

# Meteorological Evaluation Towers (METs)

National Transportation  
Safety Board (NTSB)

SAFETY RECOMMENDATION

# Issues involving METs & Aviation

- METs can be erected quickly
- Do not require legal notice to the FAA or the MAC
- Do not require lighting as they are typically less than 200' AGL
- Typically constructed with galvanized tubing that is only 6" – 8" in diameter.
- Utilizes numerous guide wires that are not easily visible.

# Issues involving METs & Aviation

- Visibility issues for to low-altitude aviation operations
- The NTSB recommendation is derived from investigations of three accidents in which airplanes inadvertently collided with METs

# Non-marked 190' MET



# Marked 190' MET



# Our current practice

- Promoting Awareness
  - Meetings with members of the Michigan Agricultural Aviation Association
  - Discussions with the FAA
  - Requesting voluntary
    - Notification of construction
    - Marking and lighting

# Our current practice

- We request that you contact our office within 10 days of construction completion with as-built information. You may use FAA form 7460-2 or simply include the as-built information in an e-mail sent to my attention.
- Please note that the attached letter in response to your application under the authority of the Michigan Tall Structures Act and does not relieve the sponsor of compliance responsibilities relating to any other law, ordinance or regulation of any Federal, State, or local government body. Meteorological towers can be very inconspicuous to aviators, especially those aviators involved in the practice of agriculture crop spraying. **Although marking and lighting is not required for this structure by our office, it is recommended that the tower owner strongly consider using an FAA approved aviation obstruction marking plan to insure aviation safety.**

# NTSB Recommendation

- “Enact legislation the meteorological evaluation towers erected in your state or territory are marked and registered in a directory.”

# Discussion



- <http://youtu.be/Mc6TdFmqkE8>