

## **Appendix C**

### **Plum Creek Wind Pre-Construction Noise Assessment**



# PLUM CREEK WIND PRE-CONSTRUCTION NOISE ASSESSMENT 2024



October 2024

Prepared for National Grid Renewables



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**Report Title:**

Plum Creek Wind Pre-Construction Noise Assessment 2024

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**Report Prepared for:**

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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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Plum Creek Wind Farm, LLC is submitting a Site Permit Application (SPA) to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to build Plum Creek Wind (Project) in Cottonwood, Murray and Redwood Counties. The Project is a proposed 414 MW power generation facility with up to 78 wind turbines.

The noise standards for all three counties in the Project area refer to Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Chapter 7030 (MN Noise Limit), which prescribes median one-hour limits for the daytime of 60 dBA ( $L_{50}$ ) and nighttime of 50 dBA ( $L_{50}$ ).

Consistent with Chapter 7030, and as part of the original application filing for the Project, background sound level monitoring in the proposed Project area was completed in late summer 2019. Daytime soundscapes were composed of anthropogenic sources typical in a rural agricultural landscape, such as vehicles on public roads, tractors, and commercial aircraft overflights; wind-induced sounds, birds, and insects were also common sounds. Nighttime sources of sound were mostly limited to wind-induced sounds, sporadic aircraft overflights, occasional vehicle passbys on public roadways, and consistent insect sound. The results of monitoring showed that the average nighttime  $L_{50}$  across all onsite monitors was 42 dBA. When biogenic sound was removed, which was predominantly from insects in this case, median nighttime sound levels ( $L_{50}$ ) were generally below 30 dB-ANS.

Sound propagation modeling was completed for an updated array of four wind turbine models in accordance with applicable technical standards and guidelines. The four modeled layouts all have 78 proposed turbine locations, though some are “alternates” for the final design. That is, between 68 and 77 turbines would actually be installed, depending on the turbine model and the associated Project layout.

A total of 461 discrete residences were modeled. The modeling parameters were set to calculate the worst-case one-hour equivalent continuous sound level ( $L_{eq}$ ), which serves as a conservative estimate of the one-hour  $L_{50}$ . With noise reduced operations at night on specified turbines, wind turbine-only sound levels (one-hour  $L_{50}$ ) from the Project are expected to be 47 dBA or less at night at discrete residences for all modeling scenarios considered herein. Thus, Project sound is modeled to meet the MN Noise Limit.

# 1.0 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

## 1.1 INTRODUCTION

This document serves as the Pre-Construction Sound Assessment Report (“Report”) for the Plum Creek Wind (“Project”) for the Site Permit Application (SPA) submitted to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission. The Project will involve the construction of up to 77 turbines and have a rated capacity of 414 MW. This Report considers four scenarios, each with a different wind turbine model that could be installed at the site. Sound propagation modeling procedures and results are included. Note that RSG submitted a preconstruction noise assessment in 2020 (“2020 Noise Report”)<sup>1</sup> for a prior design of the Project. Background sound level results from the 2020 Noise Assessment report are summarized in this Report.

A noise primer, with information related to wind turbine acoustics, is provided in Appendix A.

## 1.2 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A map of the general Project area is provided in Figure 1. The Project Area extends to US-14 to the North (Redwood County), 121<sup>st</sup> Street to the South (Murray County), 430<sup>th</sup> Avenue (County Highway 4) to the East (Cottonwood County) and 225<sup>th</sup> Avenue to the west (Murray County). Land uses in the Project area are typically agricultural, with farm residences and rural neighborhoods throughout the area. The Project also includes two substations, with one transformer each, centrally located within the Project area.

Terrain in the area is primarily flat and increases in elevation by approximately 110 meters (360 feet) from the northwest to southwest corner of the Project area. Rural, county roads run through much of the Project area and major routes are to the north (US-14) and south (MN-30). The nearest cities to the Project are Dovray to the southwest and Walnut Grove to the north.

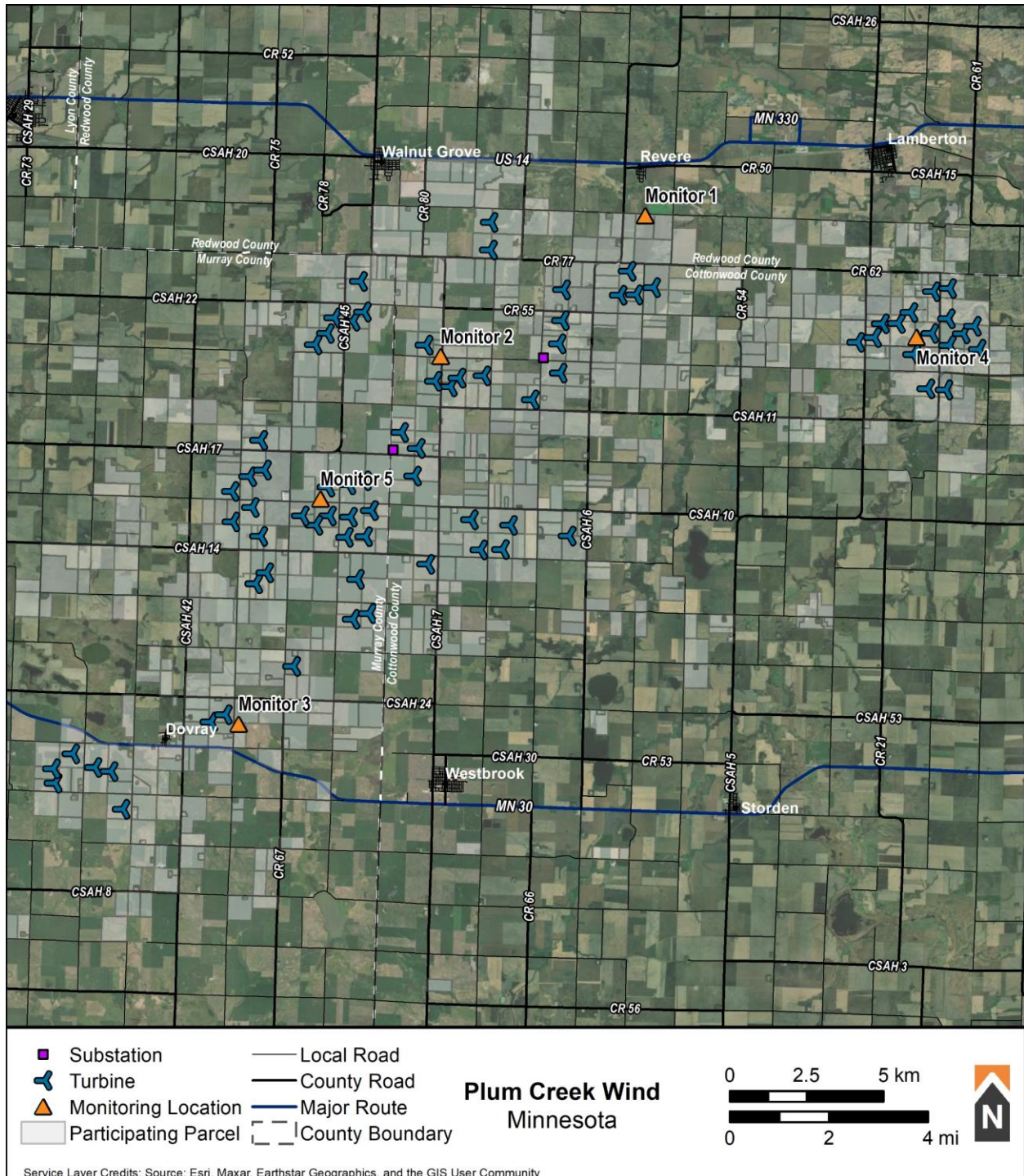
Four proposed layout configurations, each with a distinct turbine model, are currently under consideration for the Project. The layouts summarized in Table 1 below.

**TABLE 1: TURBINE MODELS AND NUMBER OF TURBINES UNDER CONSIDERATION**

MAKE/MODEL	OUTPUT (MW)	HUB HEIGHT (m)	# OF PRIMARY TURBINES	# OF ALTERNATE TURBINES
GE 3.8-154	3.8	98	77	1
GE 6.1-158	6.1	117	68	10
Vestas V150-4.5	4.5	120	75	3
Vestas V163-4.5	4.5	113	76	2

<sup>1</sup> RSG. Plum Creek Wind Farm Noise Compliance Assessment. August 2020. IP6997 / WS-18-700





**FIGURE 1: PROJECT AREA MAP.**

*The map shows 78 turbine locations, which apply to all layouts modeled with all alternates included.*



## 2.0 SOUND LEVEL STANDARDS

### 2.1 LOCAL STANDARDS

All three counties in the Project area refer to the state noise standards for wind turbines. Specifically:

Cottonwood County addresses noise from wind turbines in Subdivision 7 of their Renewable Energy Ordinance which states:

*Noise is regulated by the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency under Chapter 7030. These rules establish the maximum nighttime noise and day time noise levels that effectively limit wind turbine noise to 50 dB(A) at farm residences.*

Murray County addresses noise from wind turbines in Subdivision 4 of their Renewable Energy Ordinance which states:

*All WECS shall comply with Minnesota Rules 7030, as amended, governing noise.*

Redwood County addresses noise from wind turbines in Section 153.357 of Title XV of the County Code which states:

*Noise is regulated and the regulations are enforced by the state's Pollution Control Agency under Minn. Rules Ch. 7030. These rules establish the maximum nighttime and daytime noise levels.*

### 2.2 STATE STANDARD

The Project is required to comply with the noise limits set forth in Minnesota Rules Chapter 7030. Under this standard, a residence (Noise Area Classification ("NAC") 1) is limited to a median one-hour daytime and nighttime sound level of 60 dBA (L<sub>50</sub>) and 50 dBA (L<sub>50</sub>), respectively. The limits for the 90th percentile sound levels (L<sub>10</sub>, which is the level exceeded 10% of the time over one hour) are 5 dB higher, as shown in Table 2.

**TABLE 2: MINNESOTA NOISE POLLUTION CONTROL 7030.0050 NOISE STANDARDS**

	L <sub>50</sub>	L <sub>10</sub>
Daytime	60 dBA	65 dBA
Nighttime	50 dBA	55 dBA

The noise standards in Minnesota Rules Chapter 7030 (MN noise limits) describes "the limiting levels of sound," which is total sound (source sound level plus background sound level). Wind turbine-only sound levels at 47 dBA (1-hour L<sub>50</sub>) and below ensure that sound levels 50 dBA and above are not attributable to the Project.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Application Guidance for Site Permitting of Large Wind Energy Conversion Systems in Minnesota," July 2019, MN Department of Commerce

### 3.0 EXISTING SOUND LEVELS

Background sound level monitoring was conducted throughout the Project area to quantify the existing sound levels, including the nighttime  $L_{50}$ , and to identify existing sources of sound.<sup>3</sup> The results of the monitoring were conveyed in full in the 2020 Noise Report and are summarized here for completeness.

#### 3.1 OVERVIEW

Long-term sound level monitoring occurred from August 27 to September 5, 2019 at five onsite and two offsite<sup>4</sup> monitor locations. The onsite monitors are listed in Table 3 and shown in Figure 1. Pictures and basic descriptions of the locations are provided in Appendix B. Monitors 4 and 5 represented the worst-case modeled receptors. Full monitoring results from the long-term background sound level monitoring completed in 2019 can be found in the 2020 Noise Report. The locations were selected as those with the highest modeled sound level in a prior design of the Project. In this case, Monitor 1 is no longer near any proposed Project turbines and thus it should be dropped or switched out for another site for post-construction monitoring.<sup>5</sup>

**TABLE 3: MONITOR LOCATION SUMMARY**

MONITOR	MODEL RECEPTOR ID	MODELED SOUND LEVEL (dBA)	COORDINANTES (UTM NAD 83 ZONE 15N)		PROJECT AREA	COUNTY
			X (m)	Y(m)		
Monitor 1	R-023	31 to 34	311,307	4,897,878	North	Redwood
Monitor 2	R-100	42 to 45	311,306	4,893,312	Central	Cottonwood
Monitor 3	R-286	42 to 44	304,664	4,881,389	Southwest	Murray
Monitor 4	R-319	46 to 47	298,105	4,893,932	Northeast	Cottonwood
Monitor 5	R-220	46 to 47	320,108	4,888,690	West	Murray

<sup>3</sup> Monitoring location selection was based upon the guidance provided in the Department of Commerce's "Guidance for Large Wind Energy Conversion System Noise Study Protocol and Report," July 2019. The guidance recommends a minimum of three locations within the Project area and that one monitor location be in proximity to the worst-case modeled receptor.

<sup>4</sup> Two offsite monitoring sites (located outside of the Project area) were also deployed to comply with EERA guidance at the time regarding using a parallel offsite location for determining background sound levels. Since then, the discrete shutdown method and related binning methodologies have become well accepted in Minnesota and the offsite monitors are unnecessary.

<sup>5</sup> Some candidates for a replacement site include R-292, R-322, or R-387

### 3.2 MONITORING RESULTS

The A-weighted sound level monitoring results are summarized in Table 4. The average nighttime  $L_{50}$  across all onsite monitors was 42 dBA. The nighttime A-weighted sound levels shown in Table 4, were notably affected by biogenic sounds (primarily insects). Biogenic sound is subject to seasonality and would not be present at all times during the year. To account for this, high frequency tonal sounds such as insect sounds were filtered out of the dataset using ANS weighting<sup>6</sup>. ANS weighting is the same as A-weighting (see Appendix A), except that it discounts sound levels above the 1 kHz 1/1 octave band, the frequency range in which the biogenic sounds occur. Elevated background sound levels during nighttime hours were primarily attributable to biogenic sources such as insect sounds, particularly at the Monitor 2 location. Comparing the nighttime sound levels between A-weighted and ANS-weighted levels shows that the background sound levels were generally at least 10 dB less when biogenic sound was removed. The nighttime ANS-weighted  $L_{50}$  was below 30 dBA at all monitors.

