Date: _____

Print Applicant Name: _____

Owner: _____
(Signature)

Date: 10-13-19

Print Owner Name: Kim Forgey

Natrona CUP Q&A

Will granting the conditional use permit contribute to an overburdening of County Services?

No, after approving the conditional use permit application, we will attach marker balls to the guy lines and paint the tower red and register the tower with the state of Wyoming.

Will granting the conditional use permit cause undue traffic, parking, population density or environmental problems?

No, the meteorological tower is strictly for analyzing the wind speed and direction and the viability of wind energy generation.

Will granting the conditional use permit impair the use of adjacent property or alter the character of the neighborhood?

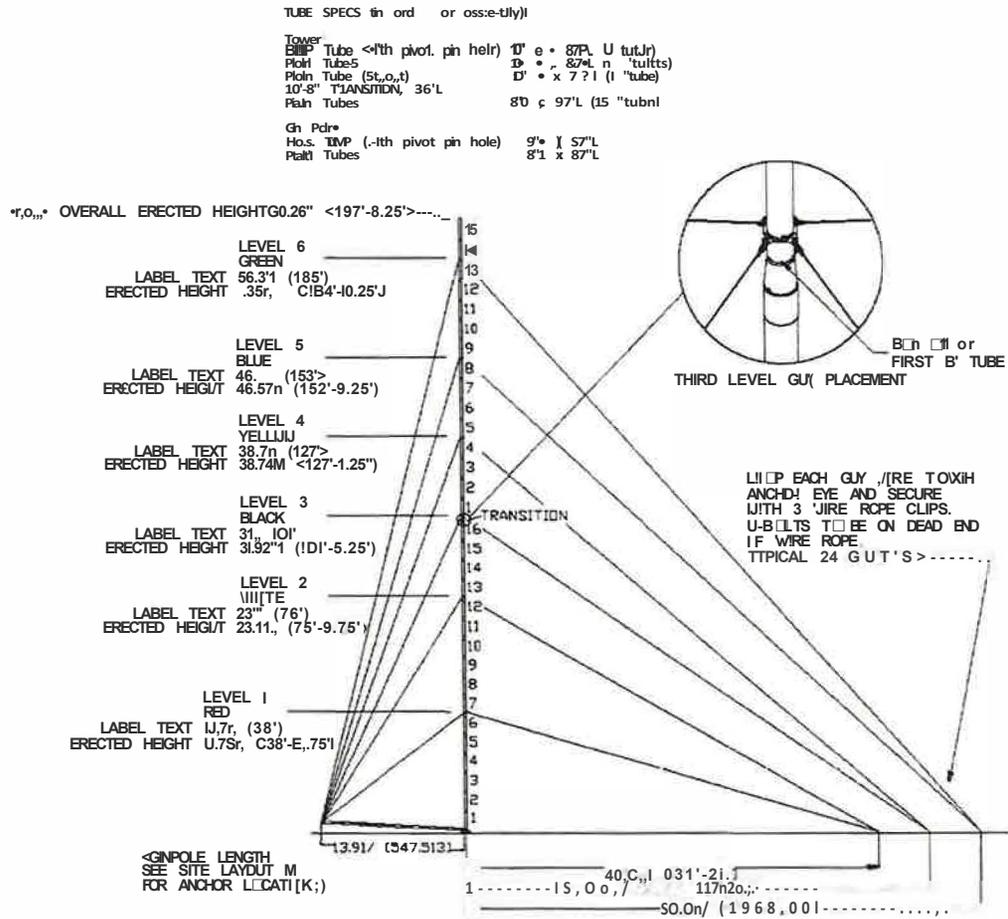
No, the location of the MET tower is within the property boundaries and will be several acres from the nearest fence or adjacent property.

Will granting the conditional use permit detrimentally affect the public health, safety and welfare?

No, the meteorological tower has no known adverse effects on any aspect of human life or welfare, they simply gather data.

