

Energy Zones Mapping Tool (EZMT) How-To Guide

The screenshot shows the EZMT website interface. At the top right, the 'Login' button is circled in red. A red box on the right contains the text: 'Remember to create an account/login to be able to save your maps'. In the center, the 'Launch Tool' button is circled in red, with a red box below it stating: 'Click Launch Tool to begin mapping'. The website header includes 'EZMT | Energy Zones Mapping Tool' and a navigation bar with links: 'Home', 'About the Project', 'Energy Resources', 'Data', 'Documents', 'Links', and 'Launch Tool'. The main banner features a world map with energy icons and the text: 'EZMT | Energy Zones Mapping Tool. A map-based tool for identifying areas within the United States that may be suitable for power generation and energy corridors.' Below the banner, there are three columns: 'About the Tool', 'Features', and 'Getting Started'. The 'About the Tool' column describes the tool as a free online mapping tool for identifying potential energy resource areas and energy corridors in the United States. The 'Features' column lists nine energy resources (Biomass, Coal, Geothermal, Natural Gas, Nuclear, Solar, Storage, Water, and Wind) and flexible modeling of power plant and corridor siting factors. The 'Getting Started' column instructs users to click the 'Launch Tool' button or view an introductory video. A 'News' sidebar on the right shows updates from February 25, 2021, and February 05, 2021. At the bottom, there is a 'Partners and Sponsors' section listing the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity, and several national laboratories (EISPC, Argonne, NREL, Oak Ridge). The footer includes links for 'Privacy/Security', 'News', 'About Us', and 'Contact Us'.

EZMT | Energy Zones Mapping Tool

Home | About the Project | Energy Resources | Data | Documents | Links | **Launch Tool**

EZMT | Energy Zones Mapping Tool

A map-based tool for identifying areas within the United States that may be suitable for power generation and energy corridors.

Launch Tool

Click Launch Tool to begin mapping

About the Tool

The Energy Zones Mapping Tool is a free online mapping tool to identify potential energy resource areas and energy corridors in the United States.

This web site provides information [about the project](#), background on the [energy resources](#), and details on the [data](#) layers used in the tool. There are also links to [documents](#) and related [links](#).

See our [YouTube Channel](#) for an archive of EZMT webinars and training videos.

Features

- Nine energy resources: [Biomass](#), [Coal](#), [Geothermal](#), [Natural Gas](#), [Nuclear](#), [Solar](#), [Storage](#), [Water](#), and [Wind](#)
- Flexible modeling of power plant and corridor siting factors such as slope and land protections
- Tools to generate and analyze potential corridor routes

Getting Started

Click the [Launch Tool](#) button above to start the tool, on the image below to view an introductory [video](#), or use the Help menu at the top of the page for more detailed directions.

We are interested in your feedback. Please email your comments to ezmt@anl.gov.

News

February 25, 2021
[Mapping Library Updated](#)
The following mapping layers were added:
• Block Groups: Low Income
• Block...

February 05, 2021
[Mapping Library Updated](#)
The following mapping layers were added or updated:
• Alternative Fuel...