Wind near the ground was strongest and most influential at Monitor 1 and Monitor 5 because these locations were more exposed. Monitor 3 and Monitor 4 were located in more protected locations and did not experience consistently elevated winds near ground level. Vehicular traffic and aircraft overflights occurred daily through the monitoring. Agricultural equipment was observed at Monitor 2 and Monitor 3. Human-related activity such as music and social gatherings were observed at some of the monitors due to their location and the time of the year. Extraneous sources, such as recreational vehicle activity, nearby events, and wind gust exceedances were removed from the averages.

**TABLE 4: OVERALL BACKGROUND SOUND LEVEL MONITORING RESULTS (dBA OR dB-ANS)**

MONITOR	DAYTIME								NIGHTTIME							
	A-WEIGHTED				ANS-WEIGHTED				A-WEIGHTED				ANS-WEIGHTED			
	$L_{EQ}$	$L_{10}$	$L_{50}$	$L_{90}$	$L_{EQ}$	$L_{10}$	$L_{50}$	$L_{90}$	$L_{EQ}$	$L_{10}$	$L_{50}$	$L_{90}$	$L_{EQ}$	$L_{10}$	$L_{50}$	$L_{90}$
Monitor 1	44	46	42	38	41	44	36	22	40	43	39	34	33	35	23	15
Monitor 2	51	52	45	41	49	49	35	22	48	50	46	42	41	39	26	16
Monitor 3	42	46	37	31	41	45	32	22	42	47	39	35	31	34	26	17
Monitor 4	52	55	42	34	52	55	38	24	51	51	43	34	50	44	27	19
Monitor 5	43	45	41	38	37	39	28	21	44	47	43	37	28	32	23	16
Average	46	49	41	36	44	46	34	22	45	48	42	36	37	37	25	17

<sup>6</sup> ANSI S12.100, "Methods to Define and Measure the Residual Sound in Protected Natural and Quiet Residential Areas"

## 4.0 SOUND PROPAGATION MODELING

### 4.1 PROCEDURES

Sound propagation modeling for the Project was performed in accordance with the standard ISO 9613-2, “Acoustics – Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors, Part 2: General Method of Calculation.” The ISO standard states,

This part of ISO 9613 specifies an engineering method for calculating the attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors in order to predict the levels of environmental noise at a distance from a variety of sources. The method predicts the equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level ... under meteorological conditions favorable to propagation from sources of known sound emissions. These conditions are for downwind propagation ... or, equivalently, propagation under a well-developed moderate ground-based temperature inversion, such as commonly occurs at night.

The model takes into account source sound power levels, surface reflection and absorption, atmospheric absorption, geometric divergence, meteorological conditions, walls, barriers, berms, and terrain. The acoustical modeling software used here was CadnaA® Version 2023 from Datakustik GmbH which implements the ISO 9613-2 standard. CadnaA® is a widely accepted sound propagation modeling tool, used by many noise control professionals in the United States and internationally.

ISO 9613-2 assumes downwind sound propagation between every source and every receiver. Consequently, all wind directions, including the prevailing wind directions, are taken into account. The Project area was modeled with half hard and half porous ground ( $G=0.5$ ). Otherwise, no reflections (such as due to buildings) were considered. Likewise, shielding by structures and foliage attenuation was not considered. Atmospheric absorption was based on 10°C and 70% relative humidity and source contributions were considered up to 10,000 meters (6.2 miles) from each receiver. The model was laid over the USGS Digital Terrain Model to give accurate elevations throughout.

Sound levels were modeled at 461 discrete residences. All residential receivers were modeled at a 4-meter (13 foot) height above ground level. In addition, a 25-meter by 25-meter grid of receivers at 4-meters (13 feet) above ground level was set up in the model, covering about 1250 km<sup>2</sup> (480 mi<sup>2</sup>) in and around the Project area.

Wind turbines were modeled with the maximum manufacturer-specified apparent sound power level. All turbine data used is the most recent available from the manufacturer. Further, a factor of +2 dB was added to all modeled wind turbine sound levels to account for sound power and propagation uncertainty. Results calculated with these parameters represent the highest one-hour equivalent continuous sound level ( $L_{1h}$ ) with the Project operating at maximum sound emission capacity. Although all potential wind turbine locations were modeled as sources, not all of them are planned to be installed because there are some alternate locations.

The sound modeling methodology applied in this study follows the ANSI/ACP American National Standard for wind turbine sound modeling<sup>7</sup> and is in conformance with informative Annex D of ISO 9613-2.<sup>8</sup> Both standards are intended to represent the equivalent continuous sound pressure level ( $L_{eq}$ ). Although the nighttime MN noise limits are specified as  $L_{50}$ , the ANSI/ACP technical standard states that “predictions made consistent with this standard may be deemed conservative assessments of these metrics.”

Noise Reduced Operations (NRO) were specified on turbines where necessary to limit the projected turbine-only sound level to 47 dBA at night. Summary tables with modeling parameters, NRO mode specification for each layout, and additional equipment noise source information are provided in Appendix C.

## 4.2 RESULTS

### Overall A-weighted Model Results

Modeled turbine-only sound levels were 47 dBA or below at all residences for all scenarios modeled. Maps with contour lines representing Project generated sound levels for each turbine model are shown Figure 2, Figure 3, Figure 4, and Figure 5. Sound level results are presented as contour lines representing 5-dB increments of calculated A-weighted sound pressure levels. The 47 dBA line represents the effective turbine-only MN noise limit for the Project.

Appendix D provides a list of the calculated sound pressure levels at each receiver in tabular format. Additionally, a series of maps are provided showing all receiver and turbine identification numbers for reference.

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<sup>7</sup> ANSI/ACP Standard 111-1, “Wind Turbine Sound Modeling,” American National Standards Institute, 2022.

<sup>8</sup> ISO 9613-2. Attenuation of sound during propagation outdoors — Part 2: Engineering method for the prediction of sound pressure levels outdoors. Annex D (informative): Calculation of sound pressure levels caused by wind turbines, 2024.