Appendix B: 60m XHD with Standard Footprint

Tower Layout



Appendix O: 60m XHD TallTower Painted Version

- 15 ORANGE
- 14 ORANGE
- 13 ORANGE
- 12 ORANGE
- 11 ORANGE
- 10 WHITE
- 9 WHITE
- 8 WHITE
- 7 WHITE
- 6 WHITE
- 5 ORANGE
- 4 ORANGE
- 3 ORANGE
- 2 ORANGE
- 1 ORANGE
- TRANSIT 10N. UNPAINTED
- 16 WHITE
- 15 WHITE
- 14 WHITE
- 13 WHITE
- 12 ORANGE
- 11 ORANGE
- 10 ORANGE
- 9 ORANGE
- 8 WHITE
- 7 WHITE
- 6 WHITE
- 5 WHITE
- 4 ORANGE
- 3 ORANGE
- 2 ORANGE
- 1 ORANGE

PART NUMBER	
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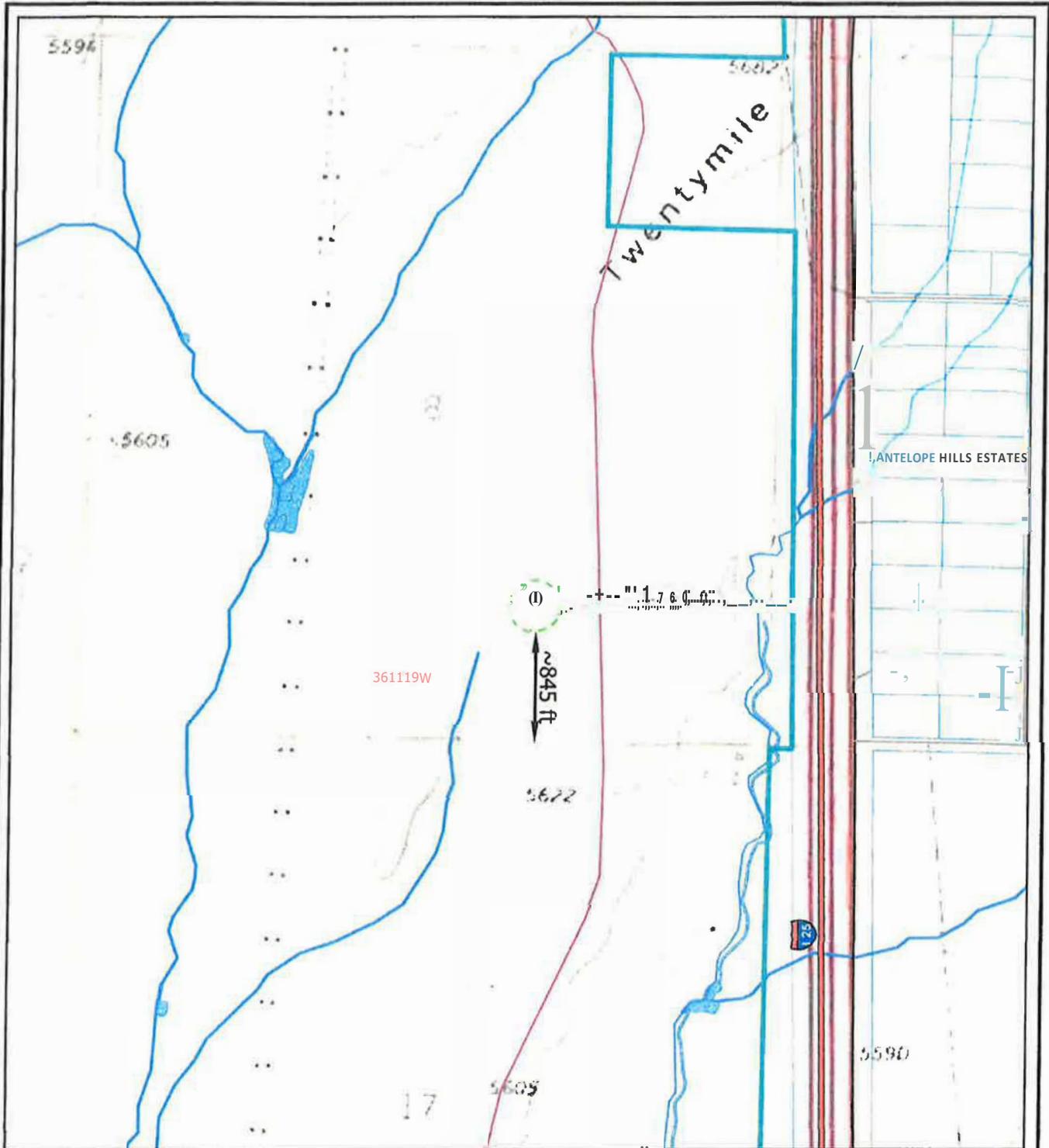
60m XHD TALLTOWER PAINTED VERSION

