



PHASE IB ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY



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Prepared for:

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June 2024

Phase IB Archaeological Survey

Agricola Wind

Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York

REDACTED

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MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

SHPO Project Review Number: 21PR03987

ORES Matter Number: No. 23-00064

Involved State and Federal Agencies: New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (Section 14.09); New York State Office of Renewable Energy Services (Article VIII Application)

Phase of Survey: Phase IB Archaeological Survey

Location Information: Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York

Survey Area:

Project Description: A proposed up to 99-megawatt (MW) wind-powered electric generating project consisting of up to 24 wind turbines and supporting infrastructure.

Facility Site: An approximately 3,980-acre general area of land under consideration to host the proposed Facility.

Area of Potential Effects: Approximately 384 acres

USGS 7.5-Minute Quad Map: *Scipio Center, NY; Moravia, NY; Genoa, NY*

Archaeological Survey Overview:

Number of shovel tests: 2,885 shovel tests at 1-, 3-, 5-, 7.5-, and 15-meter intervals

Pedestrian Surface Survey: 266.5 acres

Results of Archaeological Survey: **Begin Confidential Information<**

Sites Identified: **[REDACTED]**

Isolates Identified: **>End Confidential Information**

Report Authors: Moira Magni; Zeth Lujan; Abigail Mendoza; Claire McMahon; Doug Pippin, RPA, PhD

Date of Report: June 2024

ABSTRACT

On behalf of Agricola Wind LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Liberty Renewables, Inc., (the Applicant), EDR conducted a Phase IB archaeological survey for the proposed Agricola Wind Project (the Facility), located in the Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York. The proposed Facility is an up to 99-megawatt wind-powered electric generating project. The Facility Site includes approximately 3,980 acres and the Area of Potential Effects (APE) is approximately 384 acres. The APE is defined as those areas where soil disturbance will occur during construction or areas needed for staging and transportation of equipment. The Phase IB archaeological survey was conducted by EDR between June 2023 and May 2024. The survey included the excavation of 2,885 shovel tests and pedestrian survey of approximately 266 acres. The archaeological survey resulted in the identification of **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED] >**End Confidential Information** artifacts were collected and analyzed during the survey. A total of **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED] >**End Confidential Information** are unevaluated for inclusion in the State/National Register of Historic Places (S/NRHP) and are recommended for avoidance by Facility impacts. All **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED] >**End Confidential Information** are being avoided by the current Facility design and will not be impacted by Facility activities; therefore, no additional investigations are recommended.

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

On behalf of Agricola Wind LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Liberty Renewables, Inc., (the Applicant), Environmental Design & Research, D.P.C. (EDR) conducted a Phase IB archaeological survey for the proposed Agricola Wind Project (the Facility), located in the Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York. The purpose of the Phase IB survey is to determine whether archaeological sites are present in areas that may be affected by the proposed Facility. The information and recommendations included in this report are intended to assist the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (NYSHPO), and other New York State and/or federal agencies in their review of the Facility under Article VIII of the New York State Executive Law, Section 14.09 of the New York State Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation Law, and/or Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as applicable.

1.1 Purpose of Investigation

The purpose of the Phase IB archaeological survey was to:

- Determine whether archaeological sites were present within the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the proposed Facility
- Evaluate the identified archaeological sites for their eligibility for the State/National Register of Historic Places (S/NRHP) and assess the Facility's potential effects on those resources

This Phase IB survey was conducted under the supervision of a Registered Professional Archaeologist (RPA) and by professionals who satisfy the qualifications criteria per the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for archaeology (36 CFR 61). The Phase IB survey was conducted in a manner consistent with the New York Archaeological Council's (NYAC's) 1994 *Standards for Cultural Resource Investigations and the Curation of Archaeological Collections in New York State* (the NYAC Standards) and in accordance with the Facility's *Phase IA Archaeological Survey* report (EDR, 2023), which was submitted to and approved by the NYSHPO (Attachment A; see Section 2.1 below). This Phase IB report was prepared in accordance with the NYSHPO's 2005 *Phase I Archaeological Report Format Requirements* (the NYSHPO Guidelines). Please note that this report addresses only archaeological resources; information concerning the Facility's potential effects on historic architectural resources are provided to NYSHPO under separate cover.

The Phase IB archaeological survey fieldwork described in this report occurred during multiple mobilizations between June 2023 and May 2024. Due to changes in the Facility layout, several areas that were submitted to Phase IB survey are no longer within the Facility Site or APE. In these areas, Facility components were moved or eliminated to avoid impacts to archaeological resources, or due to other siting constraints (e.g., wetland impacts, slopes, landowner preferences, etc.)

1.2 Project Location and Description

The proposed Facility is an approximately 99-megawatt (MW) wind-powered electric generating project located within the Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York (Figure 1). The Facility layout is still in development and will consist of up to 24 wind turbines and supporting infrastructure, which will include access roads, collection lines, two meteorological towers, an aircraft detection lighting system tower, an operations and maintenance facility, temporary laydown yards, a temporary concrete batch plant, a collection substation, and a point of interconnection switchyard.

The following terms are used throughout this document to describe the proposed project:

Facility	Collectively refers to all components of the proposed project, including wind turbines and supporting infrastructure.
Facility Site	The general area of land within which all Facility components will ultimately be located. The Facility Site includes approximately 3,980 acres.
Area of Potential Effects (APE)	The Area of Potential Effects (APE) for the Facility is the area within which all proposed construction activities associated with the Facility will occur.

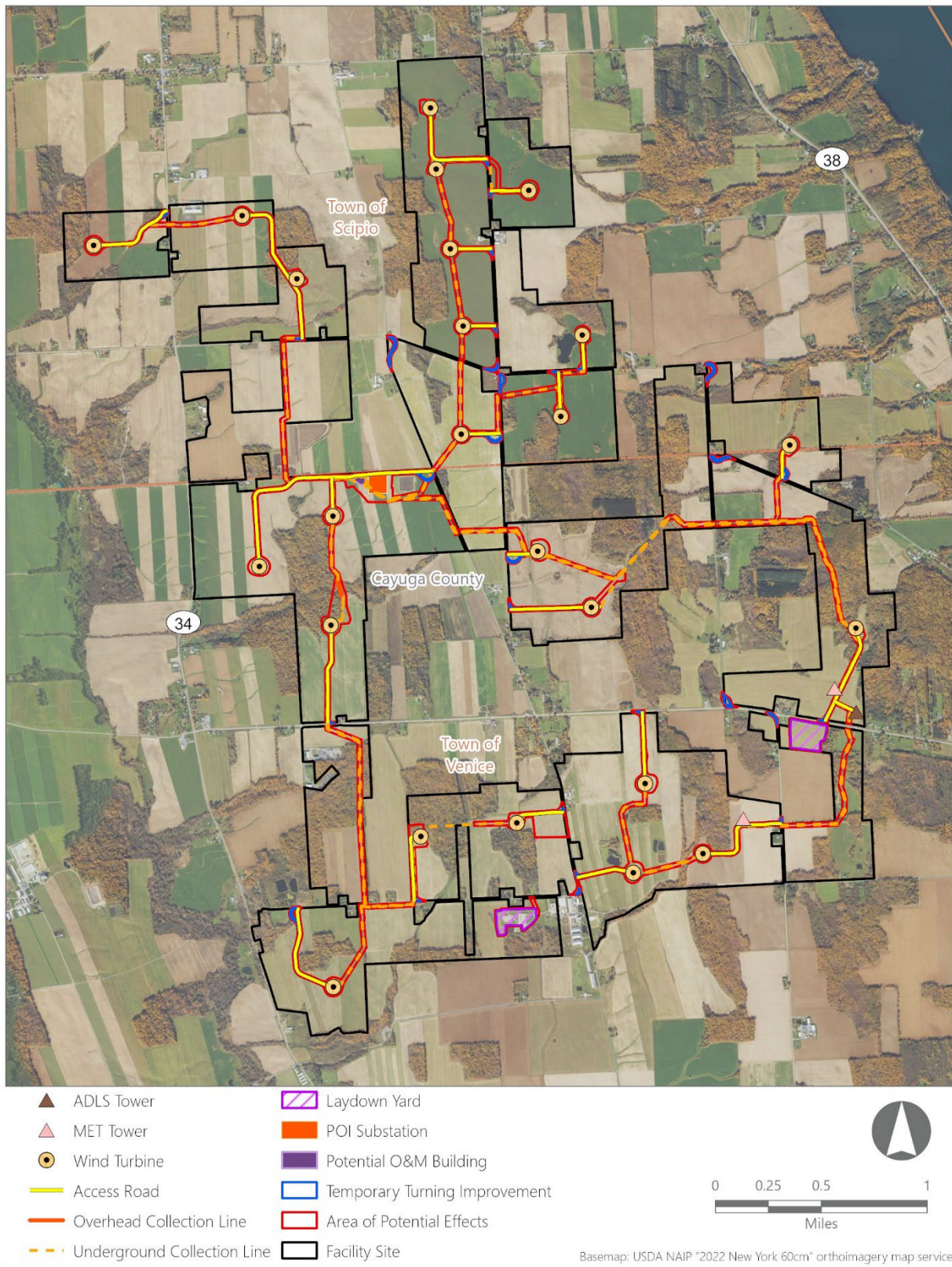
The lands being evaluated to host the Facility are rural and agricultural in nature (Figure 2). Not all land included in the Facility Site will ultimately be developed as part of the project. The Facility Site consists of a general 3,980-acre area, within which a more limited subset of land will be selected for the siting, design, construction, and operation of the Facility. It is anticipated that the Facility will consist of the following components:

- Up to 24 wind turbines;
- Permanent meteorological towers to collect wind and weather data;
- An aircraft detection lighting system tower, which will allow the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) required wind turbine lighting to be turned off when no aircraft are in the area;
- A collection system that will aggregate the electrical output from the turbines;
- A collection substation where the Facility's electrical output voltage will be combined and its voltage increased to the transmission line voltage via step-up transformers;
- A point of interconnection (POI) switchyard and generation tie line that will connect the Facility to the electric grid;
- Access roads to facilitate maintenance during operations; and
- Temporary laydown areas and a concrete batch plant for equipment staging and concrete production during construction.

Figure 1. Regional Facility Location



Figure 2. Proposed Facility Layout



2.0 BACKGROUND AND RESEARCH DESIGN

This section includes a discussion of the NYSHPO and Nations Consultation conducted thus far for the Facility; a results summary of the desktop research for the *Phase IA Archaeological Survey, Revised* report (EDR, 2023); and a discussion of the research design for the Phase IB survey outlined in the Phase IA report.

