

# Airspace Reviews

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Airspace Safety Program Manager

Wisconsin Airports Seminar  
Stevens Point, WI

**April 23, 2026**



# What is an aeronautical study?

A multi-disciplinary evaluation led by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) of an existing or proposed object or condition which may impact the safety and efficiency of the navigable airspace of the United States.

They are mechanisms for identifying risk early, coordinating expertise across lines of business, and communicating safety impacts in a consistent way.



# Aeronautical Study Goals

- Protect the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace
- Evaluate impacts to flight procedures and airport operations
- Coordinate impacts across FAA lines of business and other stakeholders



# Why are aeronautical studies important?

Provide airports, consultants, developers and the public access to experts across the Federal Aviation Administration who provide a concise detailed evaluation of potential risks to the National Airspace System (NAS) and, where necessary, information on hazard mitigation methods.



# When is an aeronautical study required?



# 14 CFR Part 77.9

## Notification Surfaces

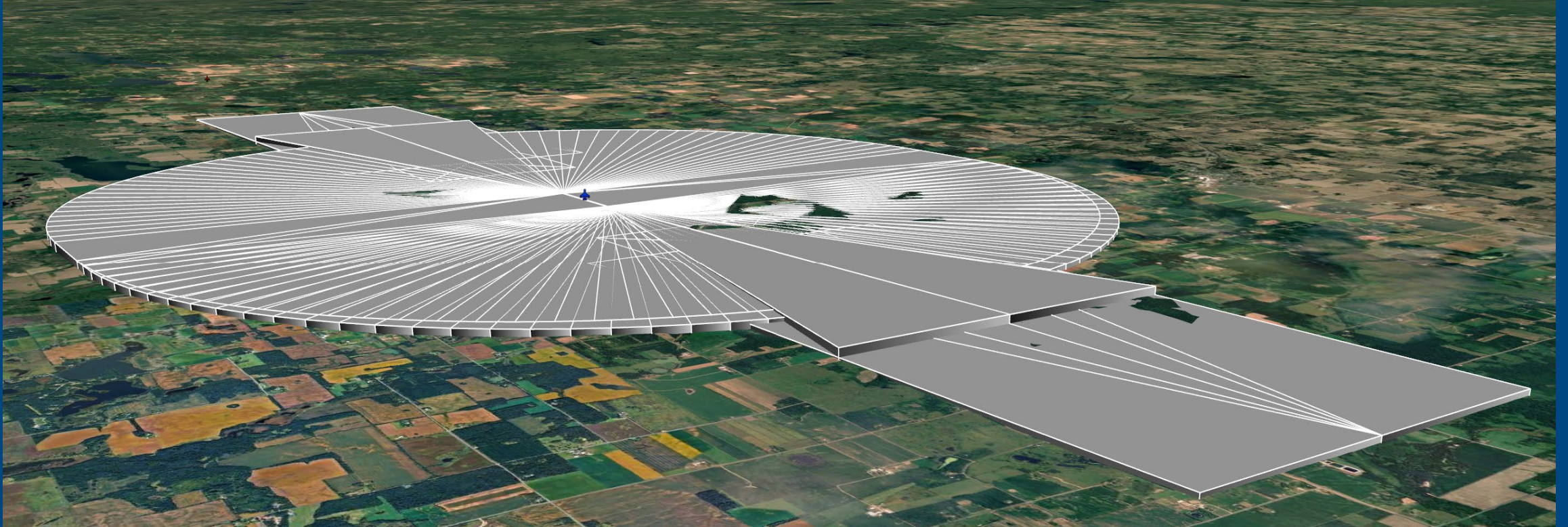
- Exceeds 200 feet above ground level
  - Exceeds 100:1 slope to nearest public runway more than 3,200 feet long
  - Exceeds 50:1 slope to nearest public runway less than 3,200 feet long
  - Exceeds 25:1 slope to nearest public helipad
  - Vertically adjusted traverse ways that exceed the surfaces above
- 
- Any proposal located on a public use airport
  - When requested by the FAA





# Part 77

## Notification Surfaces



# Part 77

- Obstruction Standards

- Exceeds 499 feet above ground level
- Exceeds minimum obstacle clearance requirements for terminal and enroute obstacle clearance areas
  - Initial approach segment
  - Departure area
  - Circling approach area
  - Federal airways
- Exceeds airport imaginary surfaces established in Part 77.19, 77.21, or 77.23