NOTES

- 1 PAINT SCHEME DERIVED FROM F M AC70 7460-1K (CANADIAN VERSION CAR 12 + iii)
- 2 TOWER DIVIDED INTO SEVEN SECTIONS ROUNDED TO THE NEAREST WHOLE TUBE

NRG SYSTEMS

N4463 C

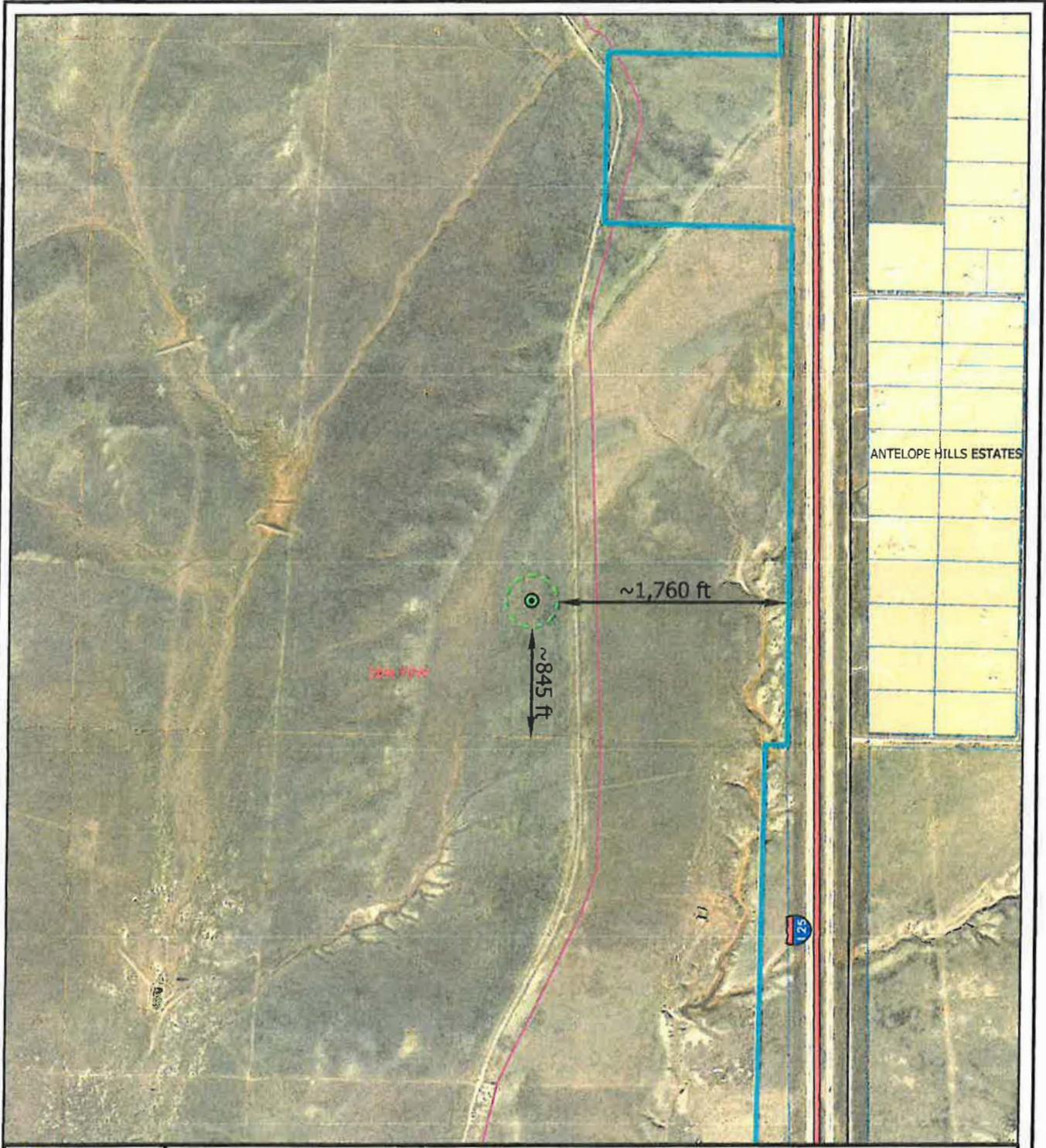


ENYO
Anticline Wind Project
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1:12,000
 NA083UTMUN