2.1 Agency and Nations Outreach

Article VIII of the New York State Executive Law indicates that the scope of cultural resources studies for a major renewable energy project should be determined in consultation with NYSHPO. Consultation with NYSHPO and Haudenosaunee Nations has included the following:

Agency and stakeholder outreach and consultation for the Facility has included the following:

- June 15, 2021: On behalf of the Applicant, EDR sent a letter and maps (via email) to Clint Halftown, Nation Representative for the Cayuga Nation, and Anthony Gonyea, Faithkeeper for the Onondaga Nation, to formally introduce the project to the Nations and request a dialog regarding cultural resources and other potential areas of concern that could be affected by the Facility. The Applicant anticipates ongoing consultation with the Cayuga and Onondaga Nations throughout the development and environmental review of the Facility. This correspondence is included in Attachment A. (EDR, 2021a, 2021b).
- June 16, 2021: On behalf of the Applicant, EDR initiated formal consultation with the NYSHPO via the Cultural Resources Information System (CRIS) website. EDR proposed to conduct a Phase IA archaeological survey in accordance with NYSHPO guidance (EDR, 2021c).
- June 21, 2021: NYSHPO issued a project review letter requesting that the Applicant prepare a Phase IA archaeological survey (NYSHPO, 2021). This correspondence is included as Attachment A.
- August 6, 2021: On behalf of the Applicant, EDR submitted *Phase IA Archaeological Survey, Agricola Wind Project, Towns of Venice, Scipio, and Moravia, Cayuga County, New York* to NYSPHO (EDR, 2021).
- September 9, 2021: NYSHPO issued a request for revisions to the *Agricola Wind Phase IA Archaeological Survey* (NYSHPO, 2021b).
- May 22, 2023: On behalf of the Applicant, EDR submitted *Phase IA Archaeological Survey (Revised), Agricola Wind Project, Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York* to NYSHPO (EDR, 2023).
- May 30, 2023: NYSHPO issued concurrence with the revised Phase IA Archaeological Survey (NYSHPO, 2023).
- June 13, 2024: On behalf of the Applicant, EDR sent a copy of the Phase IA Archaeological Survey report (via email) to Clint Halftown, Nation Representative for the Cayuga Nation, and Anthony Gonyea, Faithkeeper for the Onondaga Nation.

2.2 Summary of Previous Phase IA Archaeological Survey

EDR previously prepared a Phase IA archaeological survey report with a proposed Phase IB archaeological survey methodology (EDR, 2023). The Phase IA report included a review of previously identified archaeological sites within 1 mile and previously conducted archaeological surveys within 500 feet of the Facility Site. Relative to the potential for archaeological sites to be located within the Facility Site, the results of the Phase IA archaeological survey are summarized as follows:

- A review of NYSHPO's online CRIS database indicates that **Begin Confidential Information** < [REDACTED] >
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- According to the CRIS database, **Begin Confidential Information** < [REDACTED] >
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- Historic maps depict structures located along current and abandoned roadways within the Facility Site. Areas located in the immediate vicinity—within approximately 200 feet—of Map Documented Structure (MDS) locations are considered to contain a high potential for the presence of archaeological resources. The remaining (non-MDS) portions of the Facility Site exhibit minimal (if any) likelihood for significant historic-period archaeological sites to be present.
- A GIS-based archeological sensitivity model was prepared in accordance with the NYSHPO's (2021a) project review letter (Attachment A). This model resulted in the identification of **Begin Confidential Information** < [REDACTED] >
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2.3 Archaeological Sensitivity Model

The *Phase IA Archaeological Survey, Revised* report (EDR, 2023a) included a site-specific GIS-based archaeological sensitivity model that evaluated the probability of encountering archaeological resources within the Facility Site. The goal of the archaeological sensitivity model was to target archaeological surveying in areas of higher sensitivity while maintaining a level of effort that is consistent with the scope of ground disturbance associated with the proposed Facility. The model evaluated the relative potential for

the presence of archaeological resources (e.g., 'high' or 'low' sensitivity). The archaeological sensitivity model is described below.

EDR developed the sensitivity model for the Facility Site using NYSHPO guidance that defines areas of elevated sensitivity for archaeological resources as:

- **Criterion 1:** Within 100 meters (328 feet) of permanent water (rivers, streams, wetlands, ponds and lakes, and hydric soils) and on slopes equal to or less than 12 percent.
- **Criterion 2:** Within or near known archaeological sites.
- **Criterion 3:** Locations of standing or demolished historic structures.

EDR's archaeological sensitivity model incorporated these recommended criteria and utilized them as follows:

- **Criterion 1:** EDR incorporated this criterion into the archaeological sensitivity model with no alterations or additions.
- **Criterion 2:** EDR reviewed the previously identified archaeological sites located within, or within 1 mile, of the Facility Site and applied areas of potential sensitivity around these site locations based on their cultural affiliation/time period, the reliability of the locations/boundary data (e.g., based on the rigor of documented archaeological investigation, if any), and presence or absence of a delineated site boundary. To account for the potential of additional resources or components being located nearby, EDR incorporated the full extent of Indigenous New York State Museum (NYSM) archaeological areas (i.e., no buffer) and buffered Indigenous Unique Site Number (USN) and NYSM archaeological site points by 300 feet. These areas were considered to possess elevated archaeological sensitivity. These distances represent a conservative evaluation of nearby areas, which increases the likelihood of sites being relocated during Phase IB fieldwork.
- **Criterion 3:** EDR digitized the mapped locations of structures from georeferenced historic maps. As these maps are georeferenced from modern features, potential sources of error inherent in this process include cartographic inaccuracies, differences in scale, and changes in the modern landscape. As such, areas within 200 feet of MDS locations are considered archaeologically sensitive. This represents a conservative evaluation of nearby areas and therefore increases the likelihood of sites being identified during Phase IB fieldwork.

Based on these variables and based on updates to the Facility design since submittal of the revised Phase IA report (EDR, 2023), GIS analysis indicates that **Begin Confidential Information** < [REDACTED]

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2.4 Phase IB Archaeological Survey Methodology

Phase IB archaeological survey was conducted within all areas categorized as having elevated archaeological sensitivity, in accordance with the GIS-based model presented in the Phase IA archaeological survey report (EDR, 2023a). The Phase IB archaeological survey included all areas that were considered for development and was conducted concurrent with the Facility design process, resulting in several changes in the size and location of the APE. These changes included Facility components being moved or eliminated to avoid impacts to archaeological resources or siting constraints (e.g., wetland impacts, slopes, landowner preferences, etc.). Consequently, some areas where Phase IB survey was conducted is no longer part of the Facility Site or APE (Attachment B). An array of methodologies were utilized during the Phase IB archaeological survey, and consisted of:

- **Pedestrian Surface Survey: Fields Planted in Row Crops.** In fields and/or cultivated areas with greater than 70 percent ground surface visibility, archaeologists conducted pedestrian surface survey to determine whether archaeological sites were present, in accordance with the NYAC Standards (NYAC, 1994; Attachment D: Photographs 1-2). In these areas, archaeologists traversed the APE along transects spaced at 5-meter intervals while inspecting the ground surface for artifacts and/or archaeological features. If any artifacts or other indication of an archaeological site was observed on the ground surface, then the locations/spatial extent of finds were recorded using sub-meter accuracy Global Positioning System (GPS) equipment. In the vicinity of identified artifacts, transect intervals were reduced to 2-3 meters to delineate site boundaries and the extent of cultural material. After recording the locations/spatial extent of finds in a given area, archaeologists collected a representative sample of observed artifacts for subsequent laboratory identification and analysis. The primary goal of the Phase IB surface survey methodology was to determine site spatial boundaries.
- **Shovel Test Pits: Hay Fields, Forests, and Shrubland.** In areas not suitable for pedestrian surface survey, archaeologists excavated Shovel Test Pits (STPs) to determine whether archaeological sites were present (Attachment D: Photograph 3). STPs were excavated along transects at 15-meter (50-foot) intervals, and in open fields in a grid pattern at 15-meter spacing for a total of approximately 16 STPs per acre. STPs were 30 to 50 centimeter (cm) in diameter and excavated to sterile subsoil or the practical limits of hand excavation (NYAC, 1994). Field data was recorded for each STP that described soil stratigraphy and recorded whether any artifacts were recovered. All soils excavated from STPs were screened through 0.25-inch hardware cloth. If an isolated Native American-related artifact was recovered from a single STP, then up to eight additional STPs were excavated at 1- and 3-meter intervals around the original STP to determine whether the artifact represented an isolated find or the presence of a more substantial archaeological site. STPs at 7.5-meter intervals were also deployed surrounding Native American-related artifacts to refine site boundaries, as warranted.
- **Map-Documented Structure Locations.** Elevated sensitivity buffers (i.e., 200 feet) were placed around MDS locations. These buffers served as a guide for identifying cultural material and features associated with MDSs and not as the limits of testing. If surface features (e.g., a cellar hole) or

artifacts were identified near or outside the limits of an elevated sensitivity buffer, Phase IB survey was extended outside the buffer to delineate site boundaries. Per the NYSHPO Guidelines (NYSHPO, 2005), additional investigations were conducted within the suspected yard area of an MDS, including excavating STPs at 7.5-meter intervals, excavating judgmentally placed STPs, and/or excavating STPs adjacent to (i.e., within 1 meter if possible) identified foundations.

- **Steeply sloped, wetland, and disturbed areas.** No systematic archaeological survey was proposed or conducted in steeply sloped areas, delineated wetlands, or areas where previous soil disturbance was confirmed through visual inspection (per the NYAC Standards; Attachment D: Photographs 4-6). In these areas, archaeological survey was restricted to pedestrian walkover supplemented by judgmental shovel testing if indications of a potential archaeological site were observed (e.g., foundations, structural remains, etc).

This figure has been redacted from this publicly available report because it contains sensitive/confidential archaeological site information.

3.0 PHASE IB ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY RESULTS

The Phase IB fieldwork followed guidance by NYSHPO, incorporating an archaeological sensitivity model which was outlined in the Phase IA report (EDR, 2023a). EDR's Phase IB survey fieldwork was supervised by Joe Kwiatek and Moira Magni. Phase IB archaeological survey fieldwork was conducted for all areas that contained elevated archaeological sensitivity within the APE.

