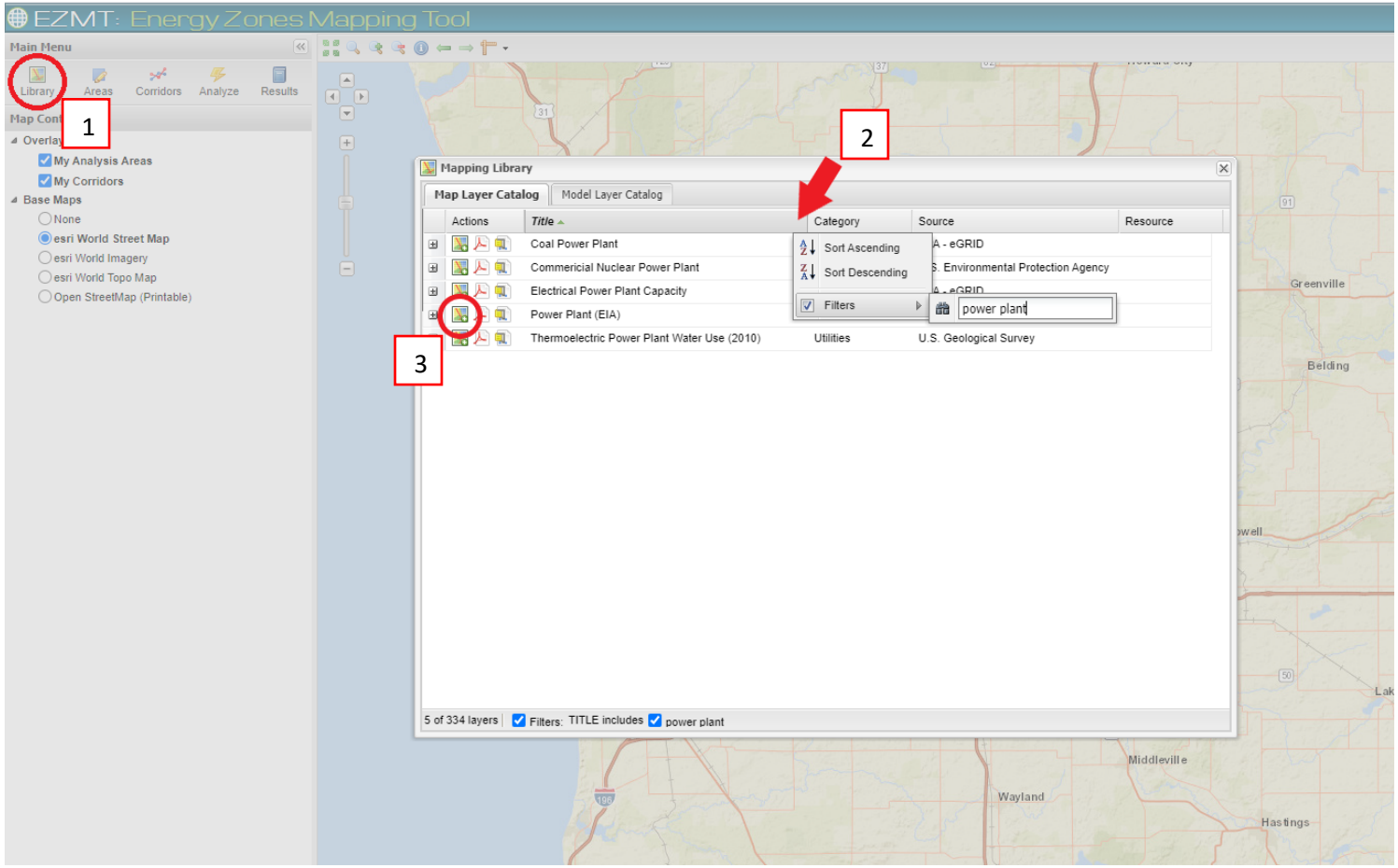
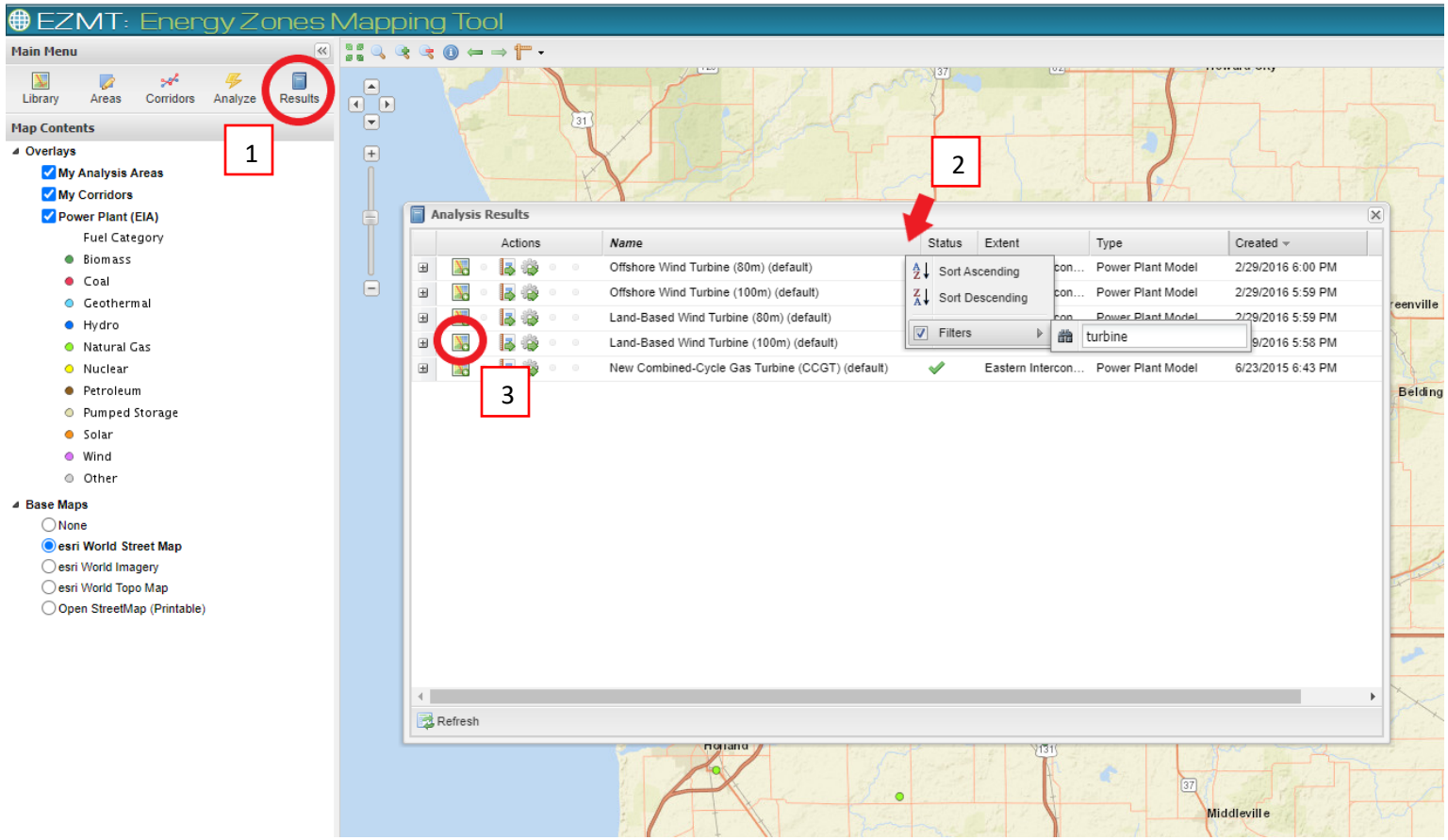
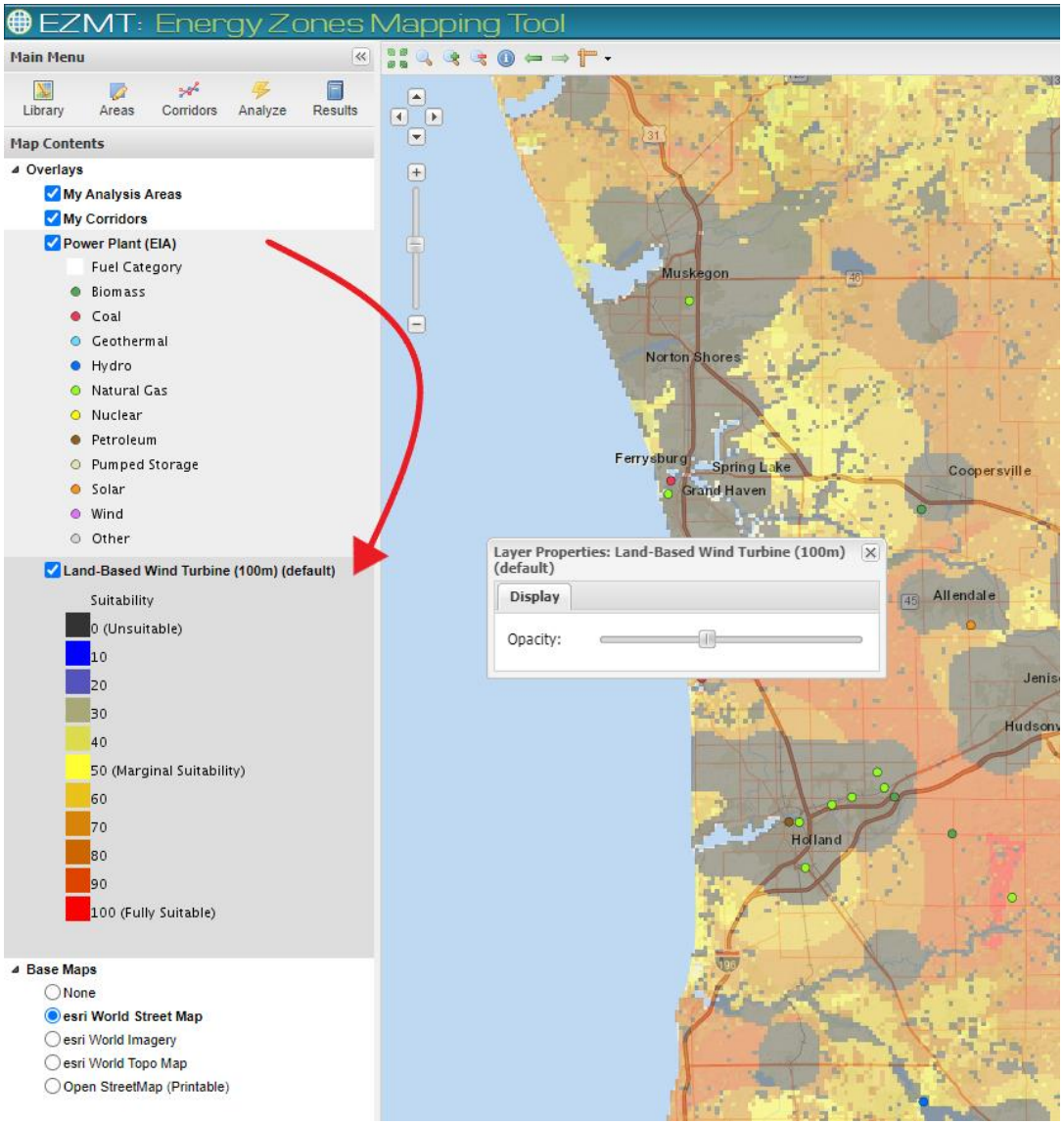
Energy Zones Mapping Tool (EZMT) How-To Guide



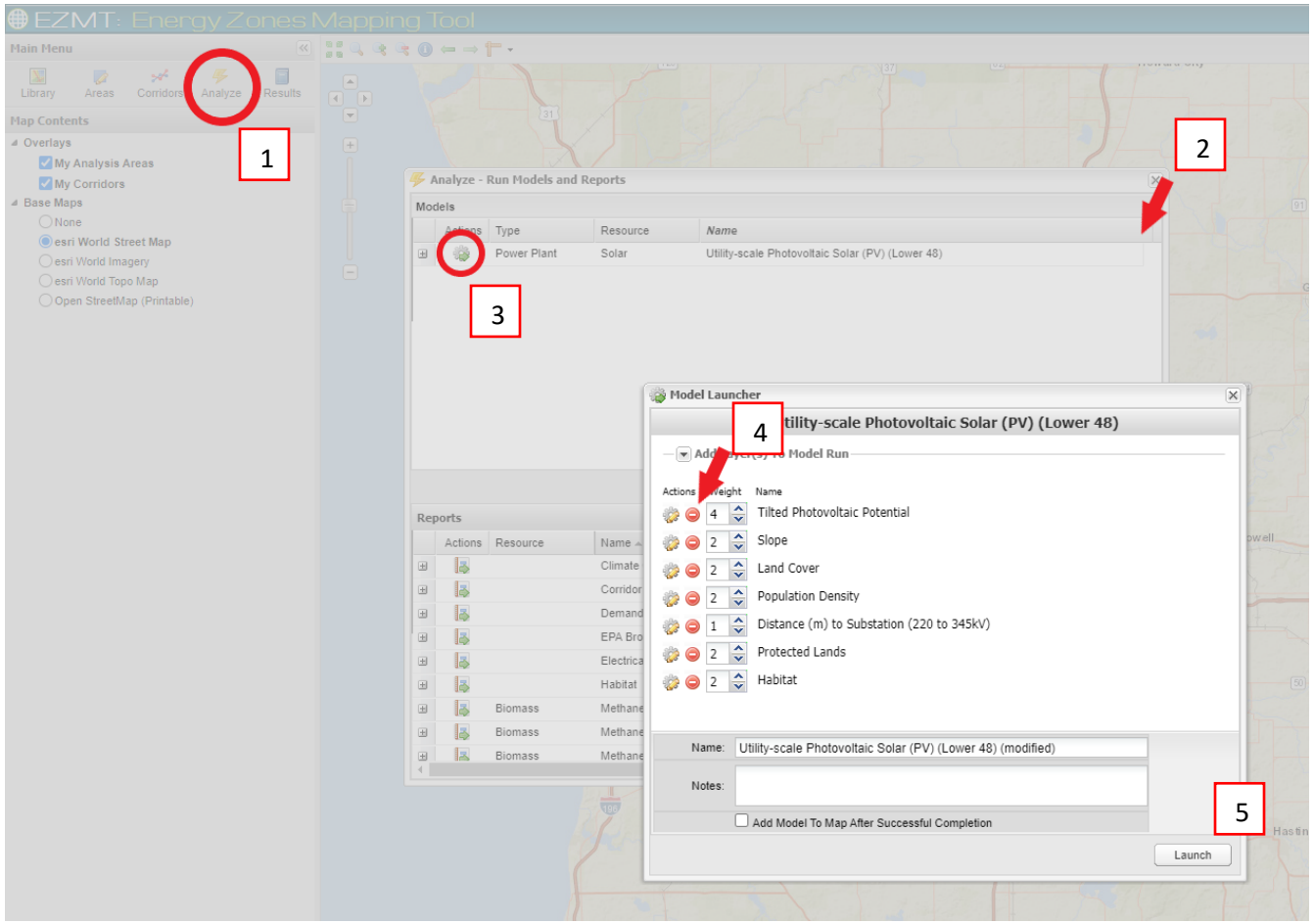
To add layers such as transmission lines, power plants, substations, wind turbines, and county boundaries, click the Library button on the upper left (1). In the pop-up window under the Map Layer Catalog tab, use the headers to sort the available layers or use the Title drop downs (2) to filter by specific words. Click the map icon to the left of the layer you wish to add to populate your map (3). The layer