MetTowers	Road_Type	NH0Streams
MetTower_Guylines_60m_radius	Interstate	NW! Wetlands
NorthForgey_MeTower_Parcel	US Highway	112k
Access_Existing_Ranch_Road	State Highway	sections24k
Parcel_Ownership	County Road	
Plat_Subdivision	Light Duty Road	

Earthstar Geographics



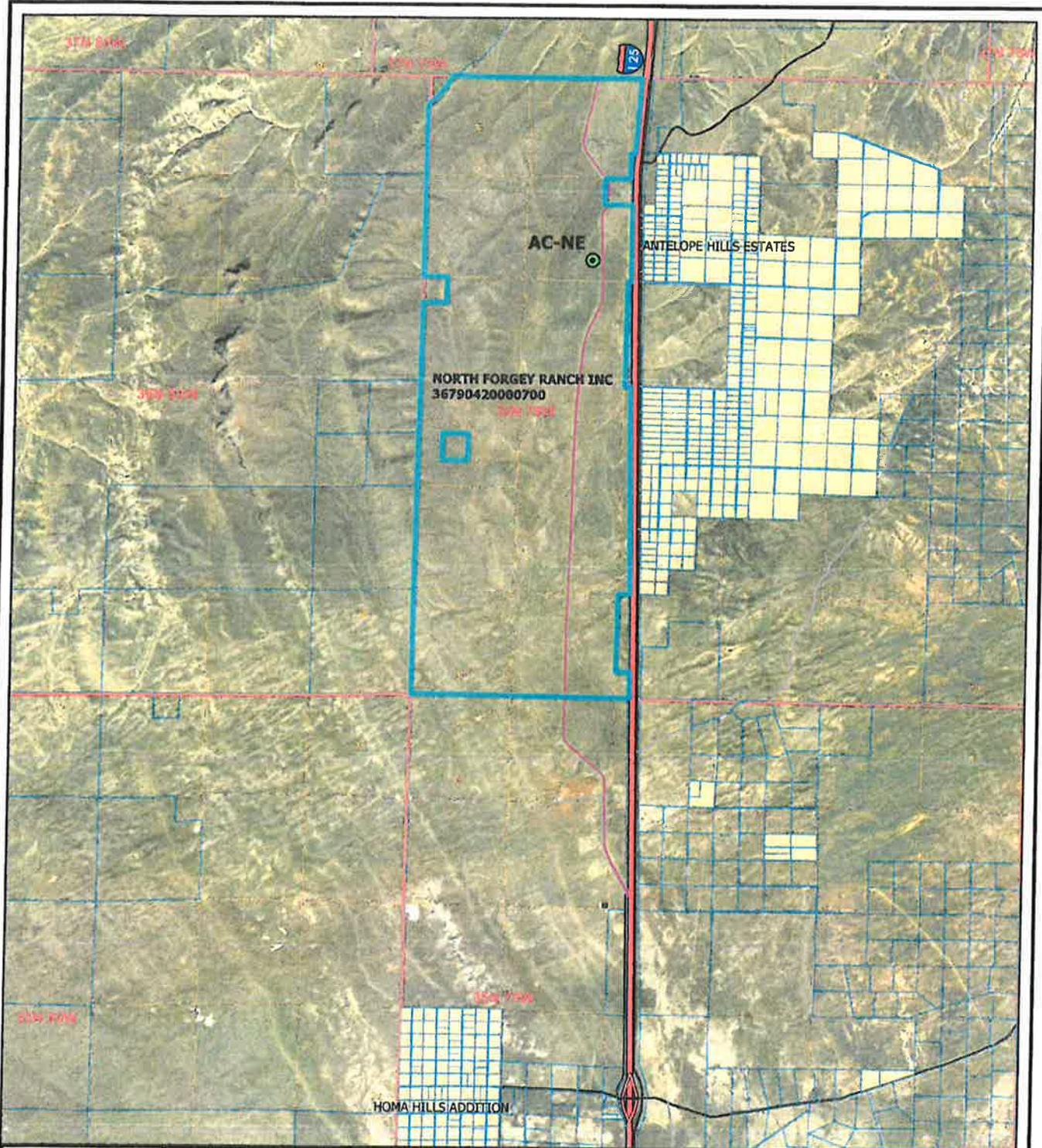
ENYO
Anticline Wind Project
 Proposed Met Tower Location
 Anticline
 Nidiano County, Wyoming
 October, 2019