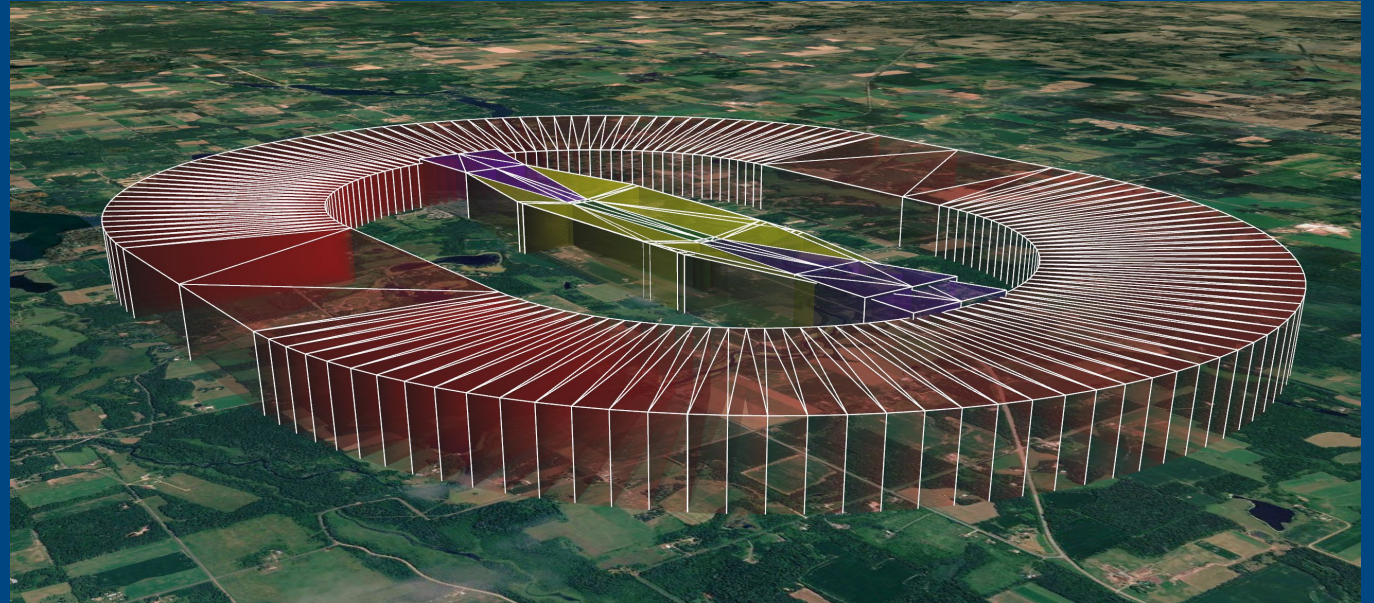




# When is a study required?

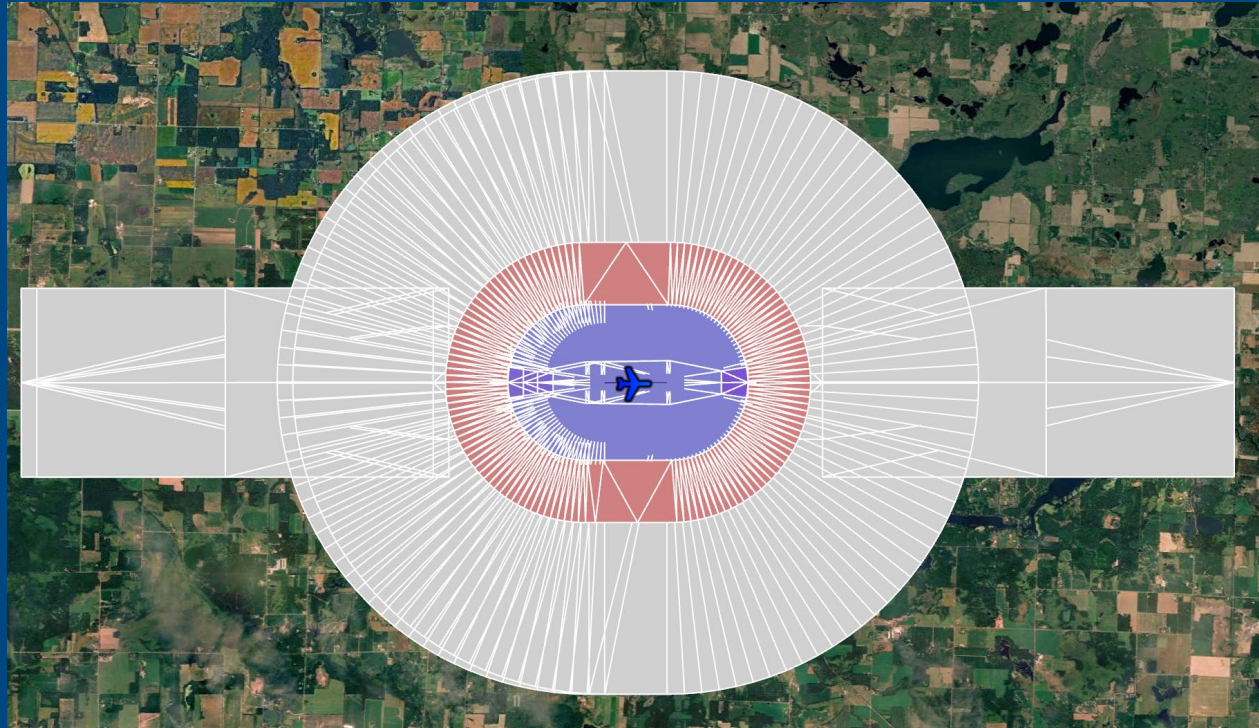
14 CFR Part 77.17

- Airport imaginary surfaces
  - Primary
  - Approach
  - Transitional
  - Conical
  - Horizontal



# Part 77

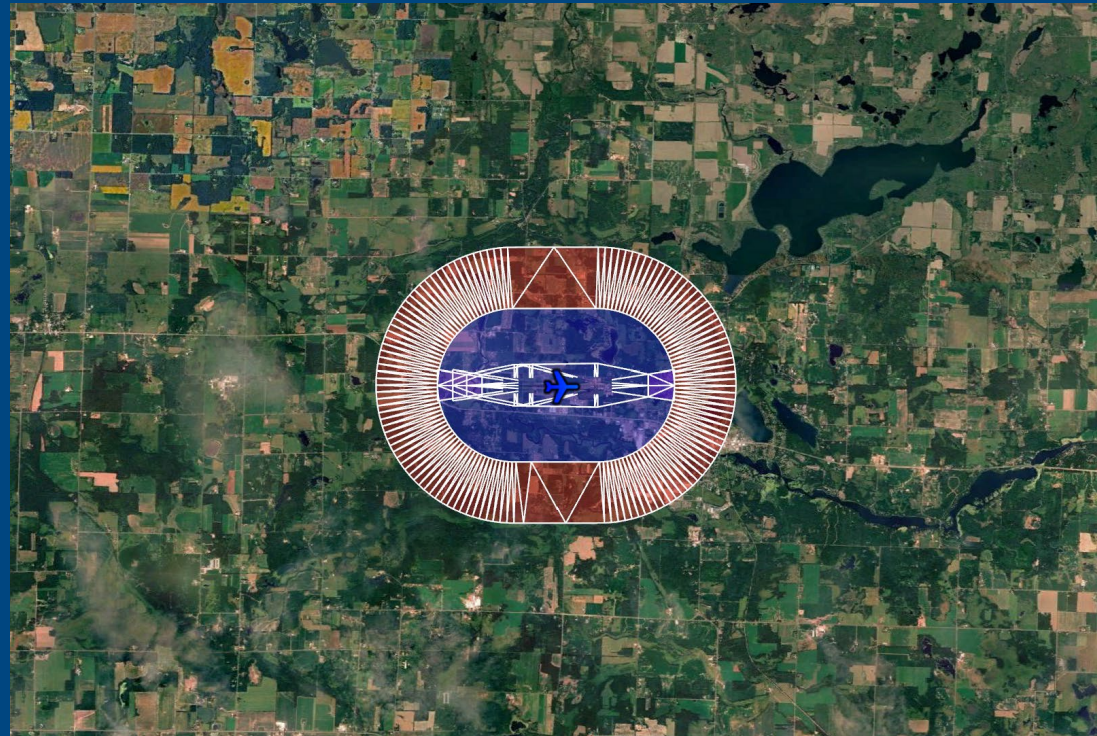
## Notification Surfaces





# Part 77

## Obstruction Standards





# Are all NAVAIDs located on airports?



# When is a study required?

Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA) Version 2026-MAR.1

Registration Login

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

The US Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approves the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to collect information from sponsors of certain construction or alteration projects that may affect the National Airspace System (NAS). The rules for the collection are promulgated to the public in Title 14 of the Code of Federal Regulations (14 CFR) Part 15. The FAA is engaged in sponsoring construction or alteration projects that meet the criteria for an aeronautical study from FAA.