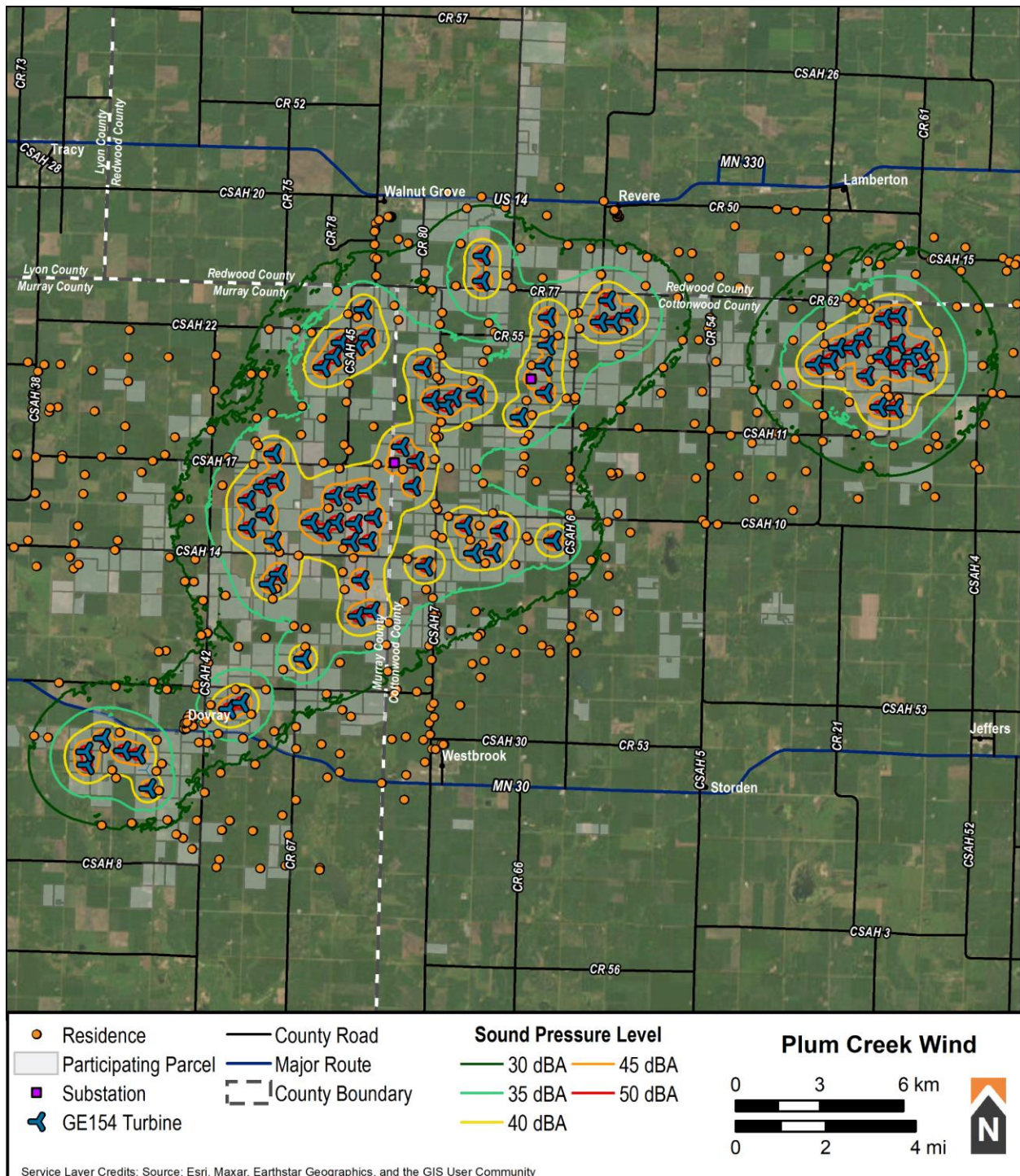


FIGURE 2: PROJECT SOUND PROPAGATION MODELING RESULTS – GE154



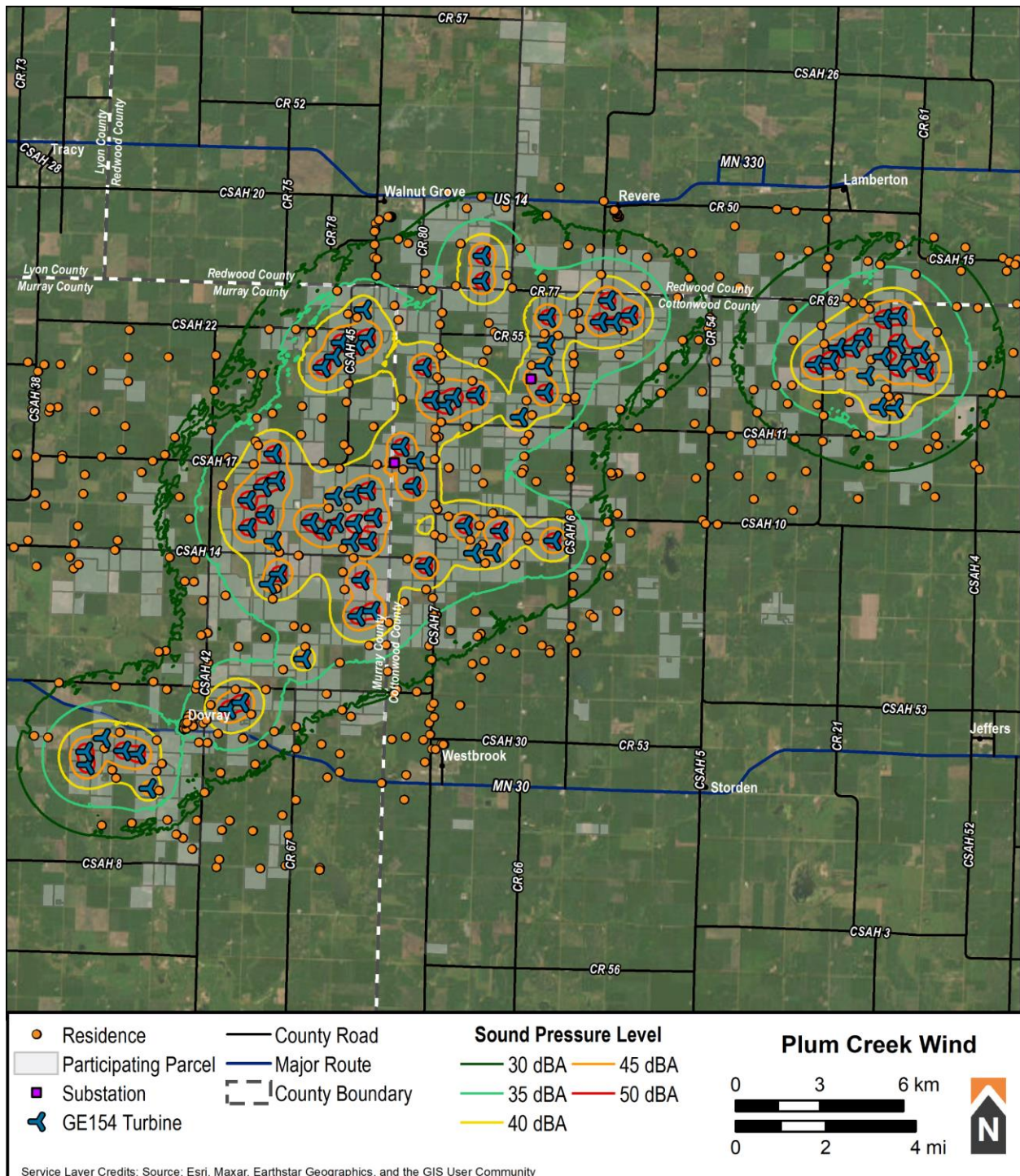


FIGURE 3: PROJECT SOUND PROPAGATION MODELING RESULTS – GE158



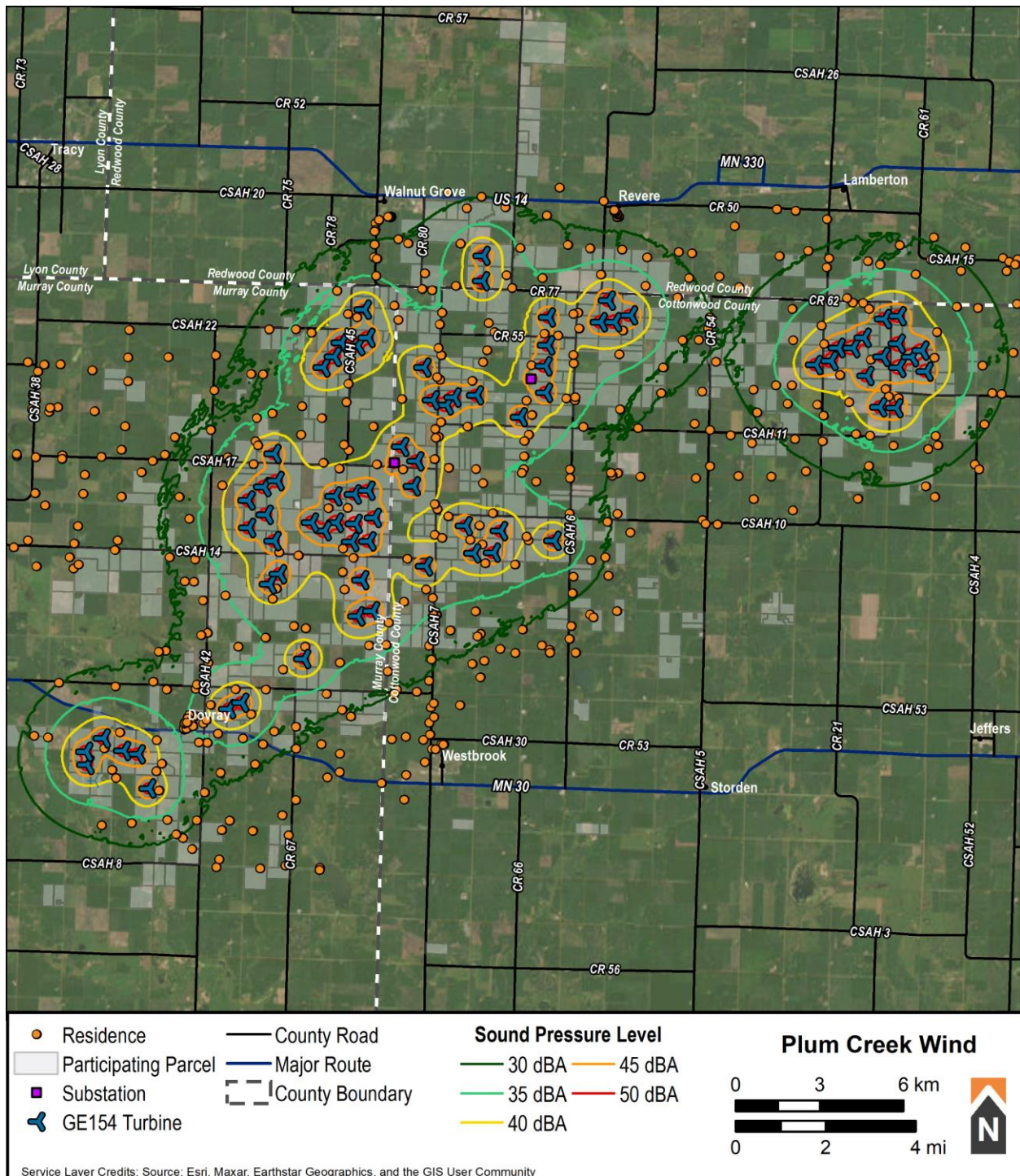


FIGURE 4: PROJECT SOUND PROPAGATION MODELING RESULTS – V150



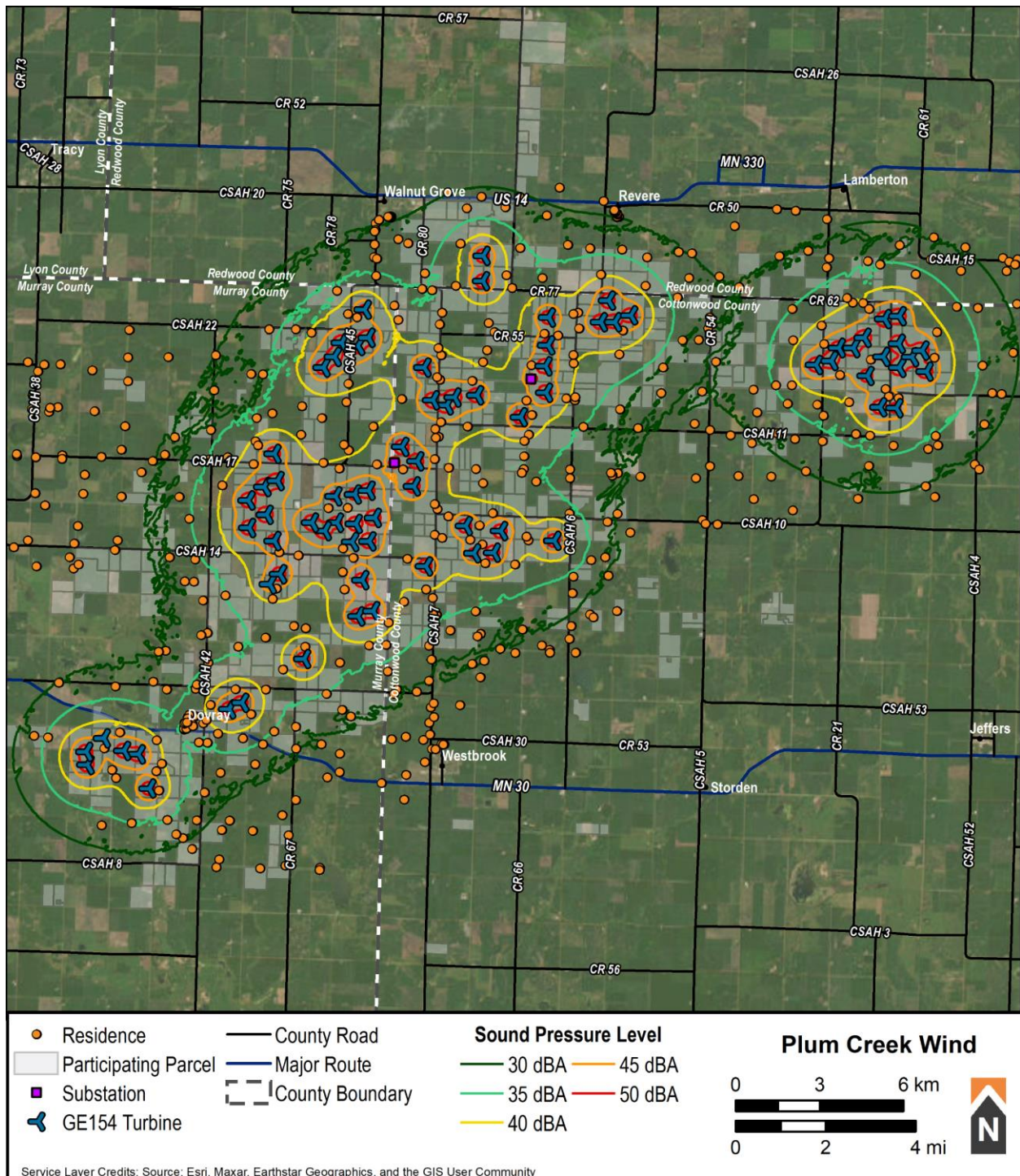


FIGURE 5: PROJECT SOUND PROPAGATION MODELING RESULTS – V163

## 5.0 CONCLUSION

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The Plum Creek Wind Farm is a proposed wind power generation facility in Cottonwood, Murray, and Redwood counties of Minnesota. As the Project is still in the planning stages, four distinct wind turbine models were considered: GE 154, GE 158, V150, and V163. All potential 78 wind turbine locations were modeled for each turbine type. Though only 68 to 77 turbines are planned to be installed, depending on turbine type, for a total project capacity of 414 MW.

As part of the original application filing for this Project, RSG conducted background sound monitoring in the Project area between August 27 to September 5, 2019. The monitoring determined that the average nighttime  $L_{50}$  across all onsite monitors was 42 dBA; when biogenic sound was removed (to represent other seasons like winter), median nighttime sound levels ( $L_{50}$ ) were below 30 dBA.

Expected turbine-only sound levels at all residential receivers in the Project area were at or below 47 dBA for modeled scenarios. All alternates were included in the sound level model, so the actual sound levels will be less at locations near the wind turbines that are not constructed. The modeled equivalent continuous sound level ( $L_{eq}$ ) is a conservative value (i.e., over-prediction) of the MN noise limit sound level metric ( $L_{50}$ ). Thus, we conclude that with the noise reduced operations specified for each specific turbine layout, the Project will meet the MN noise limits.

## APPENDIX A. NOISE PRIMER

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### ***Expressing Sound in Decibel Levels***

The varying air pressure that constitutes sound can be characterized in many different ways. The human ear is the basis for the metrics that are used in acoustics. Normal human hearing is sensitive to sound fluctuations over an enormous range of pressures, from about 20 micropascals (the “threshold of audibility”) to about 20 pascals (the “threshold of pain”).<sup>9</sup> This factor of one million in sound pressure difference is challenging to convey in engineering units. Instead, sound pressure is converted to sound “levels” in units of “decibels” (dB, named after Alexander Graham Bell). Once a measured sound is converted to dB, it is denoted as a level with the letter “L”.

The conversion from sound pressure in pascals to sound level in dB is a four-step process. First, the sound wave’s measured amplitude is squared and the mean is taken. Second, a ratio is taken between the mean square sound pressure and the square of the threshold of audibility (20 micropascals). Third, using the logarithm function, the ratio is converted to factors of 10. The final result is multiplied by 10 to give the decibel level. By this decibel scale, sound levels range from 0 dB at the threshold of audibility to 120 dB at the threshold of pain.

Typical sound sources, and their sound pressure levels, are listed on the scale in Figure 6.

### ***Human Response to Sound Levels: Apparent Loudness***

For every 20 dB increase in sound level, the sound pressure increases by a *factor* of 10; the sound *level* range from 0 dB to 120 dB covers 6 factors of 10, or one million, in sound *pressure*. However, for an increase of 10 dB in sound *level* as measured by a meter, humans perceive an approximate doubling of apparent loudness: to the human ear, a sound level of 70 dB sounds about “twice as loud” as a sound level of 60 dB. Smaller changes in sound level, less than 3 dB up or down, are generally not perceptible.

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<sup>9</sup> The pascal is a measure of pressure in the metric system. In Imperial units, they are themselves very small: one pascal is only 145 millionths of a pound per square inch (psi). The sound pressure at the threshold of audibility is only 3 one-billionths of one psi: at the threshold of pain, it is about 3 one-thousandths of one psi.