1:12,000
 NACBJ UTM 11N

0 0.5 1 Miles

@ Met Towers	Road_Type	tr24k
MetTower_Guylines_60m_1adfus	Interstate	sections24k
Northforgey_MetTowe_Parcel	RJMP	
Access_Existing_Ranch_Road	US Highway	
Parcel_Ownership	State Highway	
Plat_Subdivision	County Road	
	Light Duty Road	



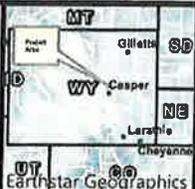


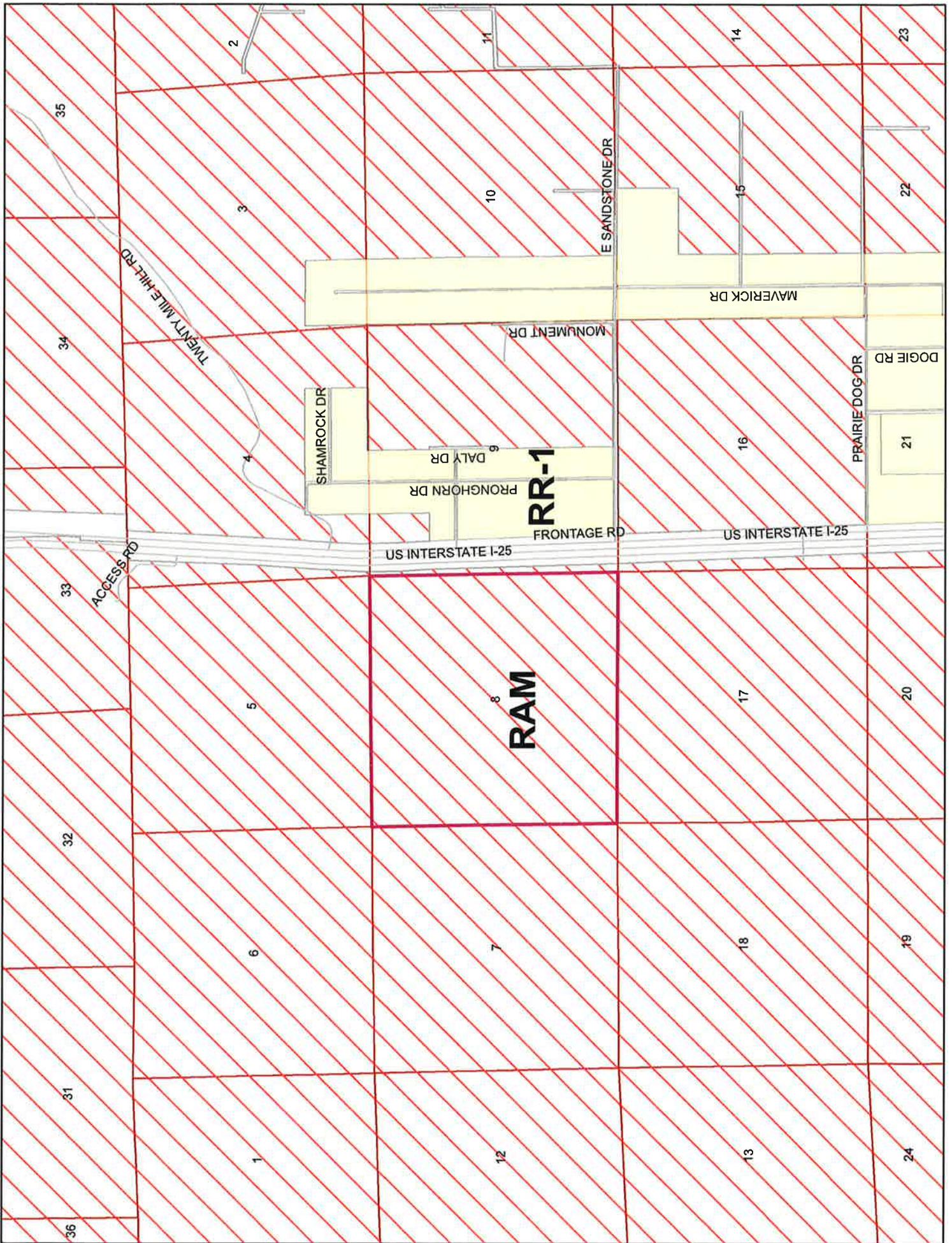
1:80,000
NAD83 UTM 13N



Anticline Wind Project
Proposed Met Tower Parcel and Access Road Map
Natrona County, Wyoming
October 9, 2019