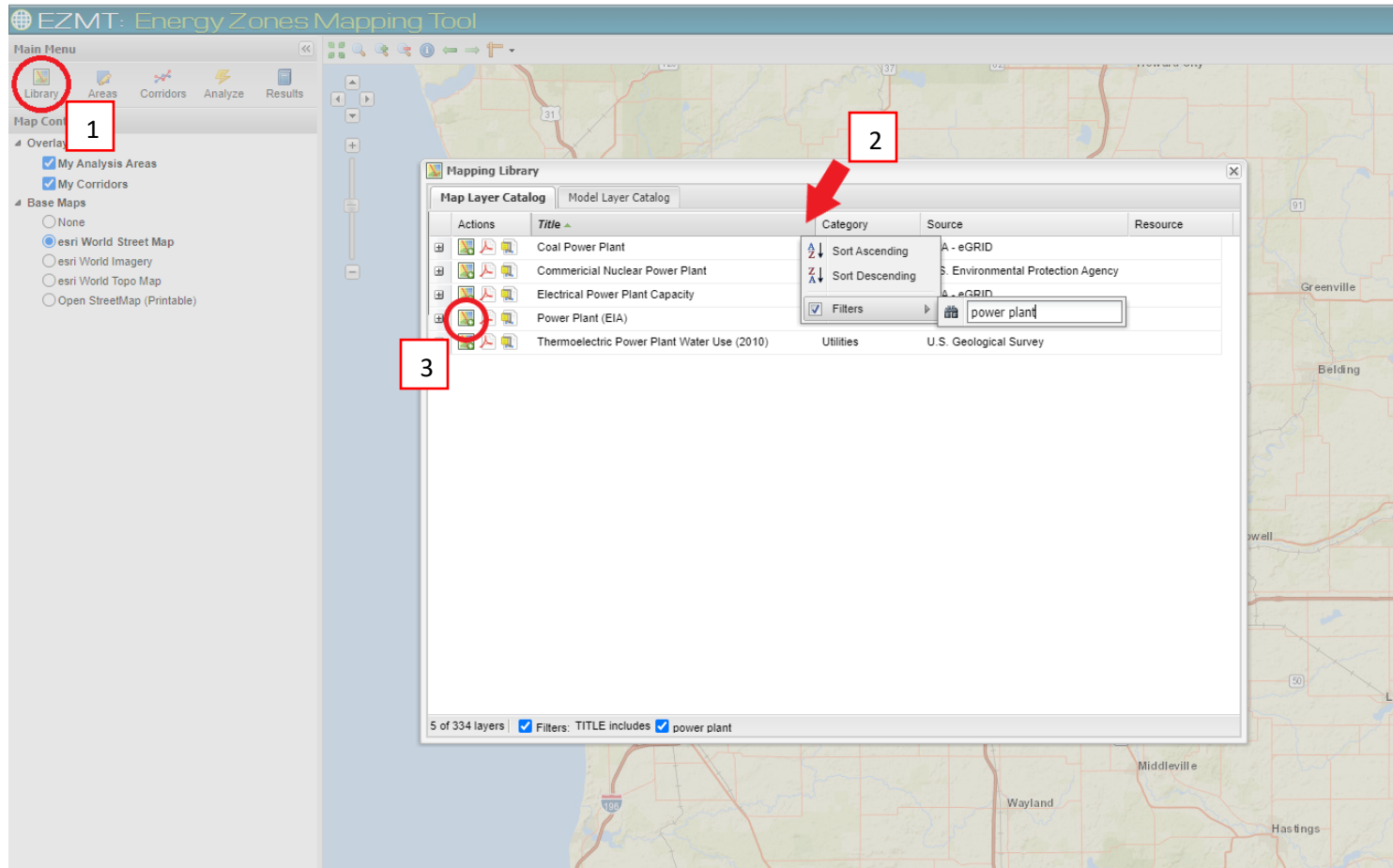
December 09, 2020

Partners and Sponsors

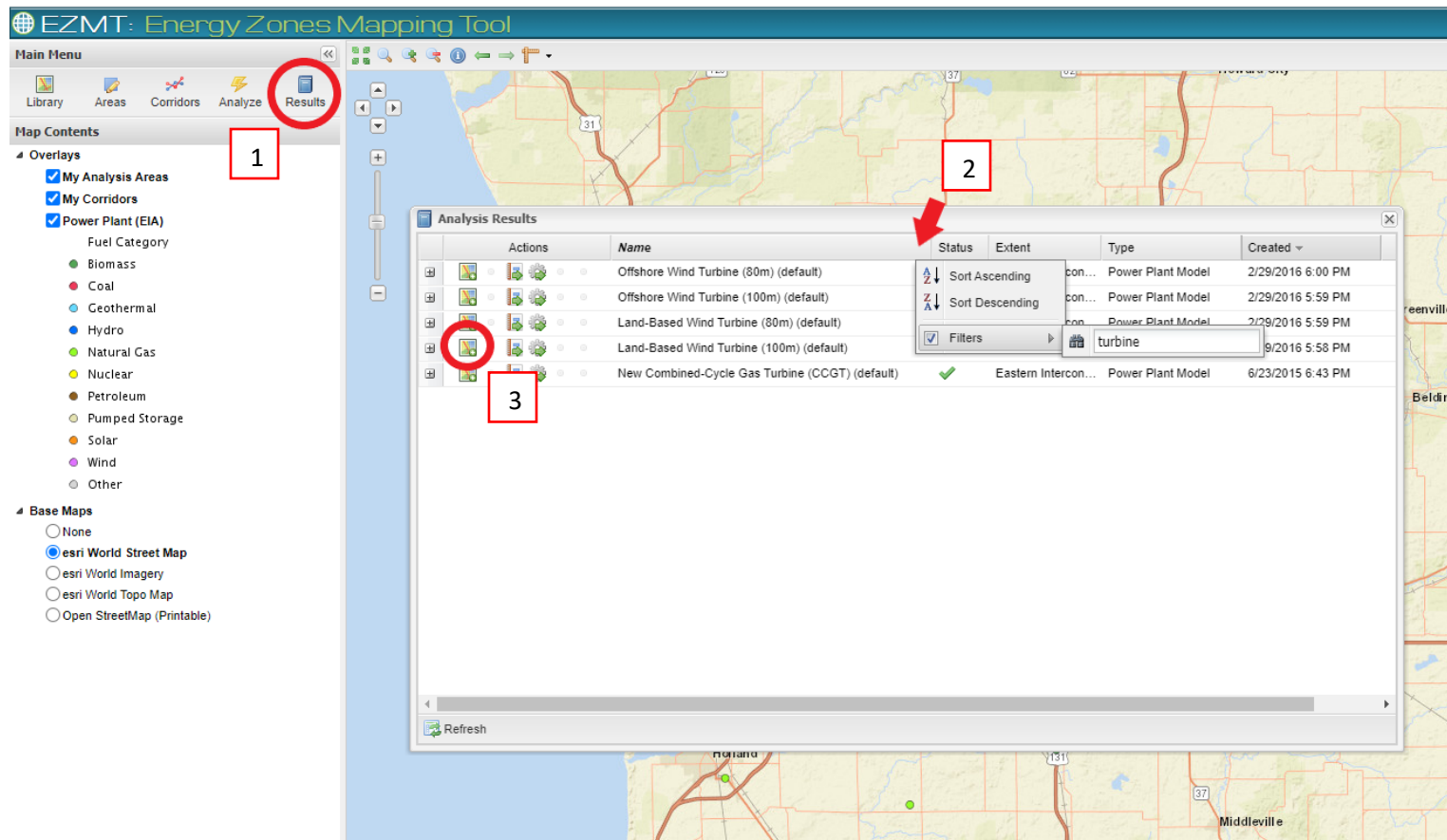
This project is funded by the U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Electricity. The Eastern Interconnection States' Planning Council (EISPC) led the original development, with research support and technical assistance from Argonne National Laboratory, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, and Oak Ridge National Laboratory. [More >](#)

EISPC **Argonne** **NREL** **OAK RIDGE** **U.S. DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY**