3.1 Phase IB Archaeological Survey Areas

Approximately 266 acres of pedestrian surface survey was conducted and 2,885 STPs were excavated between June 2023 and May 2024. A summary map of the Phase IB fieldwork is included as Attachment B and EDR's STP data is tabulated in Attachment E. For the purposes of organizing fieldwork, EDR arbitrarily grouped all areas of elevated archaeological sensitivity into 10 discrete survey areas based on location, proximity, topography, size, and/or roads (Attachment B). Table 1 below summarizes the shovel tests excavated and pedestrian survey completed in the areas investigated by EDR.

Table 1. Summary of Archaeological Survey Areas

Survey Area	Shovel Tests Excavated	Pedestrian Survey (acres) ¹	Other Testing Acreage (Disturbed, Inundated, Steep Slope)	Attachment/Sheet
A	2,893	128.7	22.5	Attachment B: Sheets 1-22, 24, 26-27, 33, 38-47, 51-52, 52-55, 57-79, and 81-93; Attachment C: Sheets 1, 4, 5, and 8
B	-	11.7	0.5	Attachment B: Sheets 33-34; Attachment C: Sheet 2
C	-	44.7	-	Attachment B: Sheets 79-81; Attachment C: Sheet 7
D	-	43.9	-	Attachment B: Sheets 73-75
E	-	17.7	0.2	Attachment B: Sheets 48, 55-57, 77, 82-84
F	-	1.9	-	Attachment B: Sheet 93; Attachment C: Sheet 6
G	-	1.7	-	Attachment B: Sheet 15; Attachment C: Sheet 3
H	-	5.1	-	Attachment B: Sheet 39
I	-	0.5	3.1	Attachment B: Sheet 18
J	-	9.1	-	Attachment B: Sheet 62
Total:	2,885	266	25.3	

¹ Pedestrian survey efforts that overlap with shovel testing are considered supplemental. Ground-surface visibility in these areas was not adequate (i.e., less than 70 percent) for pedestrian survey, but was conducted regardless due to the identification of several artifacts on the ground surface in these areas.

During and after completion of the archaeological fieldwork, some Facility component locations were revised for a variety of circumstances, including, but not limited to: avoidance of archaeological resources, results of environmental studies, and property owner concerns. Therefore, many of the areas where Phase IB survey occurred are no longer part of the Facility Site or the APE (Attachment B).

3.2 Identified Archaeological Sites

In total, the Phase IB archaeological survey identified **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED]

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A total of **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED] >**End Confidential Information** were recovered during Phase IB archaeological survey efforts completed for the Facility. In cases where individual or sparsely scattered Euro-American artifacts were observed, but were not associated with a foundation, feature, or other indication of a potential archaeological site, artifacts were noted (and recorded as such in Appendices B and E) but not collected (and therefore not included in Attachment F). These artifacts were likely deposited through indiscriminate and unintentional activities such as roadside dumping or manuring and were therefore not considered in-situ components of intact archaeological sites.

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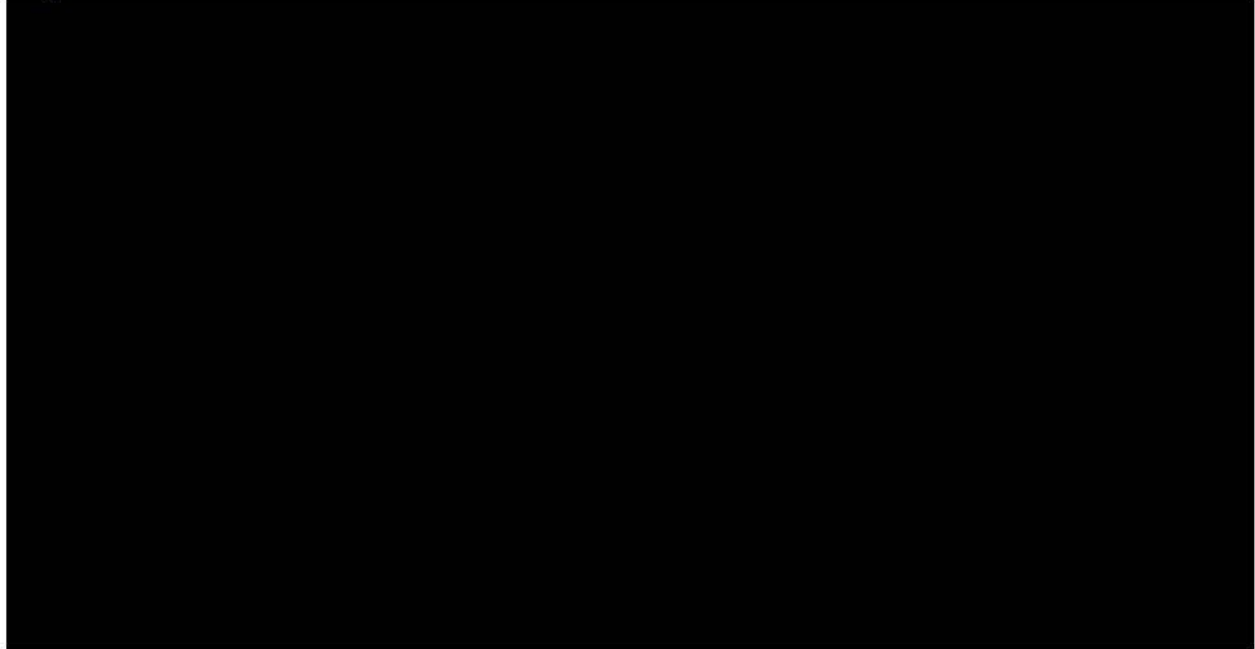
3.3 Identified Isolated Finds

In total, **Begin Confidential Information** <[REDACTED]> **End Confidential Information** were identified during the Phase IB survey. In accordance with NYSHPO guidelines, EDR defines an “isolated find” as a single artifact with a lack of any additional cultural material within a 15-meter radius. Modern materials (i.e., objects less than 50 years old) are not considered isolated finds. Isolated finds are not considered to be archaeological sites and are therefore not eligible for listing on the S/NRHP. No further archaeological

investigations are recommended. A complete description of the artifacts recovered from each isolated find is addressed in Table 12 and Attachment F.

Table 12. Isolated Finds Identified during the Phase IB Survey

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3.4 Cemeteries

One cemetery was identified as part of the current survey. The Stewart Corners Cemetery borders the Facility Site within boundaries of Scipio Center, New York (Attachment B: Sheet 94). Cemetery boundaries have been digitized based on a combination of field observations, aerial imagery, hillshade, historic maps, and parcel data. The Applicant intends to avoid all physical impacts to cemeteries and has designed the APE to avoid these boundaries. The APE is located 0.2 miles south of Stewart Corners Cemetery. As such, no physical impacts to cemeteries are anticipated.

4.0 SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS

The Phase IB archaeological survey was completed in accordance with the proposed research design and methodology submitted to the NYSHPO in the *Phase IA Archaeological Survey* report (EDR, 2023). As noted above—due to changes in Facility layout—many areas where Phase IB survey was conducted are no longer within the Facility Site or APE.

Phase IB archaeological survey fieldwork was conducted for all areas of elevated archaeological sensitivity within the APE. In total, the current archaeological survey efforts included the excavation of 2,885 STPs and pedestrian surface survey of approximately 266 acres. The Phase IB survey resulted in the identification of

>End Confidential Information As isolated finds are not considered to be archaeological sites, they are ineligible for inclusion on the S/NRHP and are not included in the table below.

Table 13. Summary of Archaeological Sites Identified During the Phase IB Survey

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As summarized in Table 13 above, the Phase IB archaeological survey resulted in the identification of **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED]

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4.1 Recommendations

The Phase IB archaeological survey identified **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
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In an effort to avoid impacts to all unevaluated archaeological sites identified in the Phase IB survey, the Applicant has moved, modified, or eliminated several Facility components. Construction techniques were modified to avoid ground disturbance within 50 feet of **Begin Confidential Information**< [REDACTED] >**End Confidential Information** With the implementation of these avoidance measures, no impacts to any potentially S/NRHP-eligible archaeological resources are anticipated. No further archaeological investigations are recommended.

5.0 REFERENCES

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Phase IB Archaeological Survey: Agricola Wind

REDACTED

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Phase IB Archaeological Survey: Agricola Wind

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Attachment A

NYSHPO and Nations Correspondence



June 15, 2021

Clint Halftown

Nation Representative

P.O. Box 803

Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Email: c/o.sharon.leroy@cayuganation-nsn.gov

**RE: Proposed Agricola Wind Project
Cultural Resources Surveys and Environmental Review**

Dear Mr. Halftown:

Liberty Renewables Inc. is currently planning, designing, and conducting environmental permitting studies for the proposed Agricola Wind Project and would like to invite the Cayuga Nation to begin a discussion about the project. This project is a proposed wind-powered electric generating facility (referred to herein as the Facility) in the Towns of Venice, Scipio, and Moravia in Cayuga County (see Figure 1 attached). We are aware that the Facility is partially located within ancestral Cayuga lands and would like to initiate a dialogue with the Nation regarding potential archaeological sites, historic properties, or other sensitive areas of concern.

The Facility would be built within an approximately 8,354-acre area (referred to herein as the Facility Area; see Figure 2 attached), which consists primarily of active agricultural land and forest and is roughly bound by Center Road to the north, Moravia-Venice Townline Road to the east, Austin Road to the south, and Stewart's Corners Road to the west.

At this time, we anticipate that the Facility will consist of up to 22 wind turbines, with a total generating capacity of up to 100 megawatts (MW), and associated infrastructure including a point-of-interconnection (POI) substation, meteorological towers, temporary laydown areas, collection lines, and access roads. Not all the land included in the Facility Area will ultimately be included in the Facility Site. Rather, the Facility Area represents the broader area within which selected parcels will be developed with Facility components. This provides flexibility during Facility development to minimize and avoid impacts to cultural resources, visual resources, wetlands, wildlife habitat, and other sensitive resources.

Liberty Renewables Inc. is seeking a permit to construct the Facility from New York State through the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), which issues permits for major renewable energy facilities under Section 94-c of the New York State Executive Law. Chapter XVIII Title 19 of NYCRR Part 900

establishes the procedural and substantive requirements for a Siting Permit Application under Section 94-c.

The Siting Permit Application prepared for the Facility will include engineering plans and the results of various environmental and cultural resources studies. The cultural resources studies are being prepared on behalf of Liberty Renewables Inc. by Environmental Design & Research (EDR), an environmental consulting firm based in Syracuse, New York.