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| NorthForgey_MetTower_Parcel | Road_Type | tr24k |
| Met Towers | Interstate | sections24k |
| Access_Existing_Ranch_Road | RAMP | Plat_Subdivision |
| Parcel_Ownership | US Highway | |
| | State Highway | |
| | County Road | |
| | Light Duty Road | |





CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT REQUEST

CUP19-6

Staff Report: Trish Chavis
November 22, 2019

For

December 10, 2019
Planning and Zoning Commission

And

January 7, 2020
Board of County Commissioner Meeting

Applicant: Christine Mikell, Anticline Wind, LLC

Request: Allow installation of a Meteorological Tower (MET Tower)

Location and Zoning

The parcel is located 12 miles north of the Town of Bar Nunn in the SW1/4 SE1/4 of Section 8, Township 36N, Range 79W.

The subject parcel and the parcels to the north, west and south are zoned Ranching, Agriculture and Mining (RAM). To the east is Interstate I-25.

Background

In 2016, the applicant had applied for 3 MET Towers in different sections of land in this area. That application was approved by the Planning Commission and the Board of County Commissioners. This approval came with conditions. Those same conditions have been added to this application as a condition, if approved.

MET towers are used to measure the viability of land for wind energy.

General Standards
For
Conditional Use Permits

Criteria for Approval

1. Will granting the Conditional Use Permit contribute to an overburdening of county services?

No, after approving the Conditional Use Permit application, we will attach marker balls to the guy lines and paint the tower red and register the tower with the State of Wyoming.

Proposed Finding of Fact.

Granting the Conditional Use Permit will not contribute to an overburdening of county services. County services and infrastructure will not be necessary for this Conditional Use Permit.

2. Will granting the Conditional Use Permit cause undue traffic, parking, population density or environmental problems?

No, the meteorological tower is strictly for analyzing wind speed and direction and the viability of wind energy generation.

Proposed Finding of Fact.

There will be no impact to traffic parking or population density. The tower is not manned. Only traffic would be from construction, occasional inspections, and removal.

3. Will granting the Conditional Use Permit impair the use of adjacent property or alter the character of the neighborhood?

No, the location of the MET Tower is within the property boundaries and will be several acres from the nearest fence or adjacent property.

Proposed Finding of Fact.

The surrounding properties are zoned RAM with uses being ranching and agriculture. The installation of a MET Tower will not impair the use of adjacent properties or alter the character of the neighborhood.

4. Will granting the Conditional Use Permit detrimentally affect the public health, safety and welfare, or nullify the intent of the Development Plan or Zoning Resolution?

No, the meteorological tower has no known adverse effects on any aspect of human life or welfare, they simply gather data.

Proposed Finding of Fact.

The tower has been submitted to the FAA and an aeronautical study has been initiated. The application was also submitted to the Natrona County International Airport. The MET Tower simply gathers data and will not nullify the intent of the Development Plan or the Zoning Resolution.

Public Comment

As of the date of this staff report there have been no comments received. Staff sent the public notice to 53 neighbors within 1.5 miles.

Recommendation

Staff proposes a motion and vote by the Planning and Zoning Commission to recommend approval of the requested Conditional Use Permit, by the Board of County Commissioners with the following conditions:

1. Towers are to be marked and lighted per FAA regulations;
2. Tower are to be painted in accordance with FAA regulations;
3. High visibility aviation orange spherical balls are attached to guy wires;
4. High visibility sleeves be installed on the guy wires;
5. That this Conditional Use Permit shall expire in five (5) years from the date of final approval by the Board of County Commissioners.

Staff would also recommend that the motion incorporate findings of fact as presented by staff.

November 26, 2019

Trish Chavis, Planner
Natrona County Development Department
200 N. Center Street
Suite 202
Casper, WY 82601

Dear Trish:

Please consider these comments in response to the Conditional Use Permit Application, applicant name Christine Mikell, Anticline Wind, LLC, for the installation/construction of a Meteorological Tower (MET) to measure the viability of land for wind energy generation.