**Pre-Screening Tool**

**I want to:**

- [Pre-Screen to see if I meet FAA Notice Requirements](#)
- [File a FAA 7460-1 or 7460-2 Notice](#)
- [Search FAA aeronautical study case files](#)
- [Report an obstruction light outage/light restored](#)
- [Use an OE/AAA public web service](#)

The OE/AAA Web Portal also provides tools and resources for interested parties, including but not limited to, other federal, state, and local government agencies, pilots, aviation groups, and the public in general to easily retrieve aeronautical study data that has been processed by FAA. These aeronautical studies are conducted by FAA to determine the potential for obstruction to flight and to provide information to the public.

# When is a study required?

 Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)


## Pre-Screening Tool


Use this tool to pre-screen your structure to determine if your proposed construction requires an Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA) Study.

Structure Type

☐ On Airport ☐ This structure is a frequency emitter

Latitude Longitude Datum <sup>i</sup> Height Site Elevation <sup>i</sup>

!      


 Find Coordinates by Address

# How is an aeronautical study initiated?






# How is a study initiated?


Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)Version 2026-MAR.1

[Registration](#) [Login](#)


- Home
- Reports
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 **FAA Obstruction Evaluation Process**  
Federal Aviation Administration

 **Federal Aviation Administration**

3:57 / 4:02 Conclusion

[More videos](#) 

The OE/AAA Web Portal also provides tools and resources for interested parties, including but not limited to, other federal, state, and local government agencies, pilots, aviation groups, and the public in general to easily retrieve aeronautical study data that has been processed by FAA. These aeronautical studies are conducted by FAA to ensure the National Airspace System (NAS) is safe and efficient for all users.

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**FAQ & Resources**

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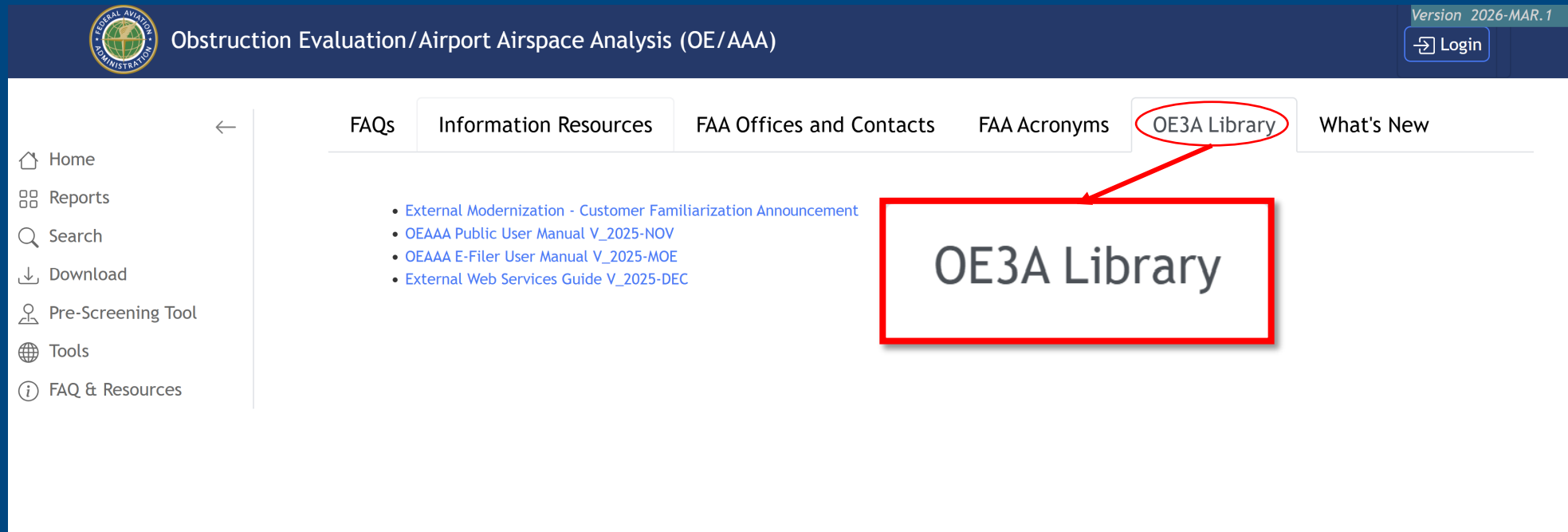
More videos YouTube

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# How is a study initiated?



