

Airport Issues for Wind Site Assessments

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A. When not to worry about an airport?

1). If the airport is not public airport, i.e. a landing strip or a private airport. A **public access airport** means an airport that is open to the general public with or without a prior request to use the airport. You can check the ownership by entering the airport name and looking for “Owner” at:

<http://map.aeroplanner.com/mapping/chart/aptrpt.cfm>

2) Tower site is at least 20,000’ (3.75 miles) away from airport with a runway length of 10,000 feet (large commercial airport) and the total structure height will be under 200’. If the runway length is a smaller airport with a runway of 5,000 or more, the triggering distance is 10,000’ (1 7/8 miles) away.

Do not bother the FAA if either of these 2 conditions is met.

B. What if within 3.75 miles of a public or military airport?

If the site is within 3.75 miles of a large commercial airport (or 1 7/8 miles of a smaller commercial airport), then the maximum structure height must meet the distance-to-height ratio specified below under “Details”. Note that the ratio is dependent on the runway lengths at the specific airport.

To get the Total Structure Height above the airport, take the elevation of the airport in question and add it to the elevation of the site (location + tower height + blade length) to see if the resultant height exceeds the height limit determined by the height/distance ratios and airport types specified below. If not, then it is probably not going to be a problem, but this should be verified with an email to the state FAA office. The client or installer may need to file a FAA Form 7460-1.

If the height does exceed the limit, then definitely e-mail the state FAA office to verify the structure height limit and to find out what further action must be taken.

C. How do I contact the FAA and what information does he need to know?

Example: Contact Info for the Wisconsin FAA Representative

Gary Dikkers, Airspace Manager

gary.dikkers@dot.wi.gov

(608)267-5018.

Send Gary:

- 1) Address of site
- 2) Exact Latitude and Longitude of tower location
- 3) Your contact info
- 4) Airport of concern

Ask for verification of the maximum structure height at this location and whether an FAA form needs to be filed.

If an application is required, the form can be filed online with the FAA at this website: <https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/portal.jsp> (see the e-filing section on the left side of the page).

FAA Form 7460-1 - Notice of Proposed Construction or Alteration

The client or installer may file forms 7460-1 electronically. They will have to register first via this website - [New User Registration](#).

D. FAA regulations:

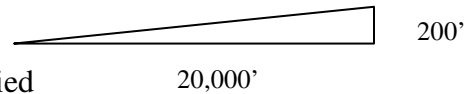
Details:

[CFR Title 14 Part 77.13](#) states that any person/organization who intends to sponsor any of the following construction or alterations must notify the Administrator of the FAA:

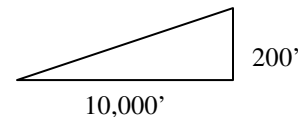
(1) Any construction or alteration of more than 200 feet in height above the ground level at its site.

(2) Any construction or alteration of greater height than an imaginary surface extending outward and upward at one of the following slopes:

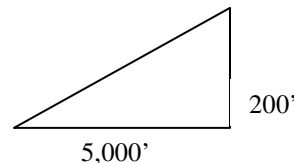
(i) 100 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 20,000 feet (approx. 4 miles) from the nearest point of the nearest runway of each airport specified in paragraph (a)(5) of this section with **at least one runway more than 3,200 feet in actual length**, excluding heliports.



(ii) 50 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 10,000 feet (~2mi.) from the nearest point of the nearest runway of each airport specified in paragraph (a)(5) of this section with **its longest runway no more than 3,200 feet in actual length**, excluding heliports.



(iii) 25 to 1 for a horizontal distance of 5,000 feet (~1mi.) from the nearest point of



the nearest landing and takeoff area of each **heliport** specified in paragraph (a)(5) of this section.

Source: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/cfr_2004/janqtr/pdf/14cfr77.5.pdf

(a)(5)

Applies to any of the following airports (including heliports):

(i) An airport that is available for public use (*Airport available for public use means an airport that is open to the general public with or without a prior request to use the airport.*) and is listed in the Airport Directory of the current Airman's Information Manual or in either the Alaska or Pacific Airman's Guide and Chart Supplement.

(ii) An airport under construction, that is the subject of a notice or proposal on file with the Federal Aviation Administration, and, except for military airports, it is clearly indicated that that airport will be available for public use.

(iii) An airport that is operated by an armed force of the United States.

[Doc. No. 8276, 33 FR 5256, Apr. 2, 1968, as amended by Amdt. 77-9, 36 FR 5970, Apr. 1, 1971; Amdt. 77-10, 37 FR 4705, Mar. 4, 1972]

§ 77.15 Construction or alteration not requiring notice.

No person is required to notify the Administrator for any of the following construction or alteration:

(a) Any object that would be shielded by existing structures of a permanent and substantial character or by natural terrain or topographic features of equal or greater height, and would be located in the congested area of a city, town, or settlement where it is evident beyond all reasonable doubt that the structure so shielded will not adversely affect safety in air navigation.

[Doc. No. 1882, 30 FR 1839, Feb. 10, 1965, as amended by Amdt. 77-5, 33 FR 5257, Apr. 2, 1968; Amdt. 77-9, 36 FR 5970, Apr. 1, 1971]

E. Helpful Airport resources:

The following website allows you to enter in airport name and get info on the airport and also get info on nearby airports within a user specified radius. Information provided includes whether it is public or private (look for Owner).

<http://map.aeroplanner.com/mapping/chart/aptrpt.cfm>

List of Airports – Can get Latitude, Longitude and Elevations from most of these sites:

Wisconsin:

<http://www.dot.state.wi.us/travel/air/airportdirectory.htm>

Michigan:

http://www.michigan.gov/aero/0,1607,7-145-6777_7036---,00.html

Minnesota:

<http://www.dot.state.mn.us/aero/avoffice/pdf/PublicAccessAirports.pdf>