Liberty Renewables Inc. would like to request a meeting or series of meetings with the Nation to introduce the Facility, discuss archaeological and historic sites or other areas of concern, and respectfully requests the assistance of the Nation to identify, avoid, and minimize potential impacts to these sites.

Liberty Renewables Inc.'s Primary Point of Contact for the project is:

Mr. Andy MacCallum
President
Liberty Renewables Inc.
90 State Street, Suite 700
Albany, NY 12207
Email: amaccallum@liberty-renewables.com
Phone: 902-877-5622

We have recently initiated preparing cultural resources studies for the Facility and are providing our preliminary schedule for these studies to facilitate discussion:

- Phase IA Archaeological Sensitivity Assessment/Archaeological Survey Research Design (anticipated submission to the Nation in summer 2021)
- Phase IA Historic Resources Survey Methodology (summer 2021)
- Request for Information re: Visually Sensitive Areas or Sites (fall 2021)
- Phase IB Archaeological Fieldwork (anticipated to be conducted fall 2021 or spring 2022)
- Historic Resources Survey Fieldwork (fall 2021)
- Historic Resources Survey Report (spring 2022)
- Phase IB Archaeological Survey Report (spring 2022)
- Siting Permit Application submitted to ORES (2022)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wetland permit review/Section 106 review (2022)

We look forward to working with you and are confident that the Agricola Wind Project can be developed and built in a manner that is respectful of the Cayuga Nation's heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Grant Johnson
Senior Project Manager – Historic Preservation
Environmental Design & Research

Attachments:

- Figure 1. Regional Facility Location
- Figure 2. Facility Area



June 15, 2021

Anthony Gonyea

Faithkeeper

4040 State Route 11

Onondaga Nation Administration Building

Onondaga Nation, Nedrow, NY 13120

Email: tony61gonyea@gmail.com

**RE: Proposed Agricola Wind Project
Cultural Resources Surveys and Environmental Review**

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- Historic Resources Survey Report (spring 2022)
- Phase IB Archaeological Survey Report (spring 2022)
- Siting Permit Application submitted to ORES (2022)
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers wetland permit review/Section 106 review (2022)

We look forward to working with you and are confident that the Agricola Wind Project can be developed and built in a manner that is respectful of the Onondaga Nation's heritage.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Grant Johnson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Grant Johnson
Senior Project Manager – Historic Preservation
Environmental Design & Research

Attachments:

- Figure 1. Regional Facility Location
- Figure 2. Facility Area

CC: Alma Lowry, Attorney
Joe Heath, Attorney



**Parks, Recreation,
and Historic Preservation**

ANDREW M. CUOMO
Governor

ERIK KULLESEID
Commissioner

June 21, 2021

Andrew Roblee
Project Architectural Historian
Environmental Design & Research
217 Montgomery Street
Suite 100
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: ORES
Agricola Wind Project
Towns of Moravia, Scipio and Venice, Cayuga County, NY
21PR03987
21029

Dear Andrew Roblee:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Division for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the submitted materials in accordance with the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980 (Section 14.09 of the New York Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law). These comments are those of the Division for Historic Preservation and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources. They do not include potential environmental impacts to New York State Parkland that may be involved in or near your project. Such impacts must be considered as part of the environmental review of the project pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act (New York Environmental Conservation Law Article 8) and its implementing regulations (5NYCRR Part 617).

We have reviewed EDR's Memorandum dated June 15, 2021, and we concur with EDR's proposed Phase IA archaeological investigation. OPRHP looks forward to reading the results of the investigation.

When project plans are available, OPRHP would like EDR to submit an ESRI shapefile containing polygons representing project components that involve ground disturbance.

If further correspondence is required regarding this project, please refer to the OPRHP Project Review (PR) number noted above. If you have any questions, please contact me via email.

Sincerely,

Tim Lloyd, Ph.D.
Scientist - Archaeology
timothy.lloyd@parks.ny.gov

via e-mail only



Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

ERIK KULLESEID
Commissioner

September 9, 2021

Andrew Roblee
Project Architectural Historian
Environmental Design & Research
217 Montgomery Street
Suite 100
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: ORES
Agricola Wind Project
Towns of Moravia, Scipio and Venice, Cayuga County, NY
21PR03987

Dear Andrew Roblee:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Division for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the submitted materials in accordance with the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980 (Section 14.09 of the New York Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law). These comments are those of the Division for Historic Preservation and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources.

We have reviewed the report of the Phase IA archaeological investigation (21SR00525). OPRHP requests the following report revisions.

On report Page 27, EDR states

EDR developed a GIS-based sensitivity model for the Facility Area to identify portions of the APE for Direct Effects which would be more likely to contain archaeological materials than others. Recent NYSHPO [OPRHP] guidance recommends the following criteria to define areas of Elevated Sensitivity for archaeological resources:

1. Portions of the Facility Area within 61 meters (200 feet) of a historically map-documented structure.
2. Portions of the Facility Area within 100 meters (328 feet) of permanent water (rivers, streams, wetlands, ponds and lakes, and hydric soils) and on slopes equal to or less than 12 percent.
3. Portions of the Facility Area within 305 meters (1,000 feet) of known archaeological sites (defined as NYSHPO or NYSM sites).

Criterion Number 2 is OPRHP policy. Criteria Numbers 1 and 3 are not OPRHP policy. OPRHP requests that the report text be revised to be clear what is and is not OPRHP policy.

Regarding Criterion Number 1, OPRHP concurs with EDR's use of 61 meters from map-documented structures in the definition of archaeological sensitivity.

Regarding Criterion Number 3, OPRHP does not concur with the use of 305 meters from known archaeological sites in the definition of archaeological sensitivity. Creating buffers around previously recorded archaeological sites for the purpose of guiding Phase IB subsurface testing is problematic and should be developed on a case-by-case basis. OPRHP request that Criterion 3 be removed from the report.

If further correspondence is required regarding this project, please refer to the OPRHP Project Review (PR) number noted above. If you have any questions, please contact me via email.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Lloyd', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Tim Lloyd, Ph.D.
Scientist - Archaeology
timothy.lloyd@parks.ny.gov

via e-mail only



**New York State
Parks, Recreation and
Historic Preservation**

KATHY HOCHUL
Governor

ERIK KULLESEID
Commissioner

May 30, 2023

Grant Johnson
Senior Project Manager, Historic Preservation
Environmental Design & Research
217 Montgomery Street
Suite 1100
Syracuse, NY 13202

Re: ORES
Agricola Wind Project
Towns of Moravia, Scipio and Venice, Cayuga County, NY
21PR03987

Dear Grant Johnson:

Thank you for requesting the comments of the Division for Historic Preservation of the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (OPRHP). We have reviewed the submitted materials in accordance with the New York State Historic Preservation Act of 1980 (Section 14.09 of the New York Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Law). These comments are those of the Division for Historic Preservation and relate only to Historic/Cultural resources.

Thank you for revising the report of the Phase IA archaeological investigation (21SR00525), as requested in the OPRHP's letter dated September 9, 2021. The OPRHP concurs with the report recommendations for Phase IB archaeological testing in areas of high archaeological sensitivity.

If further correspondence is required regarding this project, please refer to the OPRHP Project Review (PR) number noted above. If you have any questions, please contact me via email.

Sincerely,

Tim Lloyd, Ph.D.
Scientist - Archaeology
timothy.lloyd@parks.ny.gov

via e-mail only



June 13, 2024

Clint Halftown

Nation Representative

P.O. Box 803

Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Email chalftown@gocayuga.com

Chief Sam George

Cayuga National Council

P.O. Box 433

Union Springs, NY 13160

Email sevenclansam@gmail.com

**RE: Agricola Wind Project
 Cultural Resources Surveys and Environmental Review
 EDR Project #21029**

Dear Mr. Halftown and Mr. George:

I am writing to provide the Cayuga Nation with the cultural resources survey documents for the proposed Agricola Wind Project in the Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York (the Facility). As previously communicated in our introductory letter sent to you June 15, 2021, Liberty Renewables Inc is currently planning, designing, and conducting permitting studies for the Facility (please see attached Figures 1 and 2). This letter includes a brief description of the proposed scope of the Facility and a link to a SharePoint site where PDF copies of the cultural resources survey reports completed to date are available for review and comment by the Nation.

At this time, we anticipate that the Facility will consist of up to 24 wind turbines, with a total generating capacity of up to 99 megawatts (MW). Associated infrastructure will include a collection substation, a point-of-interconnection (POI) switchyard, an operations and maintenance (O&M) facility, two meteorological towers, an aircraft detection lighting system (ADLS) tower, collection lines, and access roads. Facility components will be sited on approximately 40 parcels of land that total approximately 4,000 acres in size (referred to herein as the Facility Site; see Figure 2 attached). Only a small proportion of the land included in the Facility Site will ultimately be developed as part of the project.

Liberty Renewables Inc. is seeking a permit to construct the Facility from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), which issues permits for major renewable energy facilities under Section 94-c of the New York State Executive Law. Chapter XVIII Title 19 of NYCRR Part 900 establishes the procedural and substantive requirements for a Siting Permit Application under Section 94-c.

The Siting Permit Application prepared for the Facility will include engineering plans and the results of various environmental and cultural resources studies.

Liberty Renewables Inc. retained Environmental Design & Research (EDR) to undertake cultural resources studies for the Facility. Liberty Renewables Inc.'s Primary Point of Contact for the project is Meg Lee.

Meg Lee
Permitting Manager
Liberty Renewables Inc.
90 State Street
Albany, NY 12207
Email: mlee@liberty-renewables.com
Phone: 860-575-0680

In May 2023, EDR prepared a Phase IA Archaeological Survey for the Facility.

The Phase IA Archaeological Survey is available as a PDF document for review and comment on a SharePoint site at this link: [2023-05 Agricola Wind Phase IA Archaeological Survey.pdf](#)

Phase IB archaeological survey fieldwork is currently in progress. When completed, EDR will notify the Nation via email and upload the Phase IB Archaeological Survey report to SharePoint. This report is expected to be available late spring/early summer 2024.

Upcoming anticipated project milestones include the following:

- Submission of the Section 94-c Siting Permit Application to ORES (Fall 2024)
- Submission of the Joint Application for Permit to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Fall 2025)

We look forward to working with you and appreciate your review and/or comments. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me at psittig@edrdpc.com or (919) 810-7066, or Doug Pippin at dpippin@edrdpc.com or (585) 752-6147.

