

METEOROLOGICAL EVALUATION TOWER MARKING

2021 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Steve R. Christiansen

Senate Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill establishes requirements relating to the marking of meteorological evaluation towers.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

- ▶ defines terms; and
- ▶ establishes marking requirements for meteorological evaluation towers.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

ENACTS:

72-10-133, Utah Code Annotated 1953

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **72-10-133** is enacted to read:

72-10-133. Marking of meteorological evaluation towers.

(1) As used in this section:

(a) "Meteorological evaluation tower" means a permanent or temporary tower used for meteorological evaluation that:

(i) is supported by guy wires and ground anchors; and

30 (ii) has accessory facilities on which an antenna, sensor, camera, meteorological
31 instrument, or other meteorological monitoring equipment is mounted.

32 (b) "Meteorological evaluation tower" does not include:

33 (i) a tower registered with the Federal Communications Commission; or

34 (ii) a tower that is primarily used to support telecommunications equipment, including:

35 (A) a microwave relay facility; and

36 (B) a tower erected for the purpose of providing commercial mobile radio service or

37 commercial mobile data service, as those terms are defined in 47 C.F.R. Sec. 20.3.

38 (2) Except as required by federal law, rule, or regulation, a meteorological evaluation
39 tower shall be marked as described in Subsection (3) if the tower is:

40 (a) over 50 feet in height;

41 (b) located outside of an incorporated city or town; and

42 (c) on land that is primarily rural, undeveloped, or used for agricultural purposes.

43 (3) (a) A meteorological evaluation tower shall:

44 (i) be painted in equal alternating bands of aviation orange and white, beginning with
45 orange at the top and bottom of the tower, to be visible in clear air during daylight hours from a
46 distance of at least two thousand feet;

47 (ii) have a high-visibility safety sleeve at least seven feet long on each guy wire,
48 extending from the anchor point along each guy wire attached to the anchor point;

49 (iii) have a spherical marker attached to the top third of each of the highest guy wires;
50 and

51 (iv) have a flashing light at the top of the tower that, when flashing, is visible during
52 nighttime from a distance of at least two thousand feet.

53 (b) The owner of a meteorological evaluation tower shall replace the markings
54 described in Subsection (3)(a) when they become inoperable, faded, or otherwise deteriorated.

55 (4) The owner of a meteorological evaluation tower erected before May 5, 2021, shall
56 meet the requirements of this section before May 5, 2022.