

# Basin Electric Naset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project

## *Reclamation Inspection Report*

**Docket Number: PU-21-049**

Prepared for North Dakota Public Service Commission



November 2025

# Reclamation Inspection Report

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# 1 Executive Summary

The North Dakota Public Service Commission (PSC) retained Barr Engineering Co. (Barr) to complete a reclamation inspection for the construction of the Basin Electric Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line project (Project) in Mountrail County, North Dakota (ND), constructed by Basin Electric Power Cooperative (Basin). The purpose of the inspection is to ensure the project is constructed in compliance with siting laws and rules and the applicable PSC Orders for the project.

The reclamation inspection was conducted on November 4, 2025. The inspection included observations of the reclaimed areas along right of way (ROW) with various land uses observed. No major issues were observed. Reclamation efforts of the Project are satisfactory and appeared to have been completed according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) recommendations. The Project is in compliance with applicable siting laws, rules, and PSC orders.

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## 2 Background and Scope

### 2.1 Introduction

The Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line is a 230-kilovolt transmission line originating at the Neset substation near White Earth, North Dakota and ending at the new Northshore substation north of New Town, North Dakota.

The transmission line for the Project is designed to carry 230-kilovolt electrical power to the new substation. The Project is under the jurisdiction of the North Dakota PSC, which issued its Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law, and Order in Case No. PU-21-049 on June 23, 2021, granting Certificates of Corridor Compatibility No. 222, and Route Permit No. 232 for the Project.

Construction for the Project began in September 2021 and was completed in December 2022.

### 2.2 Regulatory Purpose and Need

The North Dakota Energy Conversion and Transmission Facility Act (North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-22) charges the Public Service Commission with determining that the location, construction, and operation of jurisdictional energy conversion and transmission facilities will produce minimal adverse effects on the environment and the welfare of citizens of North Dakota. Inspections during construction ensure that such projects are built in compliance with the siting laws (North Dakota Century Code Chapter 49-22) and rules (North Dakota Administrative Code Article 69-06) and the applicable Commission Orders.

### 2.3 Scope of Work

The North Dakota Public Service Commission retained Barr Engineering Co. to perform a reclamation inspection of the Project. Barr subcontracted with Meadowlark Environmental, LLC (Meadowlark) to complete the reclamation inspection. Barr's scope of work was to complete and document an on-site reclamation inspection upon completion of a minimum of one growing season after the construction phase of the project to verify the project was constructed in compliance with the siting laws, rules, and applicable Commission Orders and to determine whether the area affected by construction activities has been restored to as near as practicable to the condition as it existed prior to the beginning of construction, including reestablishment of desired plant species where applicable. This report contains site visit observations and a summary of findings and issues that should be addressed for the Project to be considered complete and in full compliance.

## 3 Findings of Site Inspection

### 3.1 Methods

Zach Peterson, Project Manager/Field Inspector for Meadowlark visited the Project site on November 4, 2025, to conduct the reclamation inspection. The Project was visited at different points of the ROW that were representative of different land use areas the structures were built on. Photos (iPhone 15) were taken with a GIS overlay and without the overlay at observation points to record the geographic locations of the observation points visited during the inspection.

### 3.2 On-Site Inspection Observations

Mr. Peterson began the inspection at the northwest end of the Project where the transmission line originates at the Neseet Substation and ended at the southeast end where the transmission line terminates at the Northshore Substation. During the inspection, transmission line structures were observed in various land uses to observe how the Project was reclaimed in different landscapes and topographies. Transmission line structures were observed in native and mixed grass pasture, hayland, CRP mixed grasslands, and in crop fields currently in agricultural production. Throughout the various land uses, the reclaimed areas along the ROW appeared to be composed of vegetation similar to the areas directly adjacent to the ROW. Overall, the Project appeared to have been constructed and reclaimed in compliance with the siting laws, rules, and applicable Commission's orders.