titles used in the demo and which are most likely useful for your planning efforts include: Transmission Line – HIFLD, Power Plant (EIA), Electrical Substation, Wind Turbine – Existing Location, and County Boundary.



To add pre-run models to your map such as Utility-scale Photovoltaic Solar (PV), Land-Based Wind Turbine (100m), or Offshore Wind Turbine (100m), click Results on the upper left (1). In the pop-up window, use the headers to sort the available models or use the Name drop down (2) to filter by specific words. Click the map icon to the left of the model you wish to add to populate your map (3).



To see the previous map layers (now hidden beneath this model layer), under Map Contents, drag the model layer to the end of the Overlays list. You can also adjust the model's transparency by right clicking the model layer, selecting Layer Properties, and sliding the Opacity bar.



Solar availability (the general availability of solar radiation at a specific location) is fairly uniform across Michigan. Removing this citing factor from the potential solar model may show more variable results within Michigan and help you decide which regions are best for solar energy generation. To remove solar availability (or any other variable) from the model output and focus on other citing factors such as land cover, population density, and habitat, go to Analyze (1) in the upper left. In the new pop-up window sort by Name (2) to select the Utility-scale Photovoltaic Solar (PV) model. Click the gear icon (3) and in the new Model Launcher window delete Tilted Photovoltaic Potential by clicking the red “no” button (4) and selecting OK. You may also rename this version of the model to something like “PV minus solar availability” and add notes, then click Launch (5). This new model will now be available in your list of models under Results to go back to at any time.