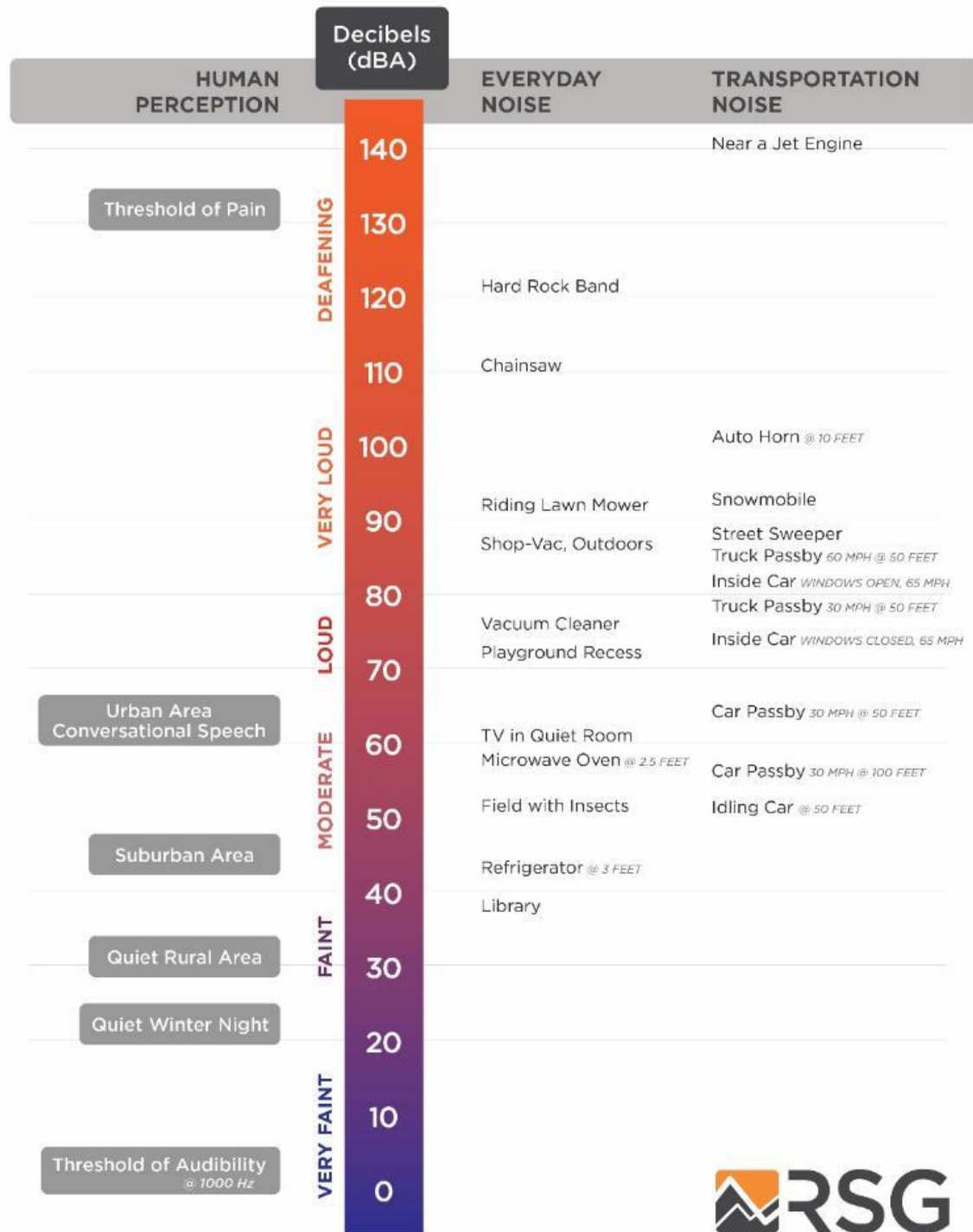


FIGURE 6: A SCALE OF SOUND PRESSURE LEVELS FOR TYPICAL SOUND SOURCES



### ***Frequency Spectrum of Sound***

The “frequency” of a sound is the rate at which it fluctuates in time, expressed in Hertz (Hz), or cycles per second. Very few sounds occur at only one frequency: most sound contains energy at many different frequencies, and it can be broken down into different frequency divisions, or bands. These bands are similar to musical pitches, from low tones to high tones. The most common division is the standard octave band. An octave is the range of frequencies whose upper frequency limit is twice its lower frequency limit, exactly like an octave in music. An octave band is identified by its center frequency: each successive band’s center frequency is twice as high (one octave) as the previous band. For example, the 500 Hz octave band includes all sound whose frequencies range between 354 Hz (Hertz, or cycles per second) and 707 Hz. The next band is centered at 1,000 Hz with a range between 707 Hz and 1,414 Hz. The range of human hearing is divided into 10 standard octave bands: 31.5 Hz, 63 Hz, 125 Hz, 250 Hz, 500 Hz, 1,000 Hz, 2,000 Hz, 4,000 Hz, 8,000 Hz, and 16,000 Hz. For analyses that require finer frequency detail, each octave-band can be subdivided. A commonly-used subdivision creates three smaller bands within each octave band, or so-called 1/3-octave bands.

### ***Human Response to Frequency: Weighting of Sound Levels***

The human ear is not equally sensitive to sounds of all frequencies. Sounds at some frequencies seem louder than others, despite having the same decibel level as measured by a sound level meter. In particular, human hearing is much more sensitive to medium pitches (from about 500 Hz to about 4,000 Hz) than to very low or very high pitches. For example, a tone measuring 80 dB at 500 Hz (a medium pitch) sounds quite a bit louder than a tone measuring 80 dB at 60 Hz (a very low pitch). The frequency response of normal human hearing ranges from 20 Hz to 20,000 Hz. Below 20 Hz, sound pressure fluctuations are not “heard”, but sometimes can be “felt”. This is known as “infrasound”. Likewise, above 20,000 Hz, sound can no longer be heard by humans; this is known as “ultrasound”. As humans age, they tend to lose the ability to hear higher frequencies first; many adults do not hear very well above about 16,000 Hz. Most natural and man-made sound occurs in the range from about 40 Hz to about 4,000 Hz. Some insects and birdsongs reach to about 8,000 Hz.

To adjust measured sound pressure levels so that they mimic human hearing response, sound level meters apply filters, known as “frequency weightings”, to the signals. There are several defined weighting scales, including “A”, “B”, “C”, “D”, “G”, and “Z”. The most common weighting scale used in environmental noise analysis and regulation is A-weighting. This weighting represents the sensitivity of the human ear to sounds of low to moderate level. It attenuates sounds with frequencies below 1000 Hz and above 4000 Hz; it amplifies very slightly sounds between 1000 Hz and 4000 Hz, where the human ear is particularly sensitive. The C-weighting scale is sometimes used to describe louder sounds. The B- and D- scales are seldom used. All of these frequency weighting scales are normalized to the average human hearing response at 1000 Hz: at this frequency, the filters neither attenuate nor amplify. G-weighting is a standardized weighting used to evaluate infrasound.

When a reported sound level has been filtered using a frequency weighting, the letter is appended to “dB”. For example, sound with A-weighting is usually denoted “dBA”. When no filtering is applied, the level is denoted “dB” or “dBZ”. The letter is also appended as a subscript to the level indicator “L”, for example “L<sub>A</sub>” for A-weighted levels.

### ***Time Response of Sound Level Meters***

Because sound levels can vary greatly from one moment to the next, the time over which sound is measured can influence the value of the levels reported. Often, sound is measured in real time, as it fluctuates. In this case, acousticians apply a so-called “time response” to the sound level meter, and this time response is often part of regulations for measuring sound. If the sound level is varying slowly, over a few seconds, “Slow” time response is applied, with a time constant of one second. If the sound level is varying quickly (for example, if brief events are mixed into the overall sound), “Fast” time response can be applied, with a time constant of one-eighth of a second.<sup>10</sup> The time response setting for a sound level measurement is indicated with the subscript “S” for Slow and “F” for Fast: L<sub>S</sub> or L<sub>F</sub>. A sound level meter set to Fast time response will indicate higher sound levels than one set to Slow time response when brief events are mixed into the overall sound, because it can respond more quickly.

In some cases, the maximum sound level that can be generated by a source is of concern. Likewise, the minimum sound level occurring during a monitoring period may be required. To measure these, the sound level meter can be set to capture and hold the highest and lowest levels measured during a given monitoring period. This is represented by the subscript “max”, denoted as “L<sub>max</sub>”. One can define a “max” level with Fast response L<sub>Fmax</sub> (1/8-second time constant), Slow time response L<sub>Smax</sub> (1-second time constant), or Continuous Equivalent level over a specified time period L<sub>eq,max</sub>.

### ***Accounting for Changes in Sound Over Time***

A sound level meter’s time response settings are useful for continuous monitoring. However, they are less useful in summarizing sound levels over longer periods. To do so, acousticians apply simple statistics to the measured sound levels, resulting in a set of defined types of sound level related to averages over time. An example is shown in Figure 7. The sound level at each instant of time is the grey trace going from left to right. Over the total time it was measured (1 hour in the figure), the sound energy spends certain fractions of time near various levels, ranging from the minimum (about 27 dB in the figure) to the maximum (about 65 dB in the figure). The simplest descriptor is the average sound level, known as the Equivalent Continuous Sound Level. Statistical levels are used to determine for what percentage of time the sound is louder than any given level. These levels are described in the following sections.

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<sup>10</sup> There is a third time response defined by standards, the “Impulse” response. This response was defined to enable use of older, analog meters when measuring very brief sounds; it is no longer in common use.

### Equivalent Continuous Sound Level - $L_{eq}$

One straightforward, common way of describing sound levels is in terms of the Continuous Equivalent Sound Level, or  $L_{eq}$ . The  $L_{eq}$  is the average sound pressure level over a defined period of time, such as one hour or one day.  $L_{eq}$  is the most commonly used descriptor in noise standards and regulations.  $L_{eq}$  is representative of the overall sound to which a person is exposed. Because of the logarithmic calculation of decibels,  $L_{eq}$  tends to favor higher sound levels: loud and infrequent sources have a larger impact on the resulting average sound level than quieter but more frequent sounds. For example, in Figure 7, even though the sound levels spends most of the time near about 34 dBA, the  $L_{eq}$  is 41 dBA, having been “inflated” by the maximum level of 65 dBA and other occasional spikes over the course of the hour.

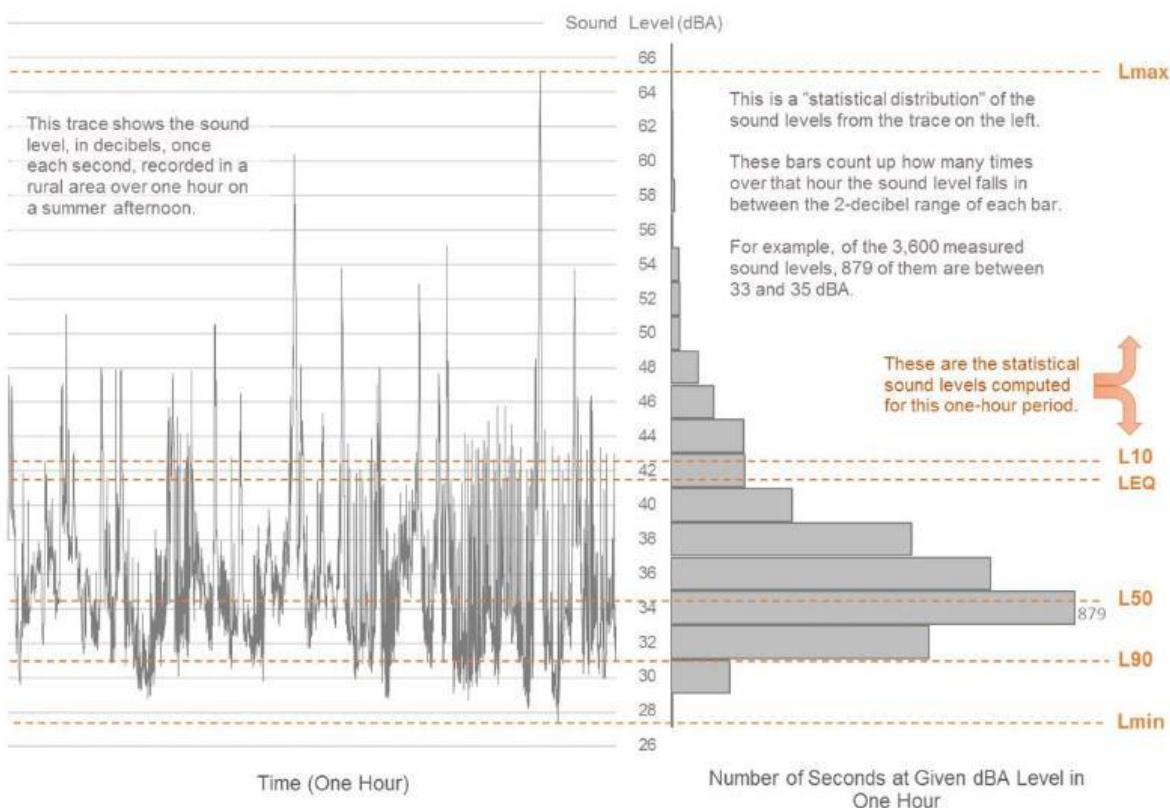


FIGURE 7: EXAMPLE OF DESCRIPTIVE TERMS OF SOUND MEASUREMENT OVER TIME

### Percentile Sound Levels – $L_n$

Percentile sound levels describe the statistical distribution of sound levels over time. " $L_N$ " is the level above which the sound spends "N" percent of the time. For example,  $L_{90}$  (sometimes called the "residual base level") is the sound level exceeded 90% of the time: the sound is louder than  $L_{90}$  most of the time.  $L_{10}$  is the sound level that is exceeded only 10% of the time. (the "median level") is exceeded 50% of the time: half of the time the sound is louder than , and

half the time it is quieter than . Note that (median) and  $L_{eq}$  (mean pressure) are not always the same, for reasons described in the previous section.

The  $L_{90}$  is the sound that persists for longer periods, and below which the overall sound level seldom falls. It tends to filter out other short-term environmental sounds that aren't part of the source being investigated.  $L_{10}$  represents the higher, but less frequent, sound levels. These could include such events as barking dogs, vehicles driving by and aircraft flying overhead, gusts of wind, and work operations.  $L_{90}$  represents the background sound that is present when these event sounds are excluded.

Note that if one sound source is very constant and dominates the soundscape in an area, all of the descriptive sound levels mentioned here tend toward the same value. It is when the sound is varying widely from one moment to the next that the statistical descriptors are useful.

## Wind Turbine Acoustics

### Sources of Sound Generation by Wind Turbines

Wind turbines generate two principal types of noise: aerodynamic noise, produced from the flow of air around the blades, and mechanical noise, produced from mechanical and electrical components within the nacelle.

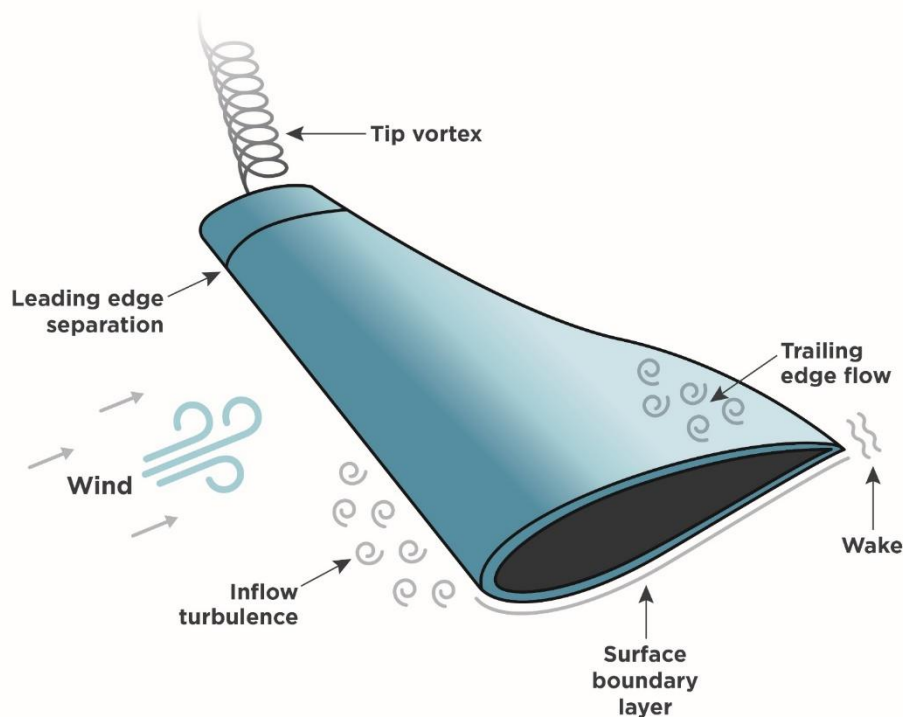
Aerodynamic noise is the primary source of noise associated with wind turbines. These acoustic emissions can be either tonal or broad band. Tonal noise occurs at discrete frequencies, whereas broadband noise is distributed with little peaking across the frequency spectrum.