We are confident that the Agricola Wind Project can be developed in a manner that is respectful of the Cayuga Nation's heritage.

Sincerely,



Peter Sittig
EDR Archaeology Project Manager

Attachments:

- Figure 1. Regional Facility Location
- Figure 2. Facility Site

Copy to (via email):

Tim Lloyd, New York State Historic Preservation Office

Bradley Russell, New York State Historic Preservation Office

Figure 1. Regional Facility Location

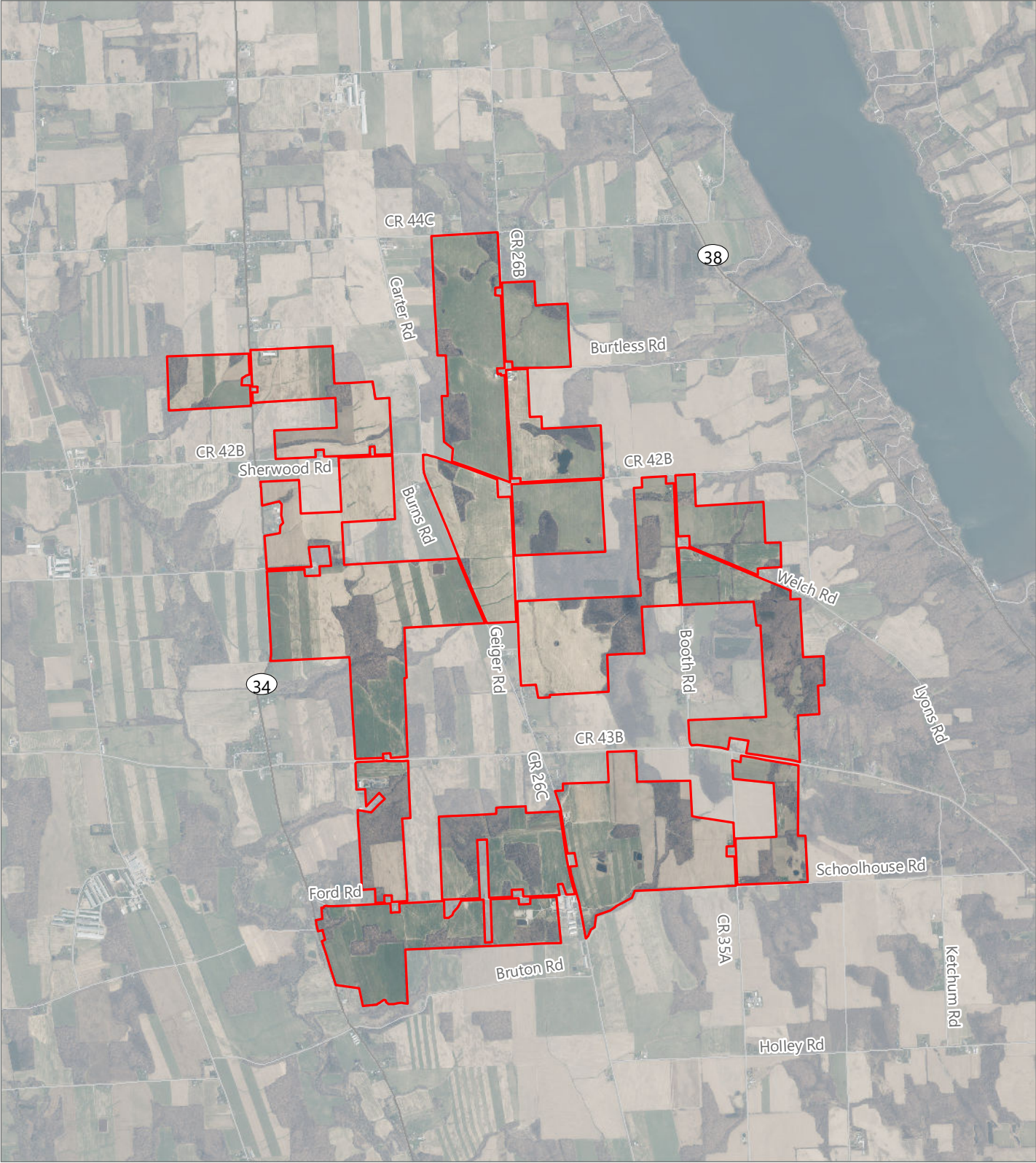


Agricola Wind Project

Towns of Venice, Scipio, and Moravia
Cayuga County, New York




Figure 2. Facility Site

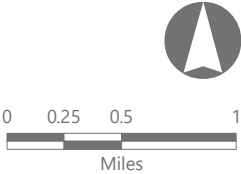


Agricola Wind Project

Towns of Venice and Scipio,
Cayuga County, New York

Phase 1A Archaeological Survey

 Facility Site





June 13, 2024

Anthony Gonyea

106 Representative

State Route 11

P.O. Box 245

Nedrow, NY 13120

Email: tony61gonyea@gmail.com

**RE: Agricola Wind Project
 Cultural Resources Surveys and Environmental Review
 EDR Project #21029**

Dear Mr. Gonyea:

I am writing to provide the Onondaga Nation with the cultural resources survey documents for the proposed Agricola Wind Project in the Towns of Venice and Scipio, Cayuga County, New York (the Facility). As previously communicated in our introductory letter sent to you June 15, 2021, Liberty Renewables Inc is currently planning, designing, and conducting permitting studies for the Facility (please see attached Figures 1 and 2). This letter includes a brief description of the proposed scope of the Facility and a link to a SharePoint site where PDF copies of the cultural resources survey reports completed to date are available for review and comment by the Nation.

At this time, we anticipate that the Facility will consist of up to 24 wind turbines, with a total generating capacity of up to 99 megawatts (MW). Associated infrastructure will include a collection substation, a point-of-interconnection (POI) switchyard, an operations and maintenance (O&M) facility, two meteorological towers, an aircraft detection lighting system (ADLS) tower, collection lines, and access roads. Facility components will be sited on approximately 40 parcels of land that total approximately 4,000 acres in size (referred to herein as the Facility Site; see Figure 2 attached). Only a small proportion of the land included in the Facility Site will ultimately be developed as part of the project.

Liberty Renewables Inc. is seeking a permit to construct the Facility from the Office of Renewable Energy Siting (ORES), which issues permits for major renewable energy facilities under Section 94-c of the New York State Executive Law. Chapter XVIII Title 19 of NYCRR Part 900 establishes the procedural and substantive requirements for a Siting Permit Application under Section 94-c.

The Siting Permit Application prepared for the Facility will include engineering plans and the results of various environmental and cultural resources studies.

Liberty Renewables Inc. retained Environmental Design & Research (EDR) to undertake cultural resources studies for the Facility. Liberty Renewables Inc.'s Primary Point of Contact for the project is Meg Lee.

Meg Lee
Permitting Manager
Liberty Renewables Inc.
90 State Street
Albany, NY 12207
Email: mlee@liberty-renewables.com
Phone: 860-575-0680

In May 2023, EDR prepared a Phase IA Archaeological Survey for the Facility.

The Phase IA Archaeological Survey is available as a PDF document for review and comment on a SharePoint site at this link: [2023-05 Agricola Wind Phase IA Archaeological Survey.pdf](#)

Phase IB archaeological survey fieldwork is currently in progress. When completed, EDR will notify the Nation via email and upload the Phase IB Archaeological Survey report to SharePoint. This report is expected to be available late spring/early summer 2024.

Upcoming anticipated project milestones include the following:

- Submission of the Section 94-c Siting Permit Application to ORES (Fall 2024)
- Submission of the Joint Application for Permit to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Fall 2025)

We look forward to working with you and appreciate your review and/or comments. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please contact me at psittig@edrdpc.com or (919) 810-7066, or Doug Pippin at dpippin@edrdpc.com or (585) 752-6147.

We are confident that the Agricola Wind Project can be developed in a manner that is respectful of the Onondaga Nation's heritage.

Sincerely,



Peter Sittig
EDR Archaeology Project Manager

Attachments:

- Figure 1. Regional Facility Location
- Figure 2. Facility Site

Copy to (via email):

Tim Lloyd, New York State Historic Preservation Office
Bradley Russell, New York State Historic Preservation Office