The screenshot displays the website for the Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA). The header features the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) logo on the left, the title "Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)" in the center, and the version "Version 2026-MAR.1" and a "Login" button on the right. A navigation bar below the header includes links for "FAQs", "Information Resources", "FAA Offices and Contacts", "FAA Acronyms", "OE3A Library", and "What's New". The "OE3A Library" link is circled in red, with a red arrow pointing to a red-bordered box containing the text "OE3A Library". On the left side of the page, there is a sidebar menu with icons and labels for "Home", "Reports", "Search", "Download", "Pre-Screening Tool", "Tools", and "FAQ & Resources". Below the navigation bar, a list of links is visible: "External Modernization - Customer Familiarization Announcement", "OEAAA Public User Manual V\_2025-NOV", "OEAAA E-File User Manual V\_2025-MOE", and "External Web Services Guide V\_2025-DEC".

Version 2026-MAR.1

Login

FAQs Information Resources FAA Offices and Contacts FAA Acronyms **OE3A Library** What's New

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**OE3A Library**

# How is a study Initiated?

The screenshot shows the FAA Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA) website. The header includes the FAA logo, the title "Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)", a "Version 2026-MAR" label, and a "Login" button. The main navigation bar contains links for "FAQs", "Information Resources", "FAA Offices and Contacts", "FAA Acronyms", "OE3A Library", and "What's New". A left sidebar lists "Home", "Reports", "Search", "Download", "Pre-Screening Tool", and "Tools". The main content area features a section titled "FAA OE/AAA Offices" and a "Questions Or Issues" section with the text "Visit the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section. Go to OE/AAA FAQs". Red callout boxes and arrows highlight the "FAA Offices and Contacts" link in the navigation bar, the "FAA OE/AAA Offices" section title, and the "Questions Or Issues" section.


FAA Offices and Contacts

FAA OE/AAA Offices

Questions Or Issues

Visit the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section.  
[Go to OE/AAA FAQs](#)

# OEAAA Help Desk

 Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA) [Login](#)

[FAQs](#) [Information Resources](#) [FAA Offices and Contacts](#) [FAA Acronyms](#) [OE3A Library](#) [What's New](#)

### FAA OE/AAA Offices

**Questions Or Issues**  
Visit the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) section.  
[Go to OE/AAA FAQs](#)

**Form 7460-1 and 7460-2 Mailing Addresses**  
**Off Airport Construction:**  
E-filing your notice with FAA via this website is the fastest most efficient way to request an aeronautical study. However, if unable to electronically file FAA Forms 7460-1 and/or 7460-2 you can mail your notice to FAA. NOTE: processing times for mailed in forms will take longer due to the manual handling required.

- Send completed 7460-1/7460-2 form(s) to the address listed below along with an 8-1/2" x 11" non-reduced copy of the appropriate 7.5. minute U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) Quadrangle Map MARKED WITH A PRECISE INDICATION OF THE SITE LOCATION. If available, attach a copy of a documented site survey with the surveyor's certification stating the amount of vertical and horizontal accuracy in feet.
- Do NOT send other types of documents to this address. If the submission package does not contain the required information the entire package will be returned to you with instructions about the information necessary to initiate an aeronautical study. Returned packages are not logged into the FAA System.

**7460 Mail Processing Center**  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Southwest Regional Office  
Obstruction Evaluation Group  
10101 Hillwood Parkway  
Fort Worth, TX 76177

**On Airport Construction:**  
Review FAA Advisory Circular (AC) 150/5300-20 Submission of On-Airport Proposals for Aeronautical Study before submitting your notice via OE/AAA e-filing.