While unusual, tonal noise can also originate from unstable air flows over holes, slits, or blunt trailing edges on blades. Most modern wind turbines have upwind rotors designed to prevent blade impulsive noise. Therefore, the majority of audible aerodynamic noise from wind turbines is broadband at the middle frequencies, roughly between 200 Hz and 1,000 Hz.

Wind turbines emit aerodynamic broadband noise as the spinning blades interact with atmospheric turbulence and as air flows along their surfaces. This produces a characteristic “whooshing” sound through several mechanisms (Figure 8):

- Inflow turbulence noise occurs when the rotor blades encounter atmospheric turbulence as they pass through the air. Uneven pressure on a rotor blade causes variations in the local angle of attack, which affects the lift and drag forces, causing aerodynamic loading fluctuations. This generates noise that varies across a wide range of frequencies but is most significant at frequencies below 500 Hz.
- Trailing edge noise is produced as boundary-layer turbulence as the air passes into the wake, or trailing edge, of the blade. This noise is distributed across a wide frequency range but is most notable at high frequencies between 700 Hz and 2 kHz.

- Tip vortex noise occurs when tip turbulence interacts with the surface of the blade tip. While this is audible near the turbine, it tends to be a small component of the overall noise further away.
- Stall or separation noise occurs due to the interaction of turbulence with the blade surface.



**FIGURE 8: AIRFLOW AROUND A ROTOR BLADE**

Mechanical sound from machinery inside the nacelle tends to be tonal in nature but can also have a broadband component. Potential sources of mechanical noise include the gearbox, generator, yaw drives, cooling fans, and auxiliary equipment. These components are housed within the nacelle, whose surfaces, if untreated, radiate the resulting noise. However modern wind turbines have nacelles that are designed to reduce internal noise, and rarely is the mechanical noise a significant portion of the total noise from a wind turbine.

## **Amplitude Modulation**

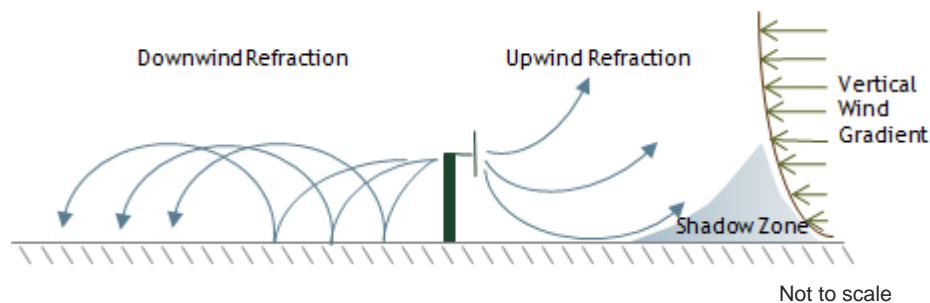
Amplitude modulation (AM) is a fluctuation in sound level that occurs at the blade passage frequency. No consistent definition exists for how much of a sound level fluctuation is necessary for blade swish to be considered AM, however sound level fluctuations in A-weighted sound level can range up to 10 dB. Fluctuations in individual 1/3 octave bands are typically more and can exceed 15 dB. Fluctuations in individual 1/3 octave bands can sometimes synchronize and desynchronize over periods, leading to increases and decreases in magnitude of the A-weighted fluctuations. Similarly, in wind farms with multiple turbines, fluctuations can

synchronize and desynchronize, leading to variations in AM depth.<sup>11</sup> Most amplitude modulation is in the mid frequencies and most overall A-weighted AM is less than 4.5 dB in depth.<sup>12</sup>

Many confirmed and hypothesized causes of AM exist, including: blade passage in front of the tower, blade tip sound emission directivity, wind shear, inflow turbulence, and turbine blade yaw error. It has recently been noted that although wind shear can contribute to the extent of AM, wind shear does not contribute to the existence of AM in and of itself. Instead, there needs to be detachment of airflow from the blades for wind shear to contribute to AM.<sup>13</sup> While factors like the blade passing in front of the tower are intrinsic to wind turbine design, other factors vary with turbine design, local meteorology, topography, and turbine layout. Mountainous areas, for example, are more likely to have turbulent airflow, less likely to have high wind shear, and less likely to have turbine layouts that allow for blade passage synchronization for multiple turbines. AM extent varies with the relative location of a receiver to the turbine. AM is usually experienced most when the receiver is between 45 and 60 degrees from the downwind or upwind position and is experienced least directly with the receiver directly upwind or downwind of the turbines.

## Meteorology

Meteorological conditions can significantly affect sound propagation. The two most important conditions to consider are wind shear and temperature lapse. Wind shear is the difference in wind speeds by elevation and temperature lapse rate is the temperature gradient by elevation. In conditions with high wind shear (large wind speed gradient), sound levels upwind from the source tend to decrease and sound levels downwind tend to increase due to the refraction, or bending, of the sound (Figure 9).



**FIGURE 9: SCHEMATIC OF THE REFRACTION OF SOUND DUE TO VERTICAL WIND GRADIENT (WIND SHEAR)**

With temperature lapse, when ground surface temperatures are higher than those aloft, sound will tend to refract upwards, leading to lower sound levels near the ground. The opposite is true when ground temperatures are lower than those aloft (an inversion condition).

<sup>11</sup> McCunney, Robert, et al. "Wind Turbines and Health: A Critical Review of the Scientific Literature." *Journal of Occupational and Environmental Medicine*. 56(11) November 2014: pp. e108-e130.

<sup>12</sup> RSG, et al., "Massachusetts Study on Wind Turbine Acoustics," Massachusetts Clean Energy Center and Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, 2016

<sup>13</sup> "Wind Turbine Amplitude Modulation: Research to Improve Understanding as to its Cause and Effect." *RenewableUK*. December 2013.



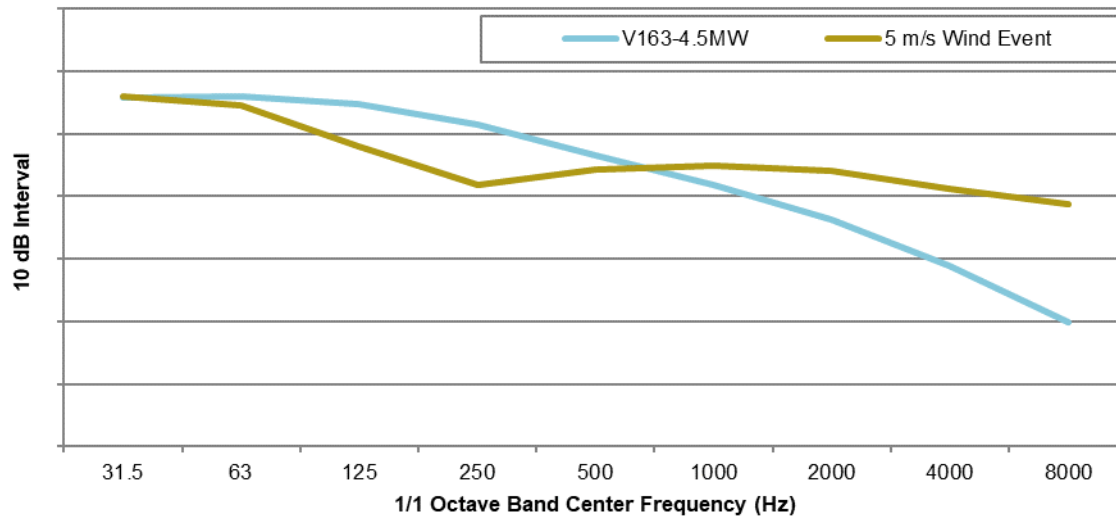
High winds and high solar radiation can create turbulence which tends to break up and dissipate sound energy. Highly stable atmospheres, which tend to occur on clear nights with low ground-level wind speeds, tend to minimize atmospheric turbulence and are generally more favorable to downwind propagation.

In general terms, sound propagates along the ground best under stable conditions with a strong temperature inversion. This tends to occur during the night and is characterized by low ground-level winds. As a result, worst-case conditions for wind turbines tend to occur downwind under moderate nighttime temperature inversions. Therefore, this is the default condition for modeling wind turbine sound.

### **Masking**

As mentioned above, sound levels from wind turbines are a function of wind speed. Background sound is also a function of wind speed, i.e., the stronger the winds, the louder the resulting background sound. This effect is amplified in areas covered by trees and other vegetation.

The sound from a wind turbine can often be masked by wind noise at downwind receivers because the frequency spectrum from wind is similar to the frequency spectrum from a wind turbine. Figure 10 compares the shape of the sound spectrum measured during a 5 m/s wind event to that of the Vestas 163 4.5 MW wind turbine. As shown, the shapes of the spectra are similar at lower frequencies. In the mid frequencies, the wind turbine sounds are above the masking wind noise. At higher frequencies, the sounds from the masking wind noise are higher than the wind turbine. As a result, the masking of high frequency turbine noise occurs at higher wind speeds for some meteorological conditions. Masking will occur most when ground wind speeds are relatively high, creating wind-caused noise such as wind blowing through the trees and interaction of wind with structures.



**FIGURE 10: COMPARISON OF NORMALIZED FREQUENCY SPECTRA MEASURED FROM A 5 M/S WIND EVENT AND THE SOUND POWER SPECTRA FROM THE VESTAS 163 4.5 MW TURBINE<sup>14</sup>**

It is important to note that while winds may be blowing at turbine height, there may be little to no wind at ground level. This is especially true during strong wind gradients (high wind shear), which mostly occur at night. This can also occur on the leeward side of ridges where the ridge blocks the wind.

<sup>14</sup> The purpose of this Figure is to show the shapes to two spectra relative to one another and not the actual sound level of the two sources of sound. The level of each source was normalized independently.

## **APPENDIX B. MONITOR LOCATION DESCRIPTIONS**

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### **Monitor 1**

Monitor 1 was located near the northern extent of the Project area in Redwood County, MN. It was approximately 60 meters (200 feet) south of 110<sup>th</sup> Street, and 710 meters (1,850 feet) west of Frontier Avenue in Revere, Minnesota. A photograph of the monitor setup is shown in Figure 11.



**FIGURE 11: PHOTOGRAPH OF MONITOR 1, FACING EAST (2019-09-03)**

## Monitor 2

Monitor 2 was located centrally within the Project area in Walnut Grove, which is in Cottonwood County, MN. It was situated 25 meters (80 feet) south of 220th Street, and 43 meters (140 feet) west of County Road 7. While the broader area was predominantly agricultural, three residences with associated agricultural buildings and infrastructure were in the immediate vicinity of the monitor. A photograph of the monitor setup is shown in Figure 12.



FIGURE 12: PHOTOGRAPH OF MONITOR 2, FACING NORTH (2019-09-03)



### Monitor 3

Monitor 3 was placed in the southwest portion of the Project area in Murray County, MN. It was located 170 meters (550 feet) from 270<sup>th</sup> Avenue, and 775 meters (2,550 feet) north of 141<sup>st</sup> Street in Dorvay. This location is 6.9 kilometers (4.3 miles) northeast of the City of Westbrook. A photograph of the monitor setup is shown in Figure 13.



**FIGURE 13: PHOTOGRAPH OF MONITOR 3, FACING NORTHEAST (2019-09-03)**



## Monitor 4

Monitor 4 was located in the northeastern section of the Project area in Cottonwood County, MN. The monitor was set up in a mowed field at a homestead situated next to a stream and goo area. The monitor was placed 300 meters (1000 feet) north of 215<sup>th</sup> Street and 750 meters (2500 feet) west of 420<sup>th</sup> Avenue (Country Road 54). A photograph of the monitor setup is shown in Figure 14.



FIGURE 14: PHOTOGRAPH OF MONITOR 4, FACING NORTHEAST (2019-09-03)



## Monitor 5

Monitor 5 was located on a parcel bordered by agricultural fields under active corn production in Murray County, MN. During the monitoring period, the home on the parcel was not inhabited, but a horse was fenced into the homestead area. The monitor was located at the rear of the homestead, about 100 meters (330 feet) from 191<sup>st</sup> Street and 600 meters west of 290<sup>th</sup> Avenue (County Road 45). A photograph of the monitor setup is shown in Figure 15.



FIGURE 15: PHOTOGRAPH OF MONITOR 5, FACING EAST (2019-09-03)

## APPENDIX C. SOUND MODELING DETAILS

**TABLE 5: SOUND PROPAGATION MODELING PARAMETERS**

Parameter	Setting
Ground Absorption	Spectral for all sources, mixed ground (G=0.5)
Atmospheric Attenuation	Based on 10° Celsius, 70% relative humidity
Structure Reflections	None
Receiver Height	4 meters above ground level for receivers and grid
Search Distance	10,000 meters

**TABLE 6: SUBSTATION LOCATIONS AND TRANSFORMER SOUND POWERS**

Substation	Sound Power Level (dBA)	Source Height (m)	Coordinates (UTM NAD83 Zone 15N)		
			X	Y	Z
Southwest	105	3	303120	4890281	427
Northeast	105	3	307999	4893274	391

Table 7 (on the pages that follows) provides the locations and sound power levels of all sources in the model. Some abbreviations in the table are as follows:

- SWL = Overall sound power level (dBA) in model (includes +2 dB)
- HH = Hub height (in meters)
- Z = Ground elevation at turbine location (in meters)

Alternate turbines in Table 7 are indicated in grey for layouts where applicable and coordinates are listed in UTM NAD83 Zone 15 North.