Figure 1. Regional Facility Location



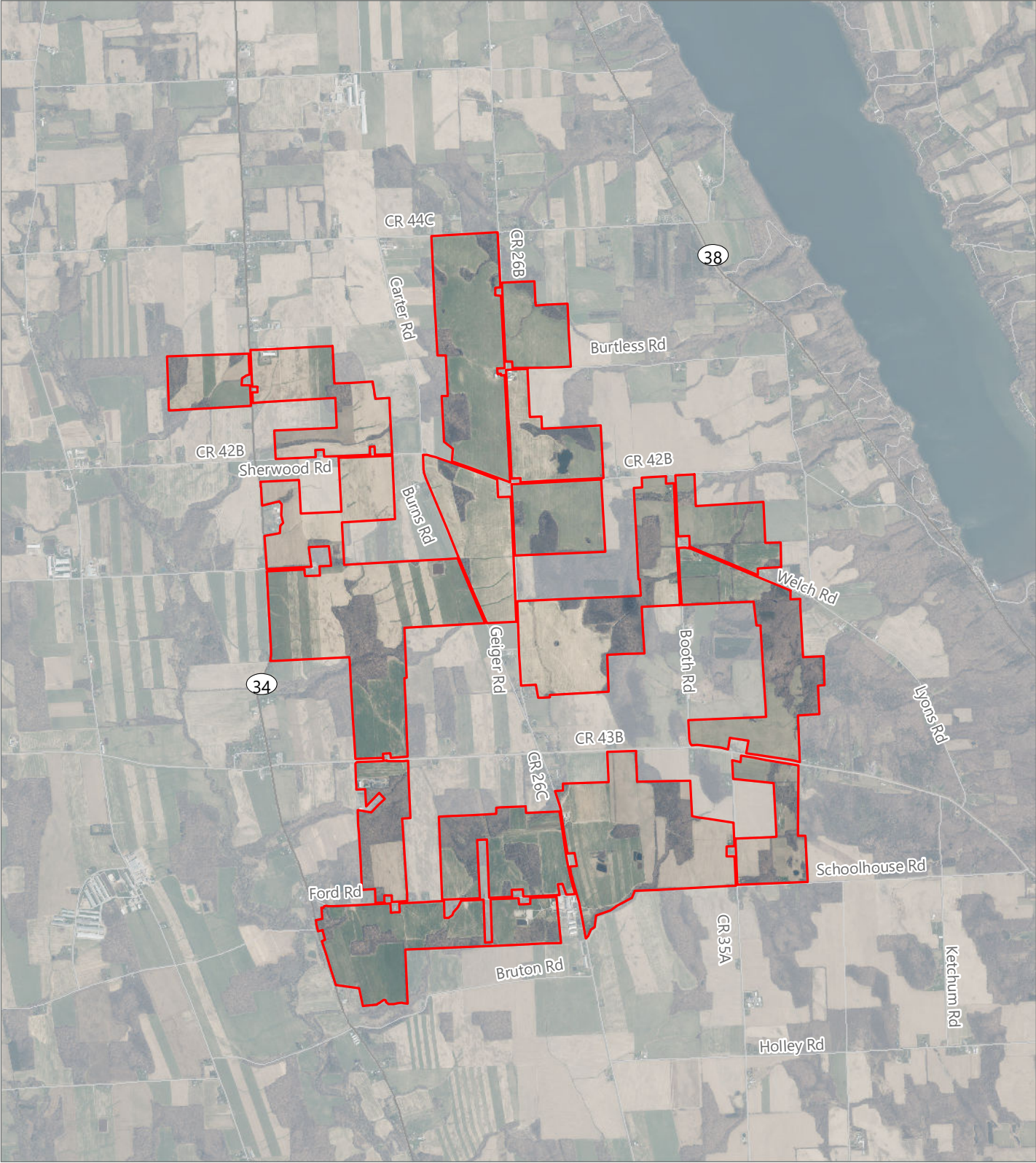
Agricola Wind Project

Towns of Venice, Scipio, and Moravia
Cayuga County, New York



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Figure 2. Facility Site

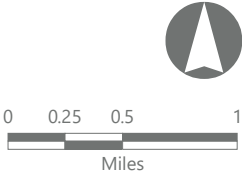


Agricola Wind Project

Towns of Venice and Scipio,
Cayuga County, New York

Phase 1A Archaeological Survey

 Facility Site



Attachment B

Phase IB Archaeological Survey Results

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Agricola Wind

Town of Venice and Scipio,
Cayuga County, New York

Phase IB Archaeological Survey

- Archaeological Investigation Results
- Shovel Test - No Cultural Material
 - Shovel Testing
- Proposed Facility Components
- 🗺 Wind Turbine
 - Access Road
 - - - Underground Collection Line
 - Elevated Archaeological Sensitivity
 - ▭ Area of Potential Effects
 - ▭ Facility Site



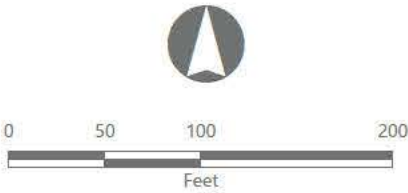
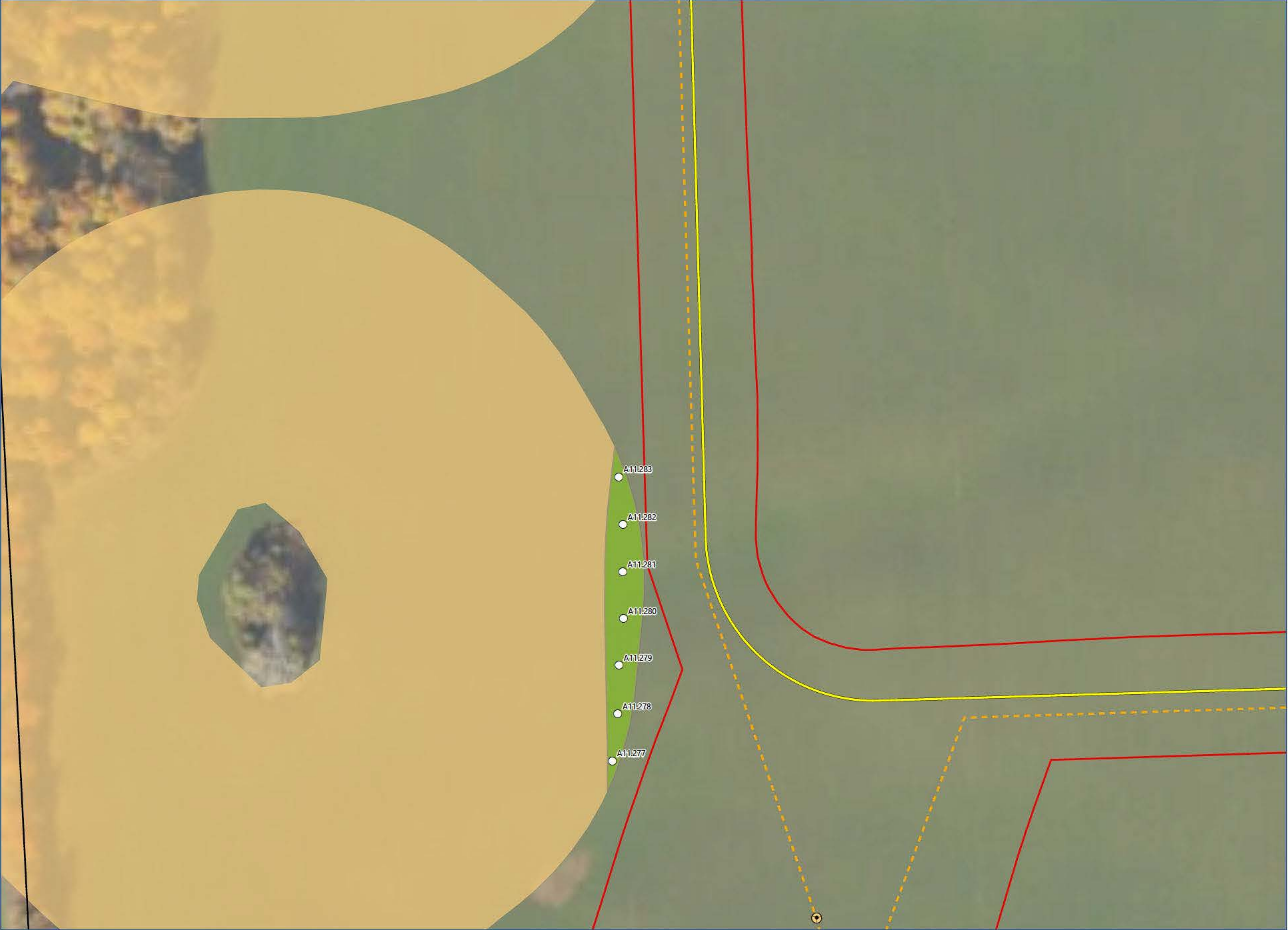
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Agricola Wind

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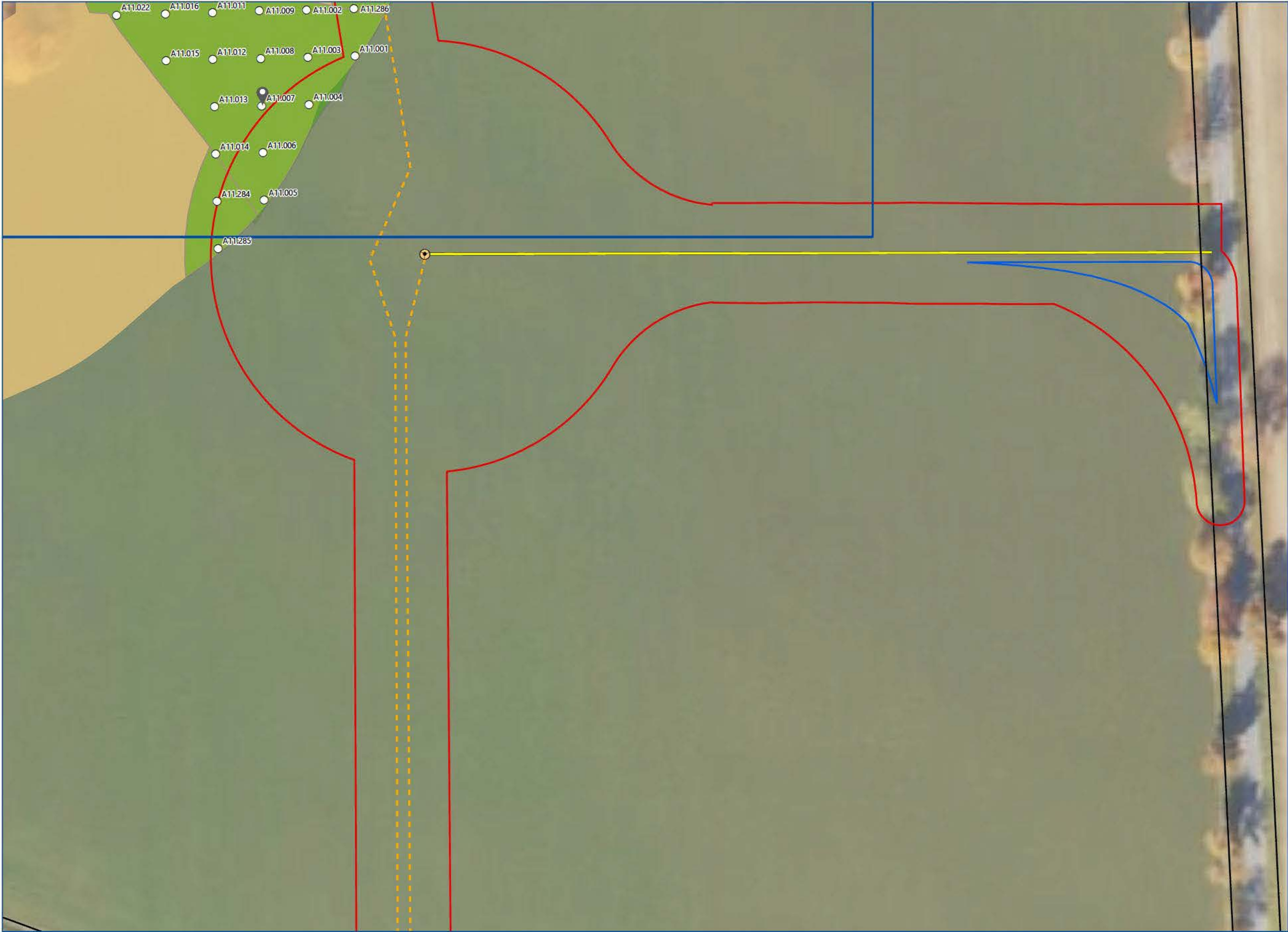
Town of Venice and Scipio,
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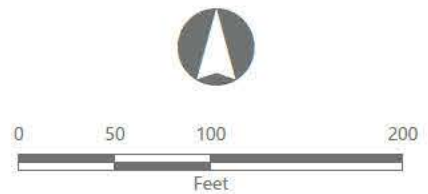


