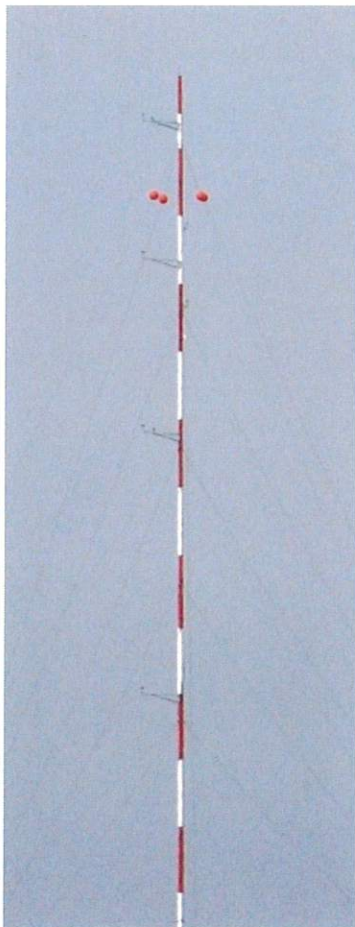
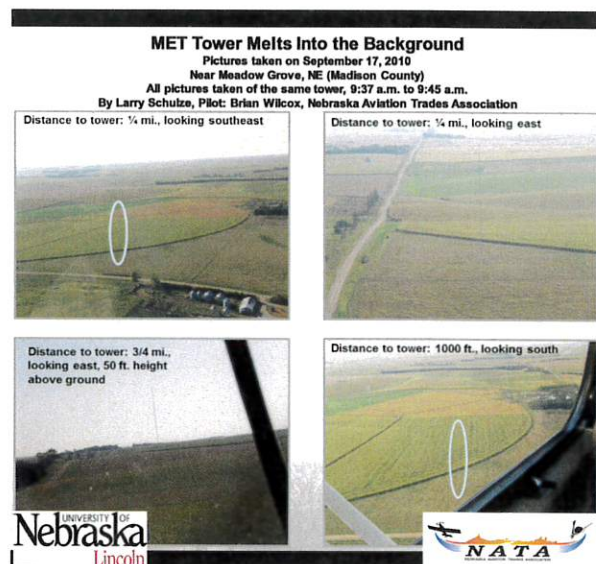


HB053S01 METEOROLOGICAL EVALUATION TOWER MARKING

Wind measuring towers (sometimes called meteorological evaluation towers (MET) are used to verify the wind characteristics at a potential site for a wind farm. This bill seeks to mark towers in rural/agricultural areas that are over 50 feet tall for the life/safety of private pilots.



These Towers need markings because:

- Pilots cannot see them and are endangered by them.
- There have been 14 deaths in the U.S caused by airplanes crashing into METs.
- These METs are frequently moved, making them difficult to track in location databases used by pilots to avoid collisions with potential obstacles.

Marking Requirements:

- Must be painted orange and white in a manner visible from at least 2,000 feet away.
- Must have seven-foot-long flags on each guy wire.
- Must have a spherical marker attached to the top ⅓ of the outermost guy wire.
- Must have a flashing light on the top.
- MET owner must keep these markings up to date.

Exemptions:

- Towers that are already federally regulated by the Federal Communications Division.
- Towers that are located in cities or towns.
- Towers used primarily for telecommunication purposes.