- File FAA Form 7480-1 and Modification of Standard requests via the Airport Data Information Portal (ADIP)
- For any construction or alteration on an airport, use the link in the On Airport Contacts section below to locate FAA Airports Region / District Offices (ADO) having jurisdiction over the airport

[Go to ADIP](#)

**FAA Manager for Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)**  
For inquiries about a specific study by FAA for construction or alteration projects NOT on the property of an airport include the Aeronautical Study Number (ASN) as your subject, describe your interest or involvement in the study, and be specific about what you are asking so your inquiry can be routed appropriately for response.  
Send your inquiry to:  
Email: [OEGroup@faa.gov](mailto:OEGroup@faa.gov)

**OE/AAA System User Support**  
OEAAA Support Desk  
Phone: 202-580-7500  
Email: [oeaaa\\_helpdesk@cghtech.com](mailto:oeaaa_helpdesk@cghtech.com)

**National Office for OE/AAA Petitions**  
Manager, Rules and Regulations Group  
Federal Aviation Administration  
Air Traffic Organization

## OE/AAA System User Support

### OEAAA Support Desk

Phone: 202-580-7500

Email: [oeaaa\\_helpdesk@cghtech.com](mailto:oeaaa_helpdesk@cghtech.com)



# What should be submitted for an aeronautical study?



# What should be submitted for study?

- FAA Advisory Circular 150/5300-20
  - Permanent objects or alterations
  - Temporary objects or alterations
  - Planning documents
  - Construction safety and phasing plans



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

## Advisory Circular

**Subject:** Submission of On-Airport  
Proposals for Aeronautical Study

**Date:** 4/5/2023

**Initiated By:** AAS-100

**AC No:** 150/5300-20

**Change:**

### 1 **Purpose.**

This Advisory Circular (AC) provides guidance on submitting accurate, complete on-airport proposals so the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) can conduct an aeronautical study.

### 2 **Applicability.**

The FAA recommends the guidelines in this AC for filing notice of construction or alteration located on a public use airport to satisfy 14 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 77, *Safe, Efficient Use, and Preservation of the Navigable Airspace*. This AC does not constitute a regulation, is not mandatory, and is not legally binding. This AC provides one, but not the only, acceptable means of meeting the requirements of 14 CFR Part 139, *Certification of Airports*. It will not be relied upon as a separate basis by the FAA for affirmative enforcement action or other administrative penalty. Conformity with this AC is voluntary, and nonconformity will not affect rights and obligations under existing statutes and regulations, except for projects funded under Federal grant assistance programs including, but not limited to, the Airport Improvement Program (AIP), Passenger Facility Charge (PFC) program, and Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Airport Grants program.

### 3 **Related Documents**





# Ok, it's filed. Now what?



# The Review Process

## Case Management

- Case manager Responsibilities
  - Verify the submittal is complete and understandable
  - Distribute the study to subject matter experts
  - Coordinate communication
  - Consolidate reviewer comments into a concise determination letter
- Off airport proposals – Air Traffic Obstruction Evaluation Group
- On airport proposals – Airports District Office



# The Review Process

## Analysis

- Office of Airports
  - Evaluate airport design surface interactions - Advisory Circular 150/5300-13
  - Includes the Airport Safety Certification Inspector for Part 139 airports
- Flight Standards
  - VFR operations and other operational impacts
- Flight Procedures
  - IFR operations and instrument procedures



# The Review Process

## Analysis

- Technical Operations
  - Assess impacts on existing and proposed communications, NAVAIDs, visual aids, weather equipment, and radar facilities
  - Evaluate Electromagnetic or Radio Line-Of-Sight interference
  - Evaluate sunlight or artificial light reflections on equipment operation
  - Identify potential Air Traffic Control Tower line-of-sight to movement areas
- Frequency Management
  - Identifies frequency conflicts
  - Reservation of frequencies



# The Review Process

## Analysis

- Air Traffic Operations Support Group
  - Identifies impacts to air traffic control facilities
  - Evaluates proposals involving laser operations
- Air Traffic Obstruction Evaluation Group
  - Identifies conflicts with Part 77 surfaces
  - Review traffic patterns and procedures to identify noise issues
  - Case management of proposals located off airport



# The Review Process

## Analysis

- FAA Regional Military Representatives
  - Army
  - Navy
  - Air Force
- Evaluate impacts to military flight operations
  - Military training routes
  - Special Use Airspace (MOAs, Warning, Restricted and Prohibited Areas)
  - Special Operations, such as night vision training exercises