## 4 Issues to Resolve and Recommendations

The reclamation inspection of the Neseet to the Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project verified that the project is constructed in compliance with the siting laws, rules, and applicable Commission orders. No major issues were observed during the reclamation inspection. However, Meadowlark makes the following recommendations to prevent potential issues at the project site:

Potential Issues	Recommendations
Noxious Weeds	Monitor the Project ROW for noxious weeds and manage weeds as necessary.

## 5 Signatures

The services performed by Barr staff, and its subcontractor Meadowlark, for this project have been conducted in a manner consistent with the technical skill and degree of care exercised by professionals currently practicing in this discipline under similar time and budget constraints. Findings and recommendations represent our professional judgement and are based on available information and accepted practices. No warranty is implied or expressed beyond this.



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Andrew Unbehaun, Project Manager

12/16/2025

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Date



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Zach Peterson, Inspector

11/20/2025

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Date

## Appendices

## **Appendix A**

### **Photo Log and Observation Maps**

On-Site Photographs

Basin Electric Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project- Mountrail County

	<p>Photo #: 1</p> <p>Direction: Southeast</p> <p>Description: Project tie-in to Neset Substation.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.409780</p> <p>Longitude: -102.864118</p>
	<p>Photo #: 2</p> <p>Direction: East</p> <p>Description: Project structures built in pastureland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.408508</p> <p>Longitude: -102.821513</p>

On-Site Photographs

Basin Electric Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project- Mountrail County



Photo #: 3  
Direction: East  
Description: Project structures located in CRP and cropland.  
Observer: Zach Peterson  
Date: 11/4/2025  
Latitude: 48.408923  
Longitude: -102.783386