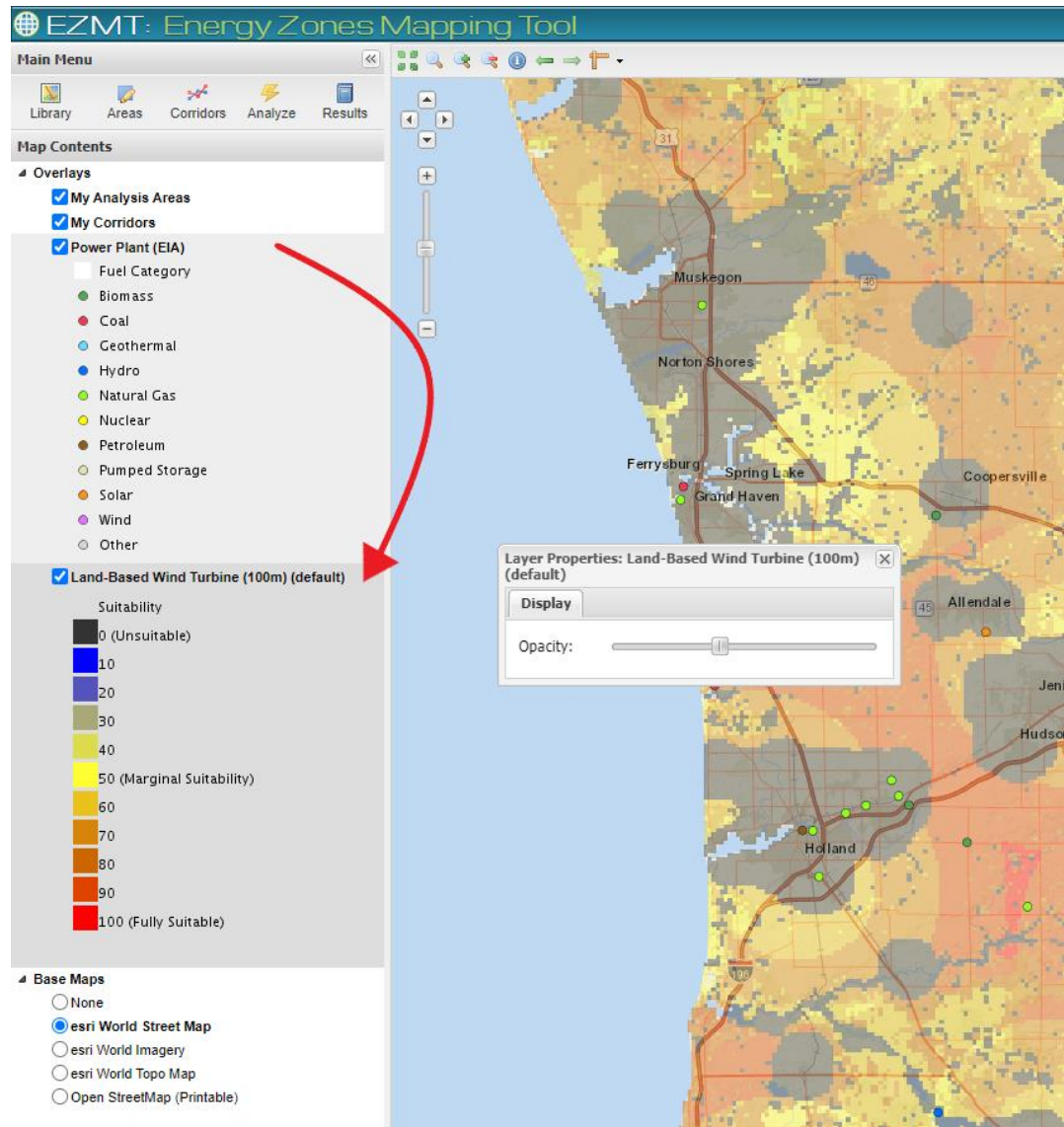
Privacy/Security | News | About Us | Contact Us