# The Review Process

## Analysis

- Department of Homeland Security
  - Long-range radar
  - Weather radar
  - Military training routes
  - Other special use airspace, such as National Special Security Events

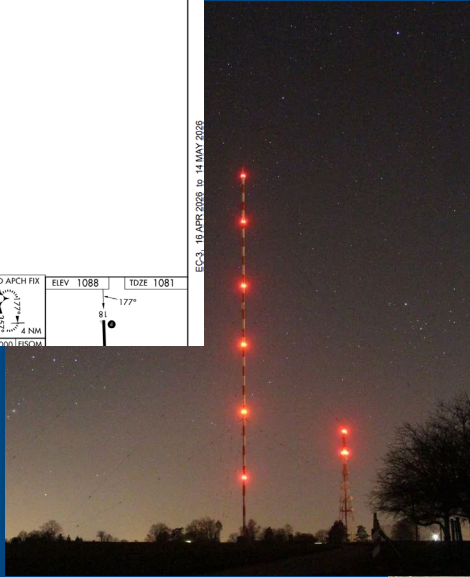
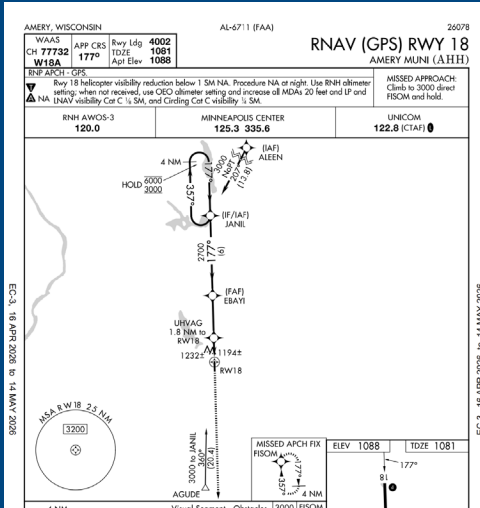




# What happens if a proposal adversely impacts the National Airspace System?



# Mitigation Methods



- Move
- Lower
- Marking and Lighting
- Increase minimums
- Restrict or cancel instrument approach procedures
- Runway alterations
- Other airport capacity limitations

# Developing a Determination for On Airport Studies



# On Airport Proposals

- Bureau of Aeronautics will coordinate with proponents to resolve and mitigate impacts whenever possible
  - To help prevent delays ensure the ALP is up to date and submittals include all information required
  - If the ALP is from 1990, the study process is protecting airspace like its 1990
- Airports District Office issues determination letter

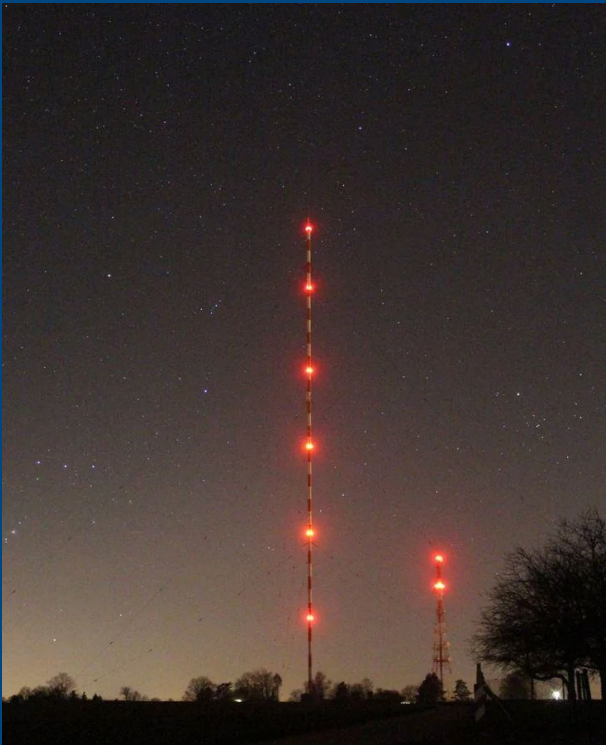


# Developing a Determination for Off Airport Studies



# Off Airport Proposals

## Reviewer Comments and Mitigation



- Obstruction Evaluation Group issues Notice of Preliminary Findings
  - Provides proponent with specific information on identified impacts
  - Identifies potential mitigation methods available to proponent
    - Move, Lower, Light, Improved survey accuracy
  - Opens negotiation between FAA and proponent