TABLE 7: PROJECT SCENARIO INFORMATION TABLE

	GE154			GE158			V150			V163			COORDINATES		
NAME	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	X (m)	Y (m)	Z (m)
T-01	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	294316	4788637	471
T-02	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	292108	4879480	464
T-03	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	293937	4879860	468
T-04	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	292057	4879950	471
T-05	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	293413	4879991	471
T-06	NRO_G	105	98	<i>NRO_101</i>	<i>103</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>V150</i>	<i>107</i>	<i>120</i>	SO3	102	113	292686	4880429	476
T-07	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	297170	4881469	452
T-08	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	297637	4881702	447
T-09	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	299855	4883271	441
T-10	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	301789	4884796	438
T-11	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	302317	4884977	436
T-12	NRO_G	105	98	<i>NRO_100</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>LO2</i>	<i>105.7</i>	<i>120</i>	SO3	102	113	298628	4885947	445
T-13	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	301926	4886085	433
T-14	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	298987	4886307	441
T-15	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	304214	4886583	426
T-16	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	LO2	105.7	120	<i>SO2</i>	<i>105.5</i>	<i>113</i>	305931	4887046	426
T-17	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	306633	4887062	428
T-18	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_100	102	117	LO2	105.7	120	SO3	102	113	301574	4887452	429
T-19	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	302193	4887475	428
T-20	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO1	107	113	298790	4887485	445
T-21	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO2	105.5	113	301025	4888147	432
T-22	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	300586	4887838	436
T-23	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	306897	4887842	424
T-24	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	297882	4887951	445
T-25	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	305628	4888022	429
T-26	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	308801	4887499	417

# Plum Creek Wind Pre-Construction Noise Assessment 2024

	GE154			GE158			V150			V163			COORDINATES		
NAME	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	X (m)	Y (m)	Z (m)
T-27	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	LO1	106.9	120	SO1	107	113	301701	4888104	429
T-28	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	300136	4888149	435
T-29	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	302374	4888316	430
T-30	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	298514	4888425	441
T-31	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	297865	4888943	438
T-32	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO2	105.5	113	300968	4889088	431
T-33	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	LO2	105.7	120	SO2	105.5	113	301657	4889156	431
T-34	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	302154	4889284	432
T-35	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	303780	4889442	426
T-36	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	298430	4889416	438
T-37	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	298902	4889632	435
T-38	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	303903	4890334	419
T-39	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	298791	4890603	431
T-40	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	303367	4890855	421
T-41	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	307598	4891913	397
T-42	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	320448	4892275	365
T-43	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO2	105.5	113	321030	4892236	358
T-44	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	304947	4892337	404
T-45	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	304452	4892516	406
T-46	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	305232	4892622	399
T-47	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	306028	4892693	397
T-48	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	308508	4892786	388
T-49	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO1	107	113	319991	4893383	351
T-50	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	322109	4893550	351
T-51	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	304159	4893694	402
T-52	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	321132	4893674	352
T-53	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	300550	4893694	415

# Plum Creek Wind Pre-Construction Noise Assessment 2024

	GE154			GE158			V150			V163			COORDINATES		
NAME	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	TURBINE MODE	SWL (dBA)	HH (m)	X (m)	Y (m)	Z (m)
T-54	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	308477	4893730	382
T-55	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	318161	4893779	353
T-56	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	318710	4893928	355
T-57	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	321587	4894058	352
T-58	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	300953	4894065	413
T-59	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	LO2	105.7	120	SO3	102	113	320562	4894067	352
T-60	NRO_D	107	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	321956	4894297	350
T-61	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO1	107	113	318963	4894380	360
T-62	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	319485	4894387	359
T-63	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	301789	4894460	411
T-64	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO1	107	113	308583	4894483	376
T-65	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	321109	4894540	351
T-66	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	301197	4894576	409
T-67	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	319890	4894747	353
T-68	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	302152	4894754	403
T-69	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	310456	4895312	369
T-70	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	V150	107	120	SO1	107	113	310974	4895314	368
T-71	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	320618	4895421	352
T-72	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	308607	4895479	370
T-73	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	321151	4895525	351
T-74	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	311541	4895547	365
T-75	NRO_G	105	98	NRO_101	103	117	LO2	105.7	120	SO2	105.5	113	302017	4895758	396
T-76	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	310746	4896086	364
T-77	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	306249	4896771	371
T-78	NRO_D	107	98	GE158	109.5	117	V150	107	120	V163	108.3	113	306268	4897675	366



## APPENDIX D. RECEPTOR RESULTS

Table 8 provides discrete receptor results for each residential receptor for each turbine scenario. In the Parcel Status Column, “NP” stands for Non-Participating and “P” stands for Participating.

Figure 16 through Figure 20 are maps that identify receivers by “Receiver ID” and Project turbines by turbine number throughout the Project area.

**TABLE 8: DISCRETE RECEPTOR RESULTS (dBA)**

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_001	NP	28	29	29	30
R_002	NP	28	29	29	30
R_003	NP	28	29	29	31
R_004	NP	29	30	30	32
R_005	NP	29	30	30	32
R_006	NP	27	28	28	30
R_007	NP	27	28	28	29
R_008	NP	27	29	28	30
R_009	NP	27	29	28	30
R_010	NP	27	28	28	30
R_011	NP	27	28	28	30
R_012	NP	30	31	31	32
R_013	NP	37	39	38	39
R_014	P	30	32	31	33
R_015	NP	27	29	28	30
R_016	NP	28	30	30	31
R_017	P	30	32	31	32
R_018	NP	28	30	29	30
R_019	NP	28	30	30	31
R_020	NP	31	32	32	33
R_021	NP	31	33	33	34
R_022	NP	37	39	38	39
R_023	P	31	33	33	34
R_024	P	31	33	32	34
R_025	P	36	38	37	38
R_026	NP	31	33	33	34
R_027	NP	29	30	30	31
R_028	NP	27	29	29	30
R_029	NP	28	29	29	30
R_030	NP	25	26	26	28

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_031	NP	26	28	28	29
R_032	NP	25	26	26	27
R_033	NP	26	27	27	28
R_034	NP	27	28	28	29
R_035	NP	28	29	30	31
R_036	P	32	34	33	35
R_037	P	33	35	34	35
R_038	P	25	27	27	29
R_039	P	34	35	35	36
R_040	NP	31	32	32	33
R_041	NP	30	31	31	32
R_042	NP	22	24	25	26
R_043	NP	26	28	28	29
R_044	NP	26	27	27	28
R_045	NP	25	26	26	27
R_046	NP	26	27	27	28
R_047	NP	26	26	27	28
R_048	NP	27	28	28	29
R_049	NP	31	32	32	33
R_050	NP	33	34	35	36
R_051	NP	38	40	39	40
R_052	NP	39	41	41	42
R_053	NP	29	31	31	32
R_054	NP	31	32	32	33
R_055	P	39	40	40	41
R_056	NP	33	34	34	35
R_057	NP	28	29	29	30
R_058	NP	27	28	29	30
R_059	NP	29	30	30	31
R_060	P	44	45	46	46
R_061	P	40	42	42	43
R_062	P	40	42	41	42
R_063	P	40	42	41	42
R_064	P	42	43	44	45
R_065	P	44	44	46	46
R_066	NP	34	36	36	37
R_067	NP	36	39	38	39
R_068	NP	33	36	35	36
R_069	NP	38	40	39	40
R_070	NP	37	39	38	39
R_071	NP	32	34	34	35

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_072	P	33	35	34	36
R_073	P	32	34	34	35
R_074	NP	31	32	32	33
R_075	P	31	32	32	33
R_076	P	33	34	35	36
R_077	P	44	44	45	46
R_078	P	41	42	42	43
R_079	P	44	45	45	46
R_080	P	39	40	40	41
R_081	NP	36	38	38	39
R_082	P	35	37	37	38
R_083	NP	35	37	36	38
R_084	NP	36	38	38	39
R_085	NP	37	38	38	39
R_086	NP	38	39	40	40
R_087	P	38	38	39	39
R_088	NP	37	38	38	39
R_089	P	41	42	42	43
R_090	P	40	40	41	41
R_091	P	46	46	46	47
R_092	P	41	41	42	43
R_093	NP	40	42	42	43
R_094	NP	39	41	41	42
R_095	P	40	41	41	42
R_096	P	42	45	43	45
R_097	NP	37	39	38	40
R_098	NP	38	41	40	41
R_099	P	43	45	44	45
R_100	P	43	45	44	45
R_101	NP	40	42	41	42
R_102	P	38	41	39	41
R_103	NP	34	36	35	37
R_104	NP	34	36	36	37
R_105	NP	36	37	37	38
R_106	NP	36	38	38	39
R_107	NP	39	41	40	42
R_108	P	43	45	44	45
R_109	NP	36	37	37	38
R_110	NP	37	39	38	40
R_111	NP	35	36	37	38
R_112	P	35	37	36	38

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_113	P	45	44	46	47
R_114	P	42	42	43	44
R_115	P	42	42	44	46
R_116	P	38	38	40	41
R_117	P	36	37	39	40
R_118	P	33	34	35	37
R_119	P	33	35	35	36
R_120	NP	33	35	35	36
R_121	NP	33	34	34	36
R_122	NP	38	40	40	41
R_123	P	36	37	37	39
R_124	P	36	37	38	39
R_125	NP	38	39	40	41
R_126	P	38	39	40	41
R_127	NP	32	33	34	35
R_128	NP	30	31	32	33
R_129	NP	29	29	30	31
R_130	P	29	30	30	31
R_131	P	36	38	38	39
R_132	P	30	31	32	33
R_133	NP	30	32	32	33
R_134	NP	29	30	31	32
R_135	NP	28	30	30	31
R_136	P	36	38	38	39
R_137	P	44	45	46	46
R_138	NP	36	38	38	39
R_139	P	43	45	44	45
R_140	P	42	44	43	44
R_141	NP	40	40	41	42
R_142	P	45	45	45	46
R_143	NP	26	27	27	29
R_144	P	28	29	30	31
R_145	P	28	29	29	30
R_146	NP	30	31	31	32
R_147	NP	29	30	31	32
R_148	NP	33	35	34	35
R_149	P	36	38	37	38
R_150	NP	33	34	34	35
R_151	NP	36	37	37	38
R_152	NP	35	35	36	37
R_153	P	31	32	33	34



RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_154	NP	30	31	31	32
R_155	NP	28	28	29	30
R_156	NP	27	27	28	29
R_157	NP	27	28	29	30
R_158	NP	29	30	31	32
R_159	NP	27	27	28	29
R_160	NP	27	28	28	29
R_161	NP	27	28	28	29
R_162	NP	24	25	26	27
R_163	NP	25	25	26	27
R_164	NP	25	26	26	28
R_165	NP	23	24	24	25
R_166	NP	23	23	24	25
R_167	NP	24	24	25	26
R_168	NP	24	24	25	26
R_169	NP	27	28	28	29
R_170	P	27	28	29	30
R_171	NP	28	29	30	31
R_172	NP	27	29	29	31
R_173	P	26	28	28	29
R_174	P	29	31	30	32
R_175	NP	24	26	27	28
R_176	NP	28	29	29	30
R_177	NP	28	30	30	31
R_178	NP	31	33	32	34
R_179	P	18	20	20	21
R_180	NP	25	27	27	29
R_181	P	24	25	26	27
R_182	NP	25	27	27	29
R_183	NP	29	31	31	32
R_184	P	32	34	33	34
R_185	NP	24	25	25	27
R_186	NP	19	20	21	22
R_187	NP	20	22	23	24
R_188	NP	24	25	26	27
R_189	NP	26	27	27	28
R_190	NP	28	29	30	31
R_191	NP	25	27	27	29
R_192	NP	28	29	29	30
R_193	NP	27	28	29	30
R_194	NP	28	29	29	30

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_195	NP	27	28	28	29
R_196	NP	26	27	27	28
R_197	NP	34	36	35	37
R_198	NP	31	32	32	34
R_199	P	30	32	32	34
R_200	NP	39	41	40	41
R_201	P	39	41	40	41
R_202	NP	37	38	39	40
R_203	P	43	42	45	46
R_204	P	45	45	46	47
R_205	P	44	45	45	46
R_206	P	43	45	44	45
R_207	P	40	42	41	43
R_208	P	38	40	40	41
R_209	P	39	40	40	41
R_210	P	38	40	40	41
R_211	NP	39	41	40	42
R_212	P	40	43	41	43
R_213	P	43	44	44	44
R_214	P	45	45	46	45
R_215	P	41	43	42	43
R_216	P	41	43	42	43
R_217	P	35	36	37	38
R_218	NP	36	36	38	39
R_219	P	41	42	42	43
R_220	P	46	46	47	47
R_221	P	47	47	47	47
R_222	NP	36	38	37	38
R_223	NP	38	40	39	40
R_224	NP	33	35	35	36
R_225	P	34	35	35	36
R_226	NP	31	32	33	34
R_227	NP	31	33	32	34
R_228	NP	29	31	30	31
R_229	NP	26	28	29	30
R_230	NP	35	37	36	38
R_231	NP	31	33	32	34
R_232	NP	28	30	30	31
R_233	NP	29	30	30	31
R_234	NP	26	29	29	30
R_235	NP	27	28	28	29