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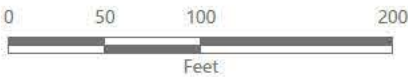
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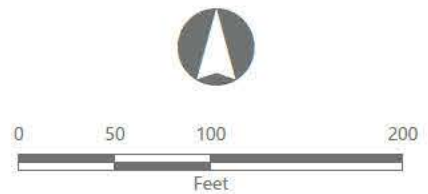


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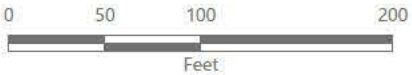
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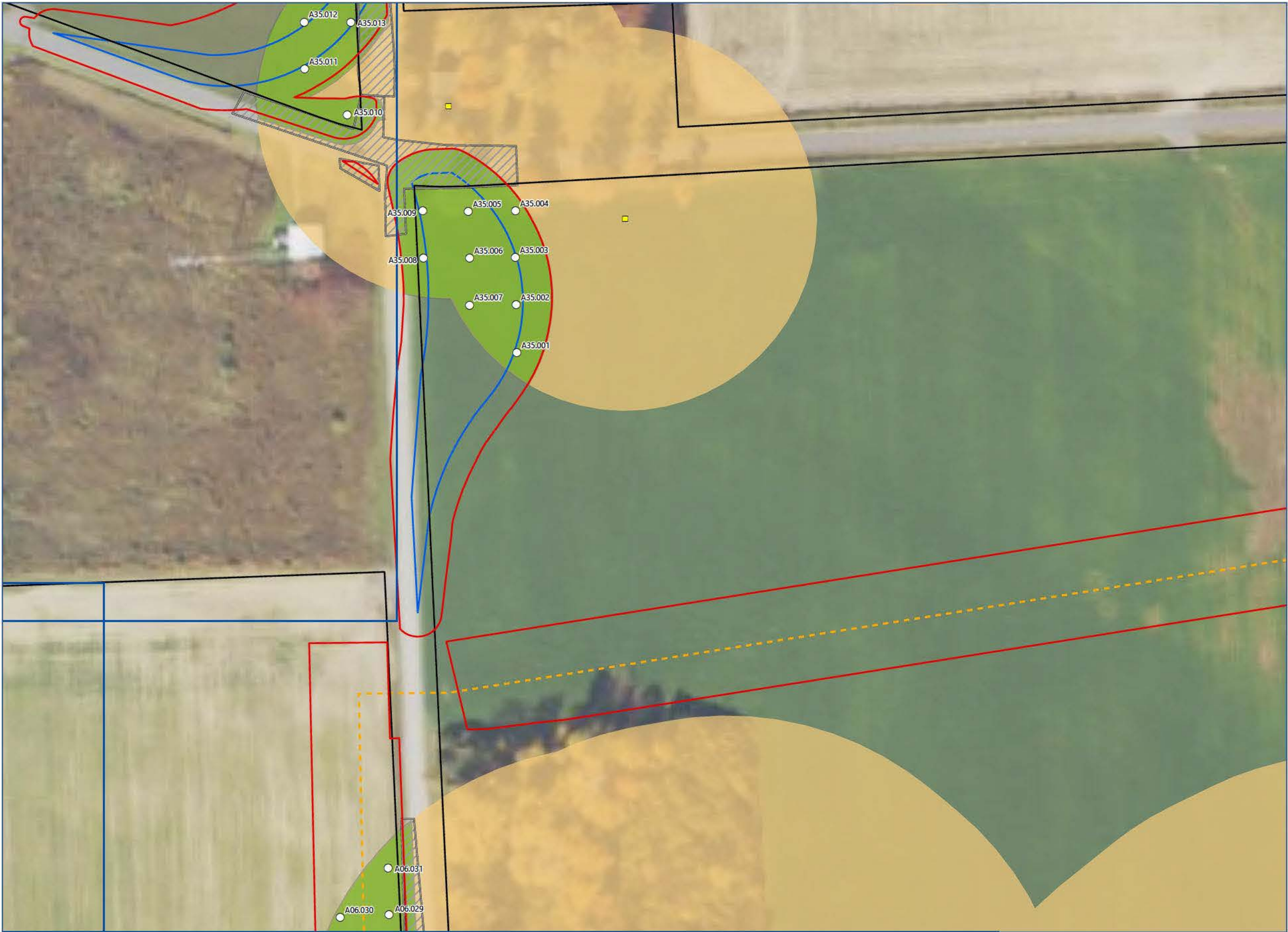


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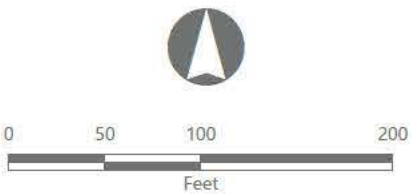
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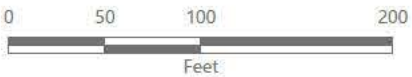
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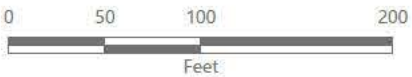
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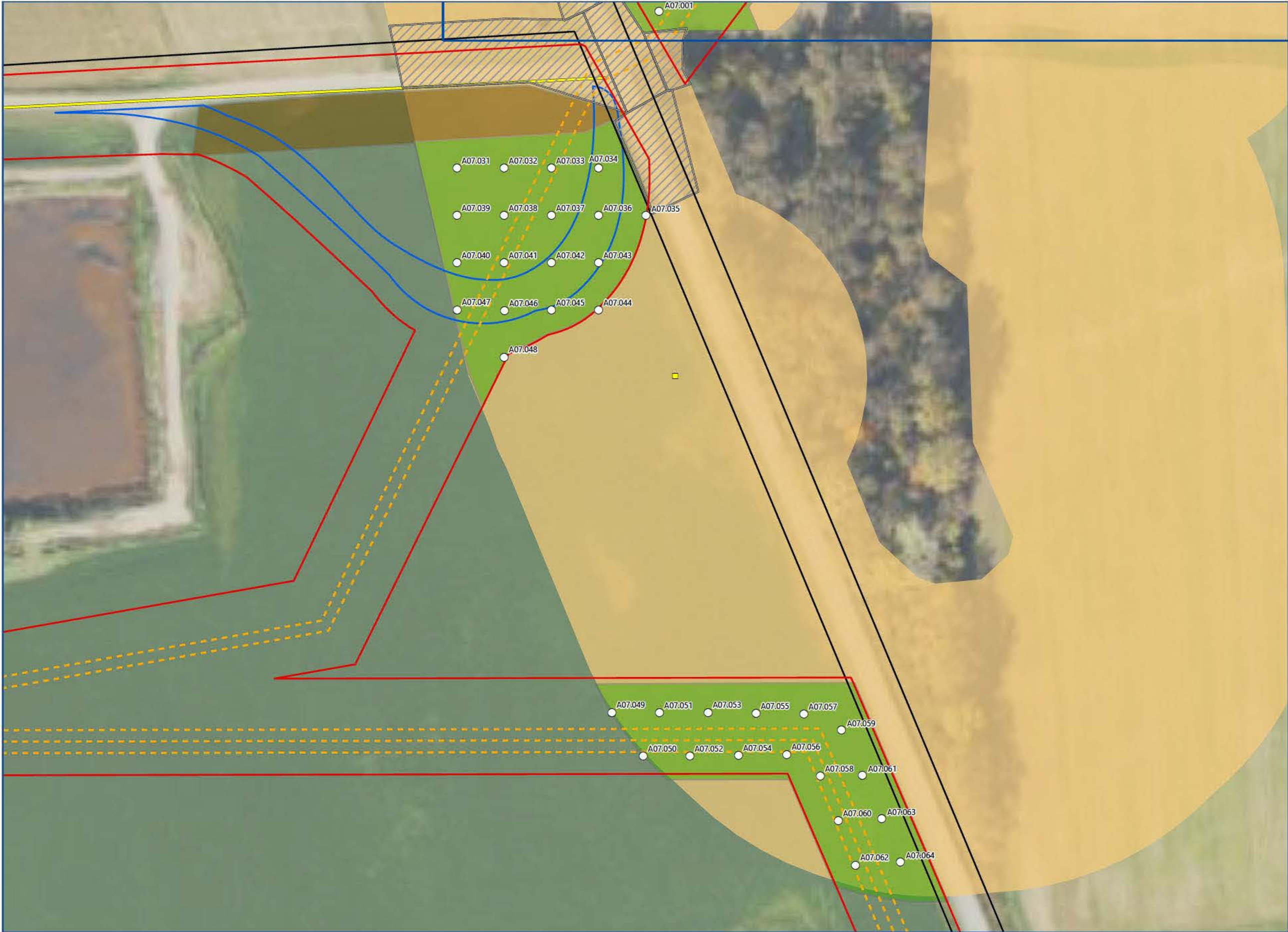


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Phase IB Archaeological Survey



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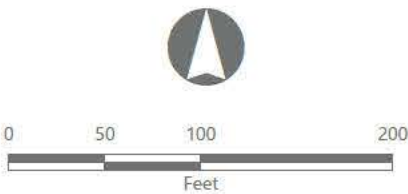
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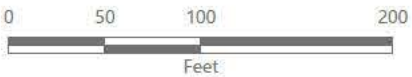
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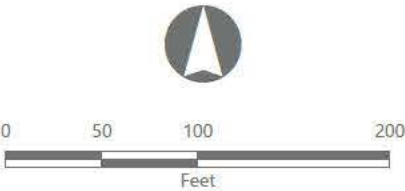
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Phase IB Archaeological Survey

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 - POI Substation
 - Potential O&M Building
 - Area of Potential Effects
 - Facility Site