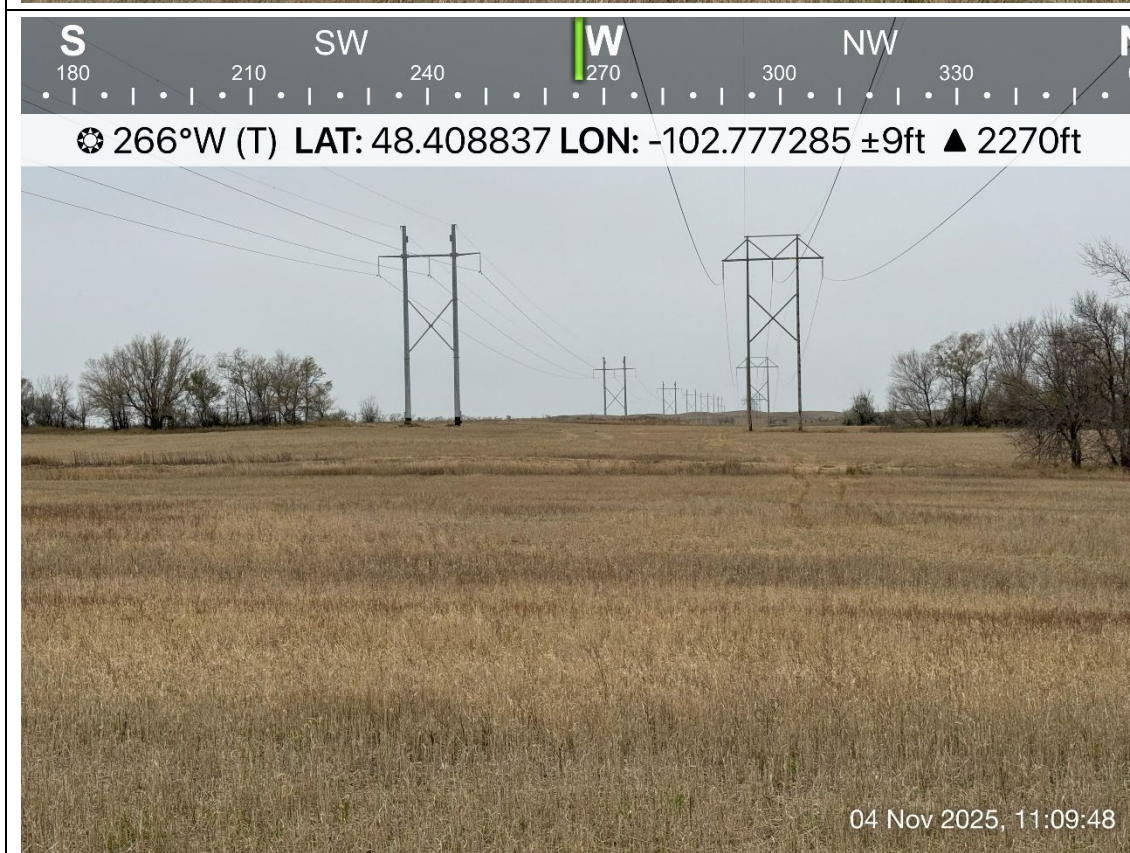
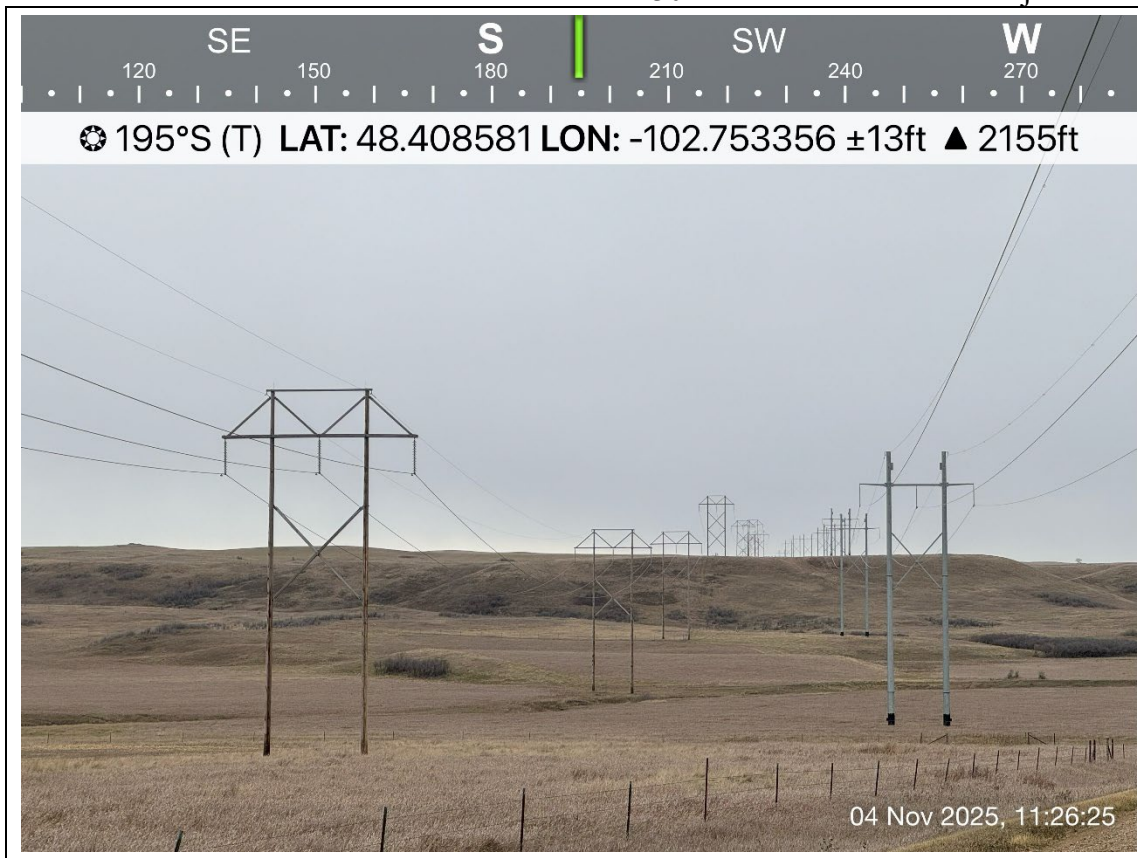