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_236	NP	27	28	28	29
R_237	NP	27	28	29	30
R_238	P	29	30	31	32
R_239	NP	28	30	30	31
R_240	P	29	31	31	32
R_241	P	32	32	34	35
R_242	NP	34	35	36	37
R_243	NP	37	39	38	39
R_244	P	40	42	40	42
R_245	P	37	39	38	40
R_246	NP	32	33	34	35
R_247	P	30	31	31	32
R_248	P	30	31	31	32
R_249	P	40	42	41	43
R_250	NP	35	37	37	38
R_251	NP	35	37	37	38
R_252	P	38	39	39	40
R_253	P	26	27	28	29
R_254	P	33	34	35	36
R_255	P	41	40	43	45
R_256	P	36	36	38	40
R_257	NP	32	34	34	35
R_258	NP	31	32	32	33
R_259	NP	30	31	31	32
R_260	P	32	34	34	35
R_261	P	31	32	32	33
R_262	NP	31	32	32	33
R_263	NP	32	33	33	34
R_264	NP	33	35	34	35
R_265	NP	38	40	39	40
R_266	NP	32	35	34	35
R_267	P	36	38	37	38
R_268	P	31	33	33	34
R_269	NP	29	31	30	32
R_270	P	31	32	32	33
R_271	NP	34	36	36	37
R_272	P	39	41	40	41
R_273	P	41	43	41	43
R_274	NP	35	36	36	37
R_275	P	41	44	42	43
R_276	NP	32	34	33	35

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_277	NP	40	42	41	42
R_278	NP	36	38	37	38
R_279	NP	37	40	38	40
R_280	NP	34	36	35	37
R_281	NP	35	37	36	37
R_282	NP	36	39	38	39
R_283	P	33	35	35	36
R_284	P	33	35	34	36
R_285	P	35	38	36	38
R_286	P	42	44	42	44
R_287	P	42	45	43	44
R_288	NP	36	38	38	39
R_289	NP	32	34	34	35
R_290	NP	32	34	33	34
R_291	P	40	40	42	41
R_292	P	45	45	46	45
R_293	P	43	44	45	46
R_294	NP	35	36	36	37
R_295	NP	31	32	32	33
R_296	NP	31	32	32	33
R_297	NP	32	34	34	35
R_298	NP	29	31	31	32
R_299	P	34	36	35	36
R_300	NP	33	36	35	36
R_301	NP	26	27	28	29
R_302	NP	27	28	28	29
R_303	NP	23	25	25	26
R_304	NP	23	24	24	25
R_305	NP	21	23	23	24
R_306	NP	26	27	27	28
R_307	NP	25	27	27	28
R_308	NP	25	26	26	27
R_309	NP	25	26	26	27
R_310	NP	26	27	27	28
R_311	NP	24	26	26	27
R_312	NP	24	25	25	26
R_313	NP	24	25	25	26
R_314	NP	24	25	25	26
R_315	NP	24	25	25	26
R_316	NP	24	25	25	26
R_317	NP	24	24	24	26



RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_318	NP	19	21	21	22
R_319	P	47	46	47	47
R_320	P	44	43	45	45
R_321	P	46	43	46	46
R_322	P	46	44	46	46
R_323	NP	39	39	40	41
R_324	NP	35	33	36	37
R_325	P	37	35	38	39
R_326	NP	35	34	36	37
R_327	NP	31	30	32	33
R_328	NP	27	27	28	29
R_329	NP	25	25	26	27
R_330	P	35	36	36	37
R_331	NP	28	29	29	30
R_332	NP	25	26	26	27
R_333	NP	22	23	22	23
R_334	NP	23	24	23	25
R_335	NP	21	22	21	23
R_336	NP	18	19	18	20
R_337	NP	16	18	16	17
R_338	NP	16	18	16	18
R_339	NP	11	16	15	16
R_340	NP	15	16	15	16
R_341	NP	16	18	16	18
R_342	NP	17	18	17	18
R_343	NP	18	19	18	20
R_344	NP	19	20	19	21
R_345	NP	16	18	17	18
R_346	NP	19	21	21	22
R_347	NP	24	25	24	25
R_348	NP	28	29	29	30
R_349	NP	25	26	25	27
R_350	NP	29	30	30	31
R_351	NP	28	29	29	30
R_352	NP	25	26	26	27
R_353	NP	24	25	24	25
R_354	NP	20	22	21	22
R_355	NP	14	16	16	17
R_356	NP	13	15	15	16
R_357	NP	17	18	17	18
R_358	NP	14	16	15	17

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_359	NP	17	19	19	20
R_360	NP	16	18	18	19
R_361	NP	19	20	20	21
R_362	NP	15	19	19	20
R_363	NP	22	24	24	25
R_364	P	23	25	25	26
R_365	NP	21	23	22	23
R_366	NP	20	22	23	23
R_367	NP	23	24	24	25
R_368	NP	19	21	21	22
R_369	NP	20	22	21	23
R_370	NP	21	22	22	23
R_371	NP	22	24	24	25
R_372	NP	27	28	28	29
R_373	NP	26	27	27	28
R_374	P	26	27	27	28
R_375	NP	29	30	30	31
R_376	NP	28	30	30	31
R_377	NP	28	30	30	31
R_378	NP	30	32	32	33
R_379	NP	29	31	31	32
R_380	NP	33	35	35	36
R_381	NP	31	32	33	33
R_382	NP	28	30	30	30
R_383	NP	31	33	32	33
R_384	NP	33	36	35	36
R_385	NP	39	41	41	42
R_386	NP	41	43	42	43
R_387	P	45	46	47	46
R_388	P	42	44	43	43
R_389	NP	38	40	39	40
R_390	P	38	40	40	41
R_391	P	40	41	41	43
R_392	P	42	41	44	46
R_393	P	31	31	34	35
R_394	NP	28	29	30	31
R_395	P	29	30	31	32
R_396	P	30	32	32	33
R_397	NP	32	32	34	35
R_398	NP	29	31	31	32
R_399	P	27	28	29	30

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_400	NP	28	29	30	32
R_401	NP	25	26	27	29
R_402	NP	17	18	19	20
R_403	NP	24	24	25	26
R_404	NP	19	22	22	24
R_405	P	21	22	22	23
R_406	NP	16	18	19	20
R_407	NP	14	15	16	17
R_408	NP	30	32	31	32
R_409	P	20	22	23	24
R_410	NP	24	26	26	27
R_411	NP	22	23	24	25
R_412	P	22	24	24	25
R_413	NP	24	25	26	27
R_414	NP	26	27	27	29
R_415	P	26	27	27	29
R_416	NP	34	36	35	36
R_417	NP	34	36	35	36
R_418	NP	34	36	35	37
R_419	NP	34	36	35	36
R_420	NP	34	36	35	36
R_421	NP	34	37	36	37
R_422	NP	34	36	35	36
R_423	NP	34	36	35	36
R_424	NP	33	35	35	36
R_425	NP	33	35	35	36
R_426	NP	33	35	35	36
R_427	NP	33	35	35	36
R_428	NP	33	35	35	36
R_429	NP	33	35	35	36
R_430	NP	33	35	35	36
R_431	NP	33	35	35	36
R_432	NP	33	35	35	36
R_433	NP	33	36	35	36
R_434	NP	33	36	35	36
R_435	NP	33	35	35	36
R_436	NP	33	35	35	36
R_437	NP	33	35	35	36
R_438	NP	33	35	35	36
R_439	NP	27	29	29	30
R_440	NP	27	29	29	30

RECEIVER ID	PARCEL STATUS	GE154	GE158	V150	V163
R_441	NP	27	29	29	30
R_442	NP	27	29	29	30
R_443	NP	27	29	28	30
R_444	NP	27	28	28	30
R_445	NP	27	28	28	30
R_446	NP	27	28	28	29
R_447	NP	26	28	28	29
R_448	NP	26	27	27	28
R_449	NP	32	32	33	34
R_450	NP	33	33	34	35
R_451	NP	32	31	33	34
R_452	NP	32	33	33	34
R_453	NP	28	29	29	31
R_454	NP	30	31	31	32
R_455	NP	29	30	30	31
R_456	NP	27	27	28	29
R_457	NP	29	30	30	31
R_458	NP	26	26	28	29
R_459	NP	26	26	28	28
R_460	NP	23	22	25	25
R_461	NP	27	27	28	29