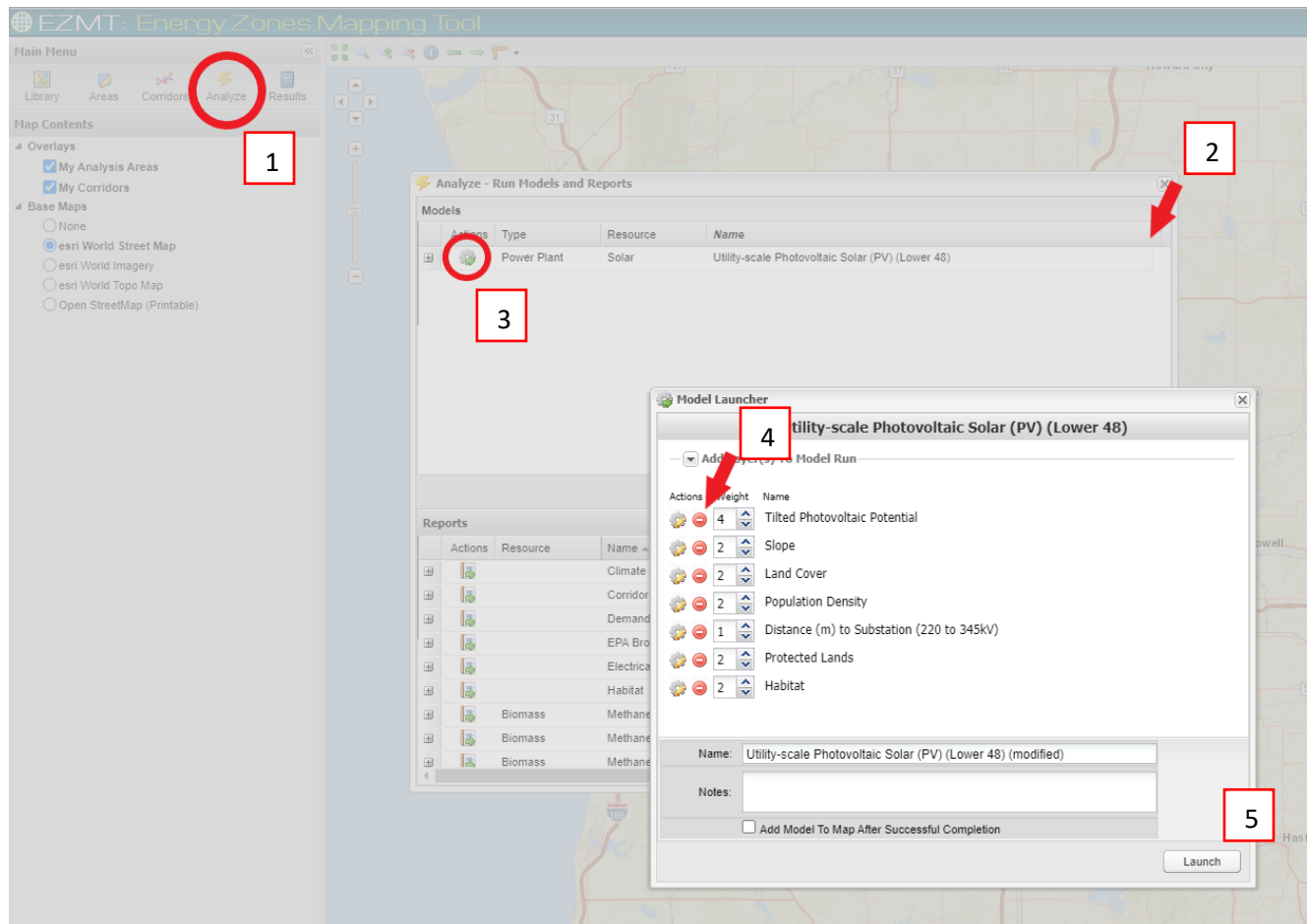
To add layers such as transmission lines, power plants, substations, wind turbines, and county boundaries, click the Library button on the upper left (1). In the pop-up window under the Map Layer Catalog tab, use the headers to sort the available layers or use the Title drop downs (2) to filter by specific 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.