On the Natrona CUP Q & A, you ask "Will granting the conditional use permit detrimentally affect the public health, safety and welfare?" The response was, "No, the metrological tower has no known adverse effects on any aspect of human life or welfare, they simply gather data." Unfortunately, without a Federal Aviation Administration airspace study (which I did not see in the application package), the impact of this MET on the Airport is unknown, so while there may not be any **known** adverse effects, there may in fact be some. While you do not ask this in the application, I would respectfully request that an airspace study is completed so that we have an opportunity to review the results prior to final action on this application. Without this information, we would object to the CUP not knowing if the tower would have an adverse impact on the operations of the Casper/Natrona County International Airport.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Glenn S. Januska, A.A.E.
Airport Director

c: Airport Board of Trustees



Mail Processing Center
 Federal Aviation Administration
 Southwest Regional Office
 Obstruction Evaluation Group
 10101 Hillwood Parkway
 Fort Worth, TX 76177

Aeronautical Study No.
 2019-ANM-7467-OE

Issued Date: 12/01/2019

Christine Mikell
 North Forgey Wind Energy
 3434 E Bengal Blvd, #180
 Salt Lake City, UT 84121

**** DETERMINATION OF NO HAZARD TO AIR NAVIGATION ****

The Federal Aviation Administration has conducted an aeronautical study under the provisions of 49 U.S.C., Section 44718 and if applicable Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations, part 77, concerning:

Structure: Met Tower (non-WT Farm) AC NE
 Location: Casper, WY
 Latitude: 43-05-56.76N NAD 83
 Longitude: 106-20-44.09W
 Heights: 5638 feet site elevation (SE)
 197 feet above ground level (AGL)
 5835 feet above mean sea level (AMSL)

This aeronautical study revealed that the structure does not exceed obstruction standards and would not be a hazard to air navigation provided the following condition(s), if any, is(are) met:

It is required that FAA Form 7460-2, Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration, be e-filed any time the project is abandoned or:

- At least 10 days prior to start of construction (7460-2, Part 1)
- Within 5 days after the construction reaches its greatest height (7460-2, Part 2)

Based on this evaluation, marking and lighting are not necessary for aviation safety. However, if marking/lighting are accomplished on a voluntary basis, we recommend it be installed in accordance with FAA Advisory circular 70/7460-1 L Change 2.

This determination expires on 06/01/2021 unless:

- (a) the construction is started (not necessarily completed) and FAA Form 7460-2, Notice of Actual Construction or Alteration, is received by this office.
- (b) extended, revised, or terminated by the issuing office.
- (c) the construction is subject to the licensing authority of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and an application for a construction permit has been filed, as required by the FCC, within 6 months of the date of this determination. In such case, the determination expires on the date prescribed by the FCC for completion of construction, or the date the FCC denies the application.

NOTE: REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE EFFECTIVE PERIOD OF THIS DETERMINATION MUST BE E-FILED AT LEAST 15 DAYS PRIOR TO THE EXPIRATION DATE. AFTER RE-EVALUATION OF CURRENT OPERATIONS IN THE AREA OF THE STRUCTURE TO DETERMINE THAT NO SIGNIFICANT AERONAUTICAL CHANGES HAVE OCCURRED, YOUR DETERMINATION MAY BE ELIGIBLE FOR ONE EXTENSION OF THE EFFECTIVE PERIOD.

This determination is based, in part, on the foregoing description which includes specific coordinates, heights, frequency(ies) and power. Any changes in coordinates, heights, and frequencies or use of greater power, except those frequencies specified in the Colo Void Clause Coalition; Antenna System Co-Location; Voluntary Best Practices, effective 21 Nov 2007, will void this determination. Any future construction or alteration, including increase to heights, power, or the addition of other transmitters, requires separate notice to the FAA. This determination includes all previously filed frequencies and power for this structure.

If construction or alteration is dismantled or destroyed, you must submit notice to the FAA within 5 days after the construction or alteration is dismantled or destroyed.

This determination does include temporary construction equipment such as cranes, derricks, etc., which may be used during actual construction of the structure. However, this equipment shall not exceed the overall heights as indicated above. Equipment which has a height greater than the studied structure requires separate notice to the FAA.

This determination concerns the effect of this structure on the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace by aircraft and does not relieve the sponsor of compliance responsibilities relating to any law, ordinance, or regulation of any Federal, State, or local government body.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact our office at (424) 405-7641, or tameria.burch@faa.gov. On any future correspondence concerning this matter, please refer to Aeronautical Study Number 2019-ANM-7467-OE.

Signature Control No: 420461703-424055242
Tameria Burch
Technician

(DNE)