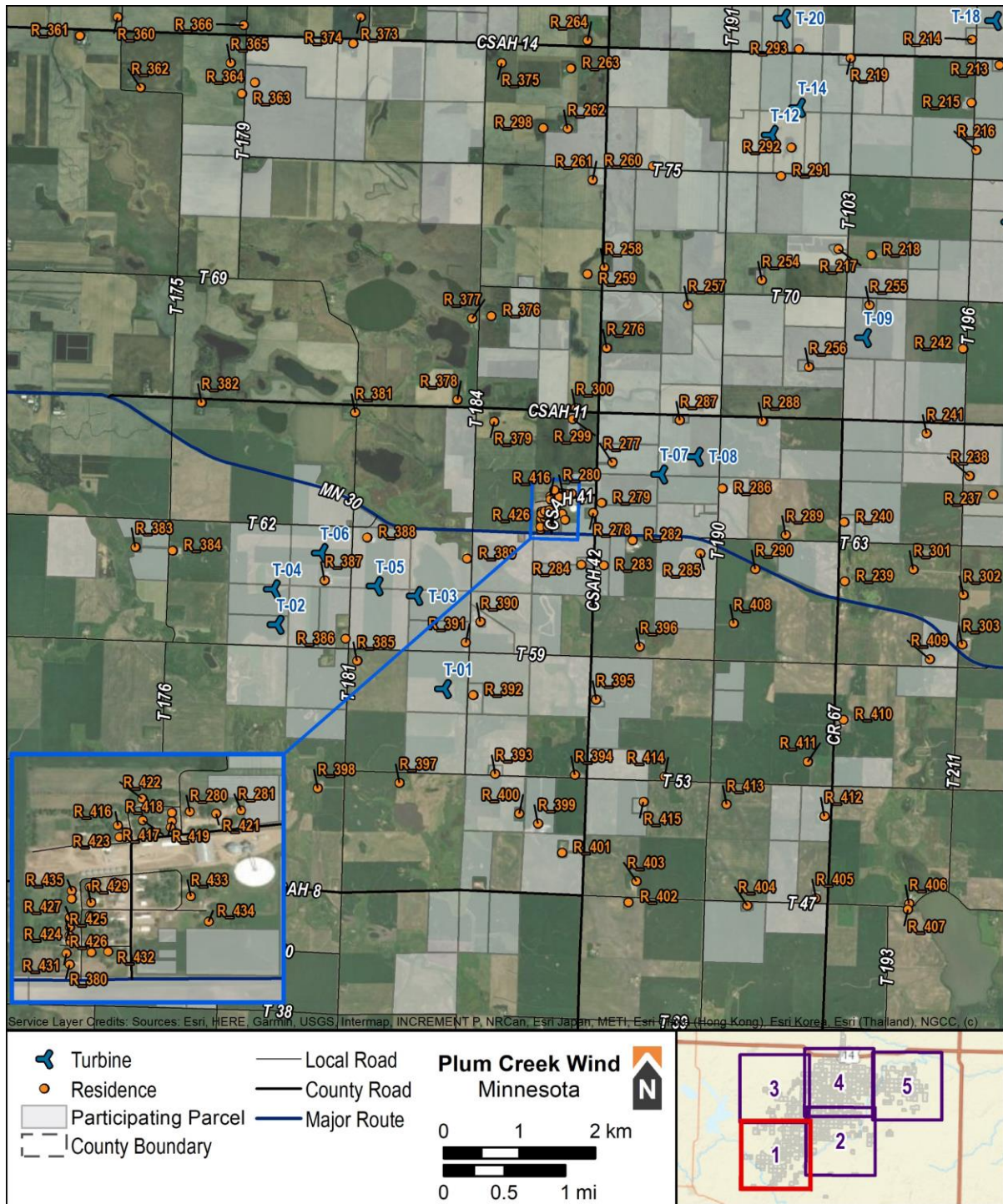


FIGURE 16: RECEIVER AND TURBINE ID MAP 1



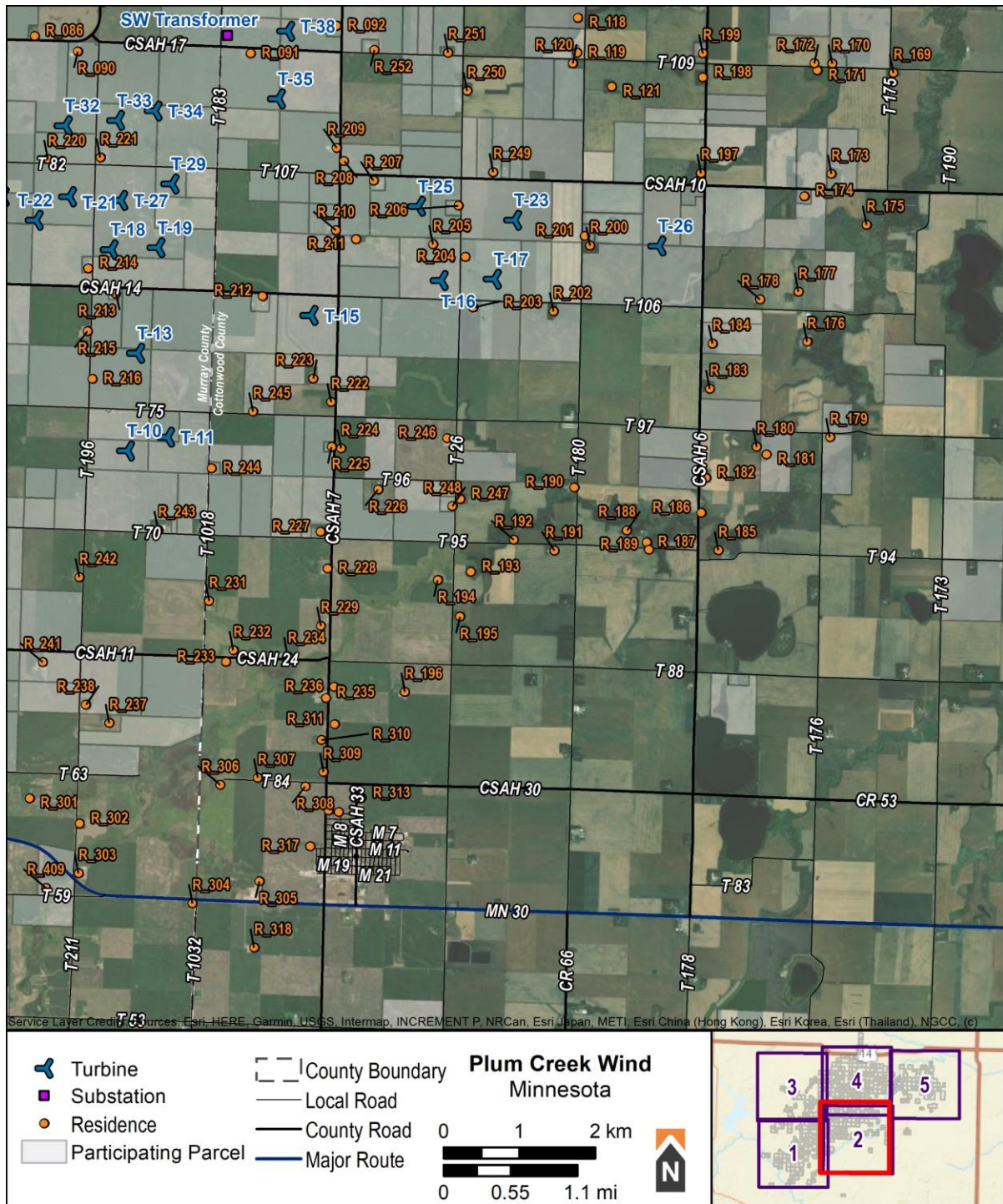
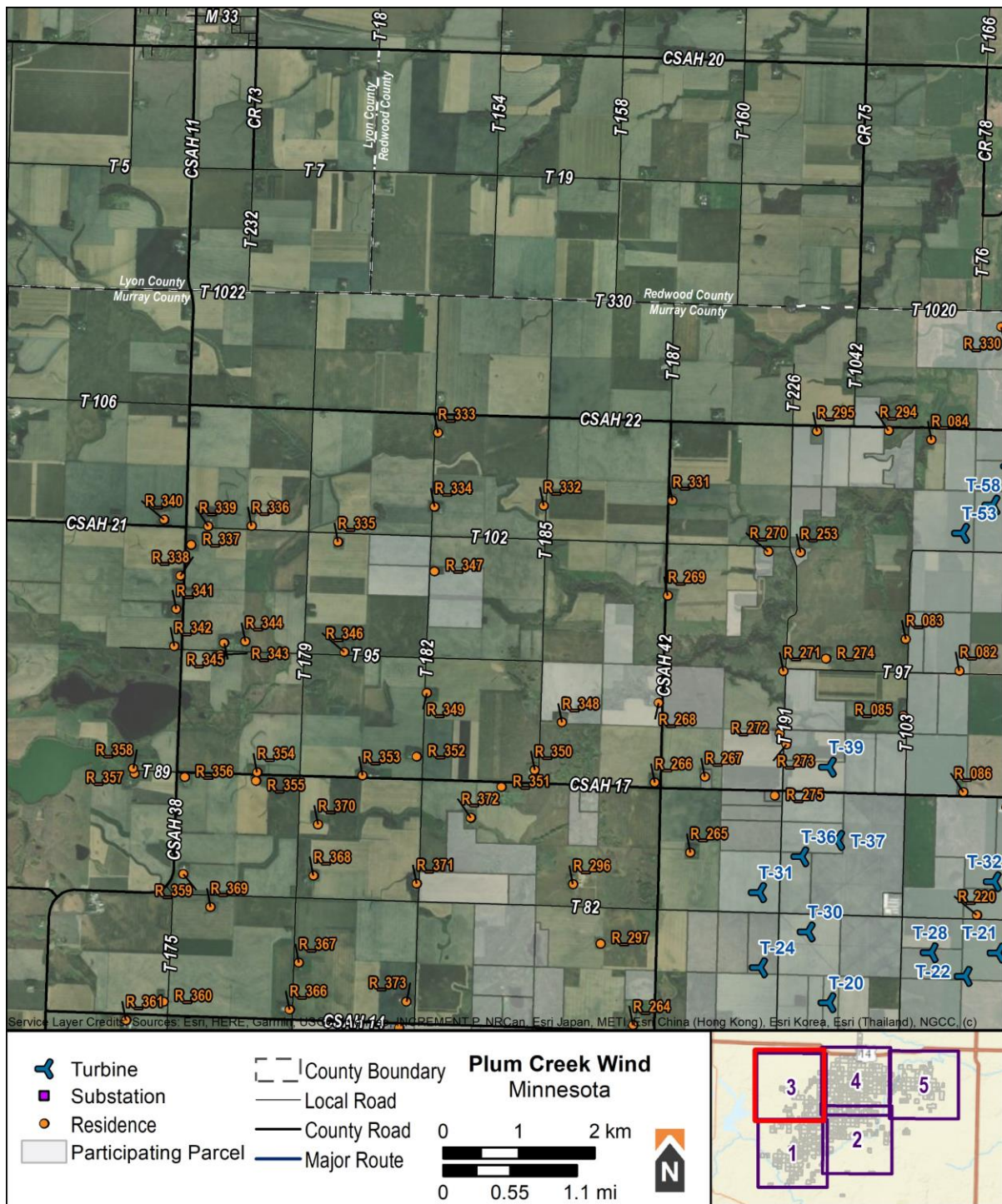


FIGURE 17: RECEIVER AND TURBINE ID MAP 2





**FIGURE 18: RECEIVER AND TURBINE ID MAP 3**



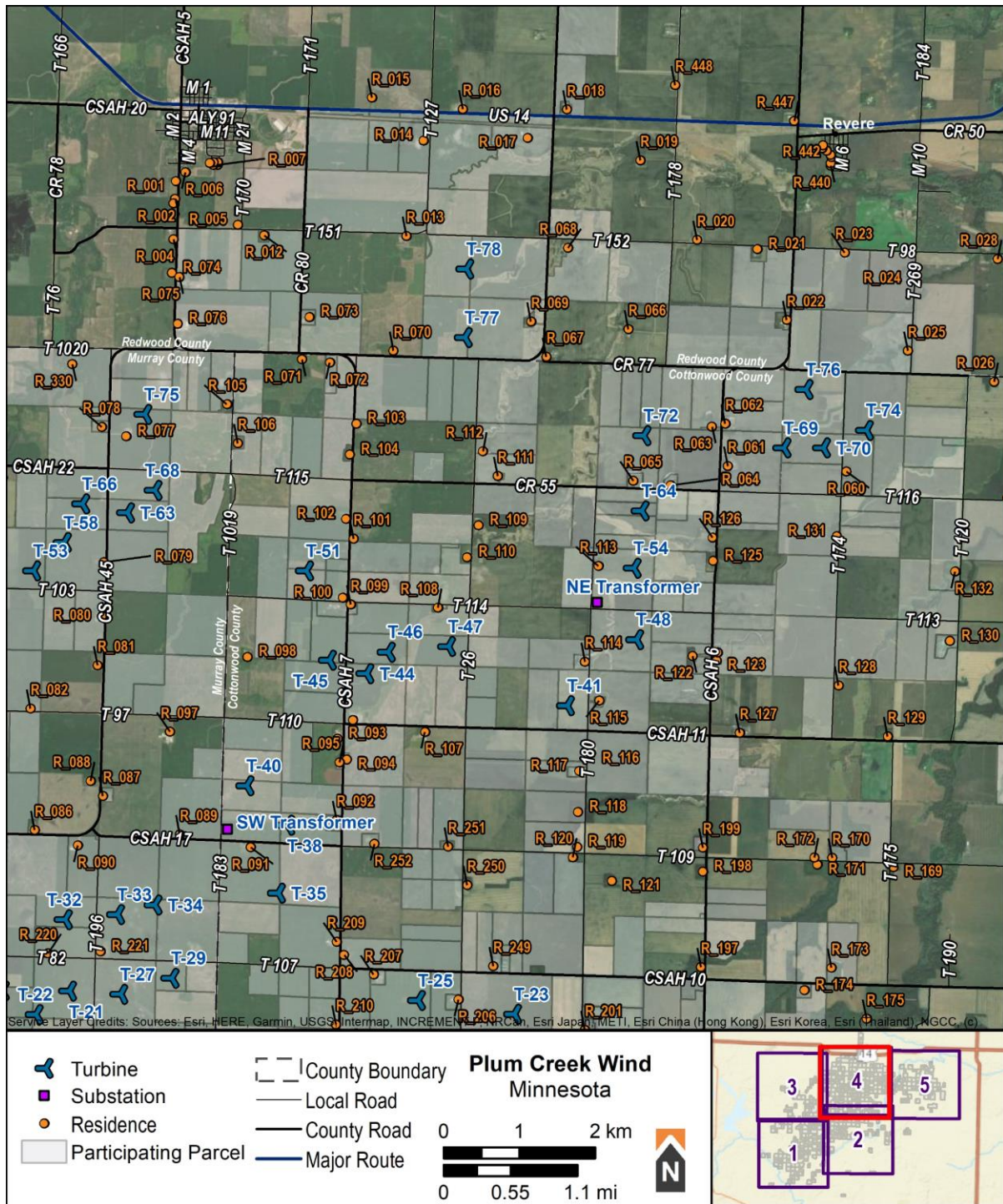


FIGURE 19: RECEIVER AND TURBINE ID MAP 4



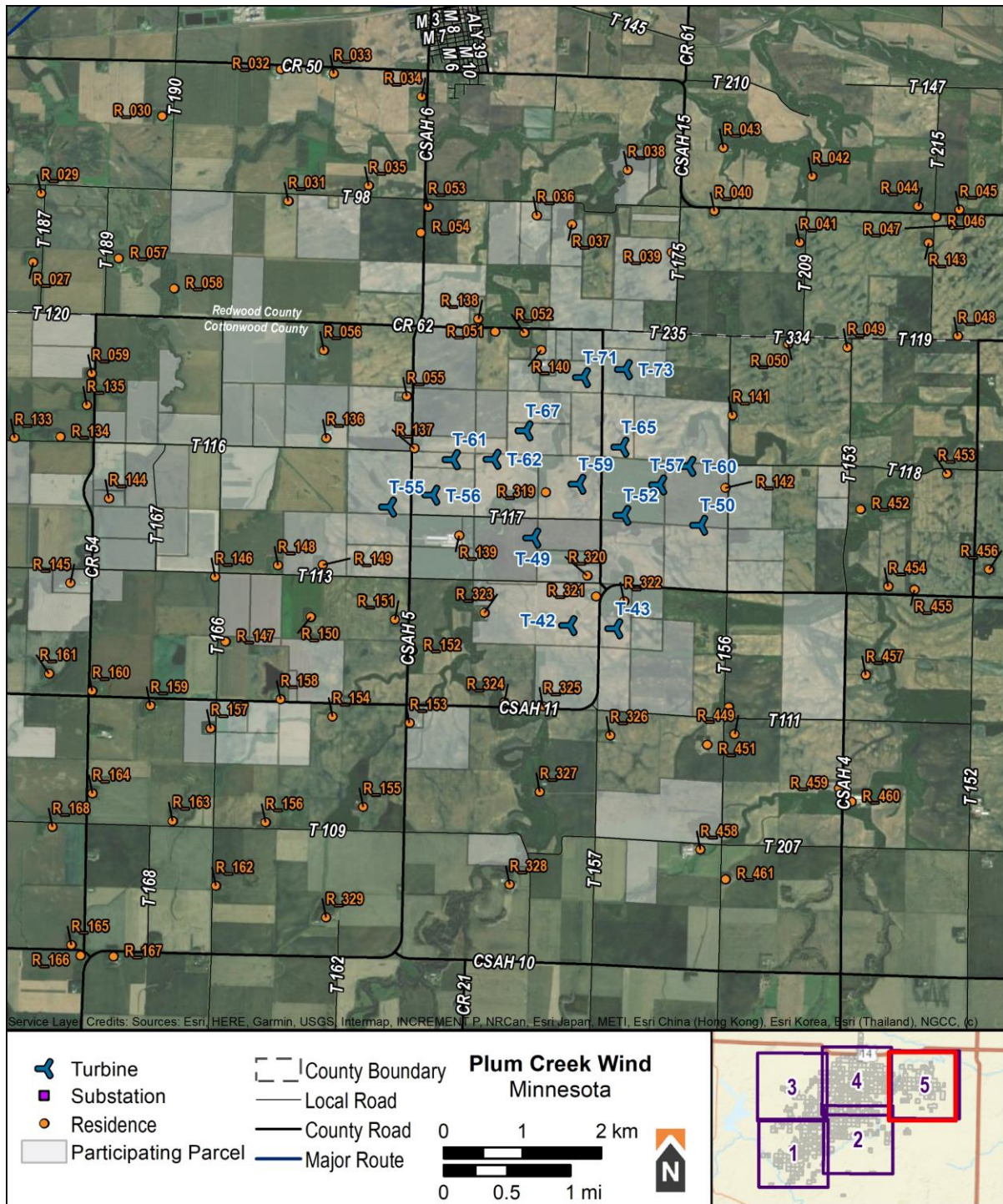


FIGURE 20: RECEIVER AND TURBINE ID MAP 5