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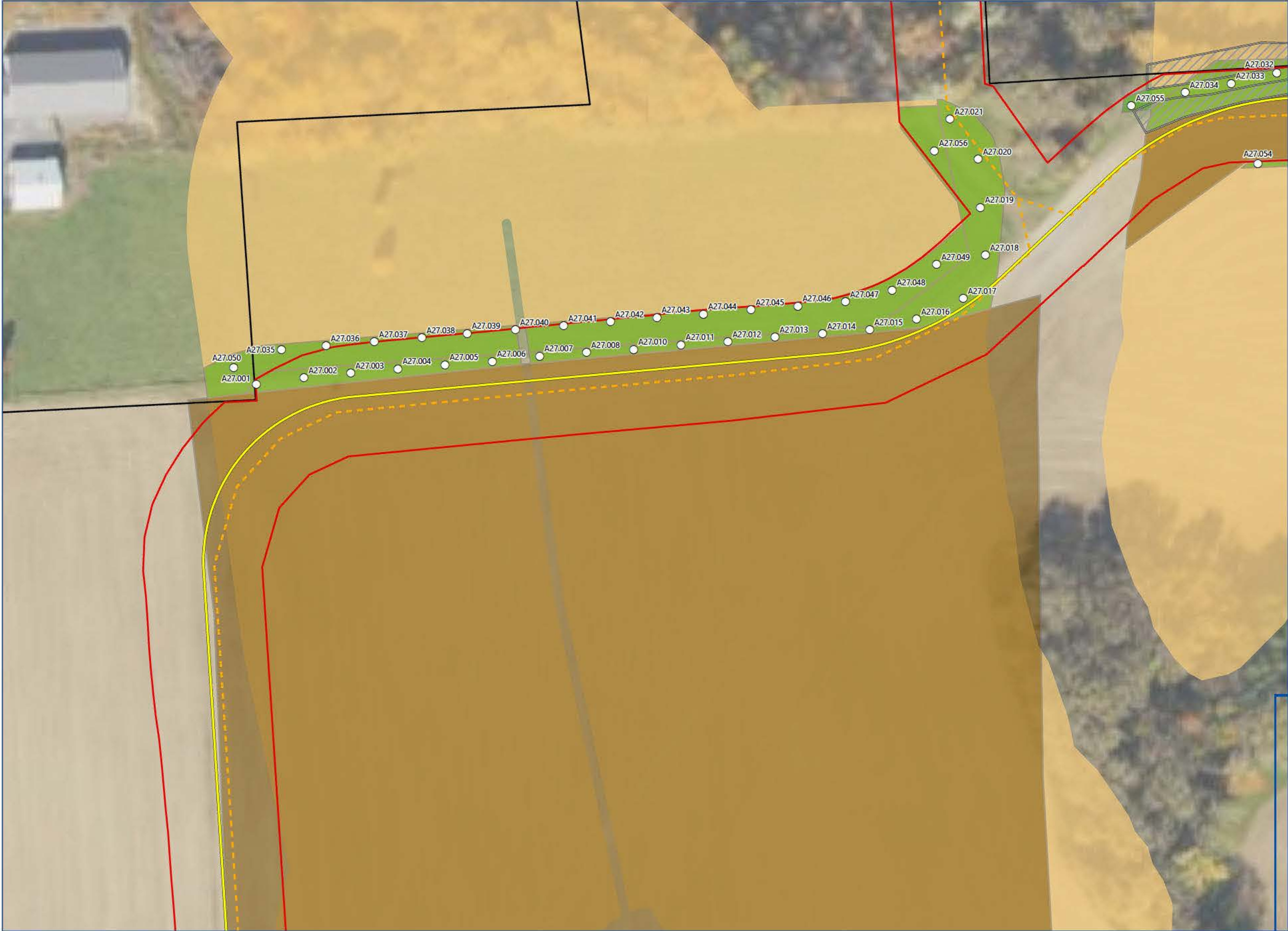
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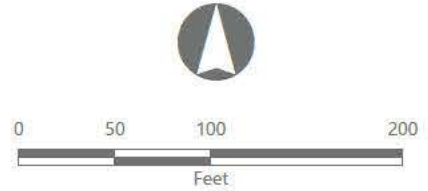


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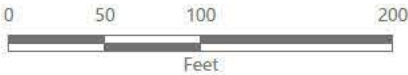
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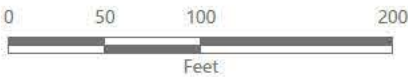
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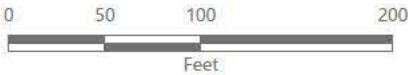
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Phase IB Archaeological Survey

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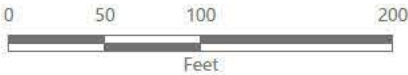
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Agricola Wind

Town of Venice and Scipio,
Cayuga County, New York

Phase IB Archaeological Survey

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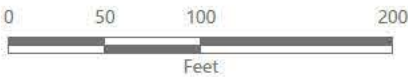
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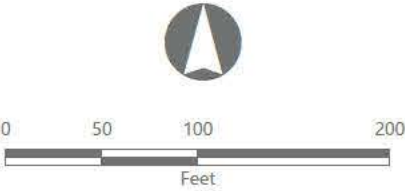


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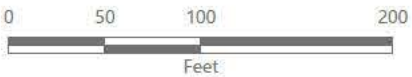
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 - ▨ Other
 - ▨ Steep Slope
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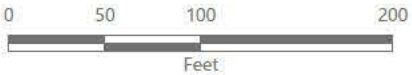
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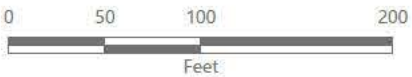
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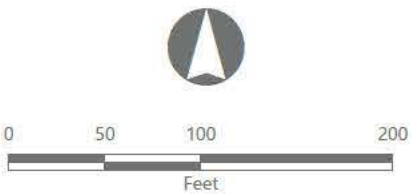
Agricola Wind

Town of Venice and Scipio,
Cayuga County, New York

Phase IB Archaeological Survey



- Archaeological Investigation Results
- Shovel Test - No Cultural Material
 - Pedestrian Survey
 - Shovel Testing
 - Disturbed
 - Inundated
 - Steep Slope
- Proposed Facility Components
- - - Underground Collection Line
 - Overhead Collection Line
 - Elevated Archaeological Sensitivity
 - Area of Potential Effects
 - Facility Site



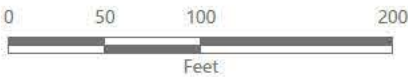
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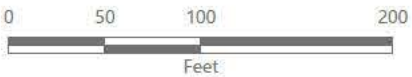
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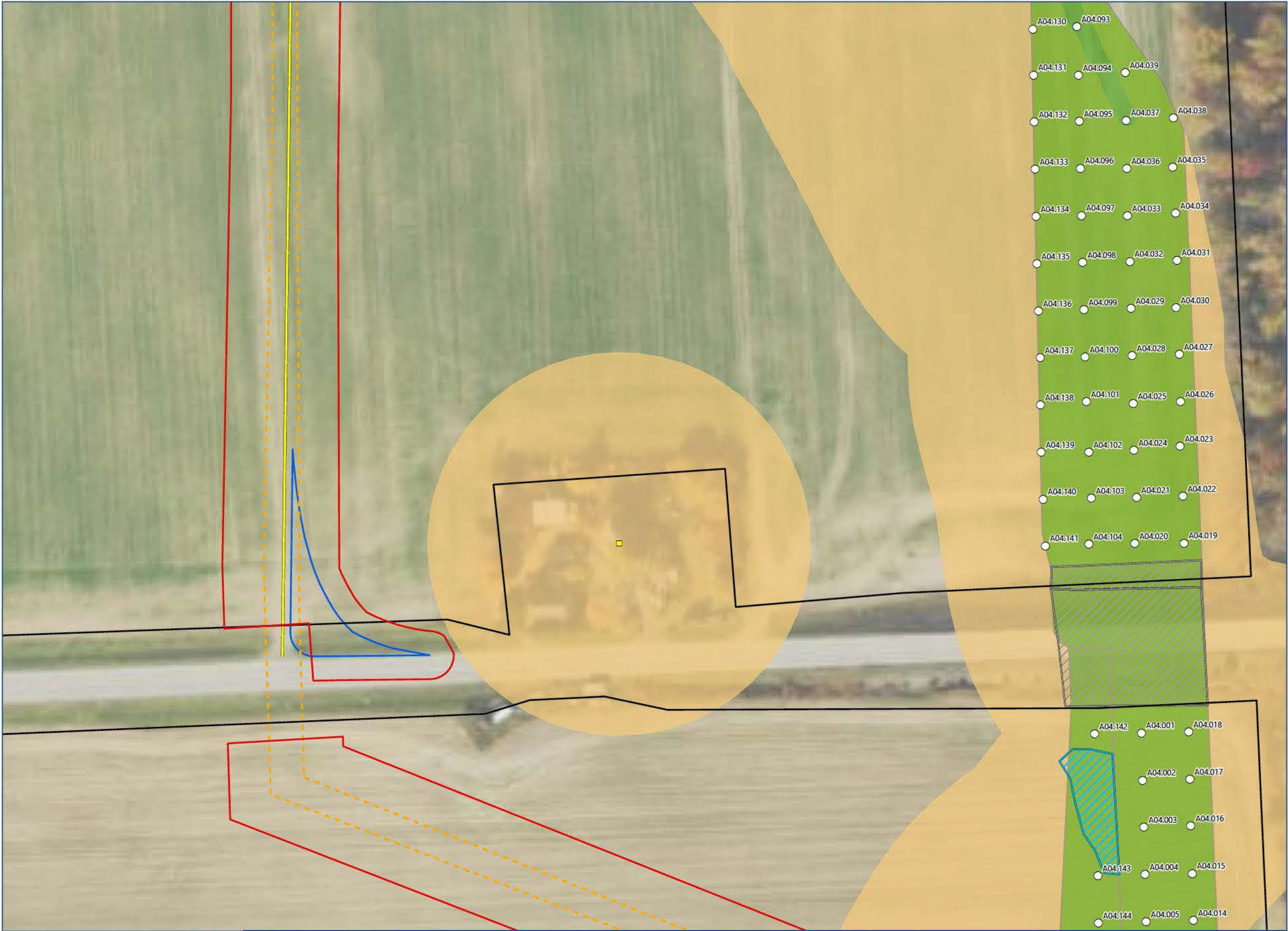
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- Map-Documented Structure
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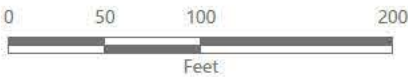
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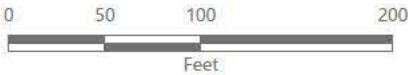
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Proposed Facility Components

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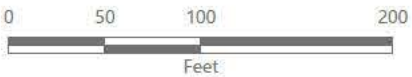
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 - ▩ Other
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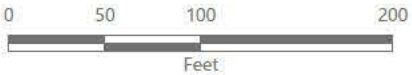
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