# Off Airport Proposals

- Violating standards does not automatically mean the object is a hazard
  - **FAA must show the object**
    - Exceeds a specific standard
    - Affects a “significant amount of aircraft operations”

VFR

One Operation per day

IFR

One Operation per week





# Off Airport Proposals

## Circularization


- FAA seeks information from stakeholders regarding actual impact the proposal may have
  - Typically 120-day response period
- Comments received that do not address specific impacts and affected operations are not considered



# Off Airport Proposals

## Circularization

- Subscribe to receive notifications of circularized studies near your airport



Obstruction Evaluation/Airport Airspace Analysis (OE/AAA)

Submission of 7460-1 notice is temporarily unavailable due to an issue saving sponsor and representative contact information. This banner will be removed when the issue is resolved and the system resumes.

User Name: Joshua Cothren  
User Type: Normal User  
Last Login: 04/22/2026 04:11:24 PM EDT  
Session Started: 04/22/2026 17:35:05 PM EDT

### My OE/AAA Dashboard

User Account	User Activity
<a href="#">Update User Profile</a>	<a href="#">File Notice</a>
<a href="#">Change Password (expiring in 150 days)</a>	<a href="#">File/View Airport Planning and non-Part 77 Notices</a>
<a href="#">Subscriptions</a>	<a href="#">My Recent Activity</a>
<a href="#">7460 Contacts</a>	<a href="#">My Circ Comments</a>

Navigation Links: Home, Dashboard, Reports, Search, Download, Pre-Screening Tool, Tools, FAQ & Resources

# Off Airport Proposals

## Circularization

- Airport Sponsor considerations when receiving a circularization notice
  - How can I inform my customers and tenants about the proposal?
    - Local zoning/permitting office
  - How will this affect my airport?
  - What are my responsibilities as an airport sponsor?



# Off Airport Proposals

## Determinations


- Limitations of FAA authority
  - Hazard Determination Letter
- FAA does not control land use and cannot control construction



# Off Airport Proposals


## Determinations

- The FAA will impose operational restrictions on airspace utilization and airport capacity to mitigate hazardous obstructions

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

Aeronautical Study No.  
2026-AGL-5322-OE

Issued Date: 04/09/2026



**\*\* 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: Antenna Tower Pelican Lake  
County, State: Langlade, Wisconsin

Collected Point(s):	Latitude	Longitude	SE	DET AGL	AMSL
Label					
pt-1	45-27-45.72N	89-10-52.84W	1666 Ft	279 Ft	1945 Ft


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:

Emissions from this site must be in compliance with the parameters set by collaboration between the FAA and telecommunications companies and reflected in the FAA 5G C band compatibility evaluation process (such as power, frequencies, and tilt angle). Operational use of this frequency band is not objectionable provided the Wireless Providers (WP) obtain and adhere to the parameters established by the FAA 5G C band compatibility evaluation process. **Failure to comply with this condition will void this determination of no hazard.**

As a condition to this Determination, the structure is to be marked/lighted in accordance with FAA Advisory

# Off Airport Proposals


## Determinations



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10101 Hillwood Parkway  
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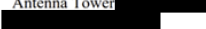
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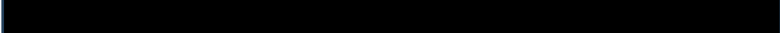
As a condition to this Determination, the structure is to be marked/lighted in accordance with FAA Advisory

### LOCATION OF OBSTRUCTION

Our study has disclosed that this proposed structure would be located approximately 1.79 NM southeast of runway end 32 at 

### OBSTRUCTION STANDARDS EXCEEDED

77.17 (a)(3) A height within a terminal obstacle clearance area, including an initial approach segment, a departure area, and a circling approach area, which would result in the vertical distance between any point on the object and an established minimum instrument flight altitude within that area or segment to be less than the required obstacle clearance.

At 1182 AMSL, 4D,  RNAV (GPS) RWY 32  
AMDT 2C, increase LNAV **MDA from 1420 to 1480, NEH 1175 AMSL. Exceeds by 7 feet.**



# Wrap Up

- How does the FAA mitigate risk?
- Who controls land use and permitting?
- Where can you get help or ask questions about aeronautical studies?



# Joshua Cothren

## Airspace Safety Program Manager

[joshua.cothren@dot.wi.gov](mailto:joshua.cothren@dot.wi.gov)

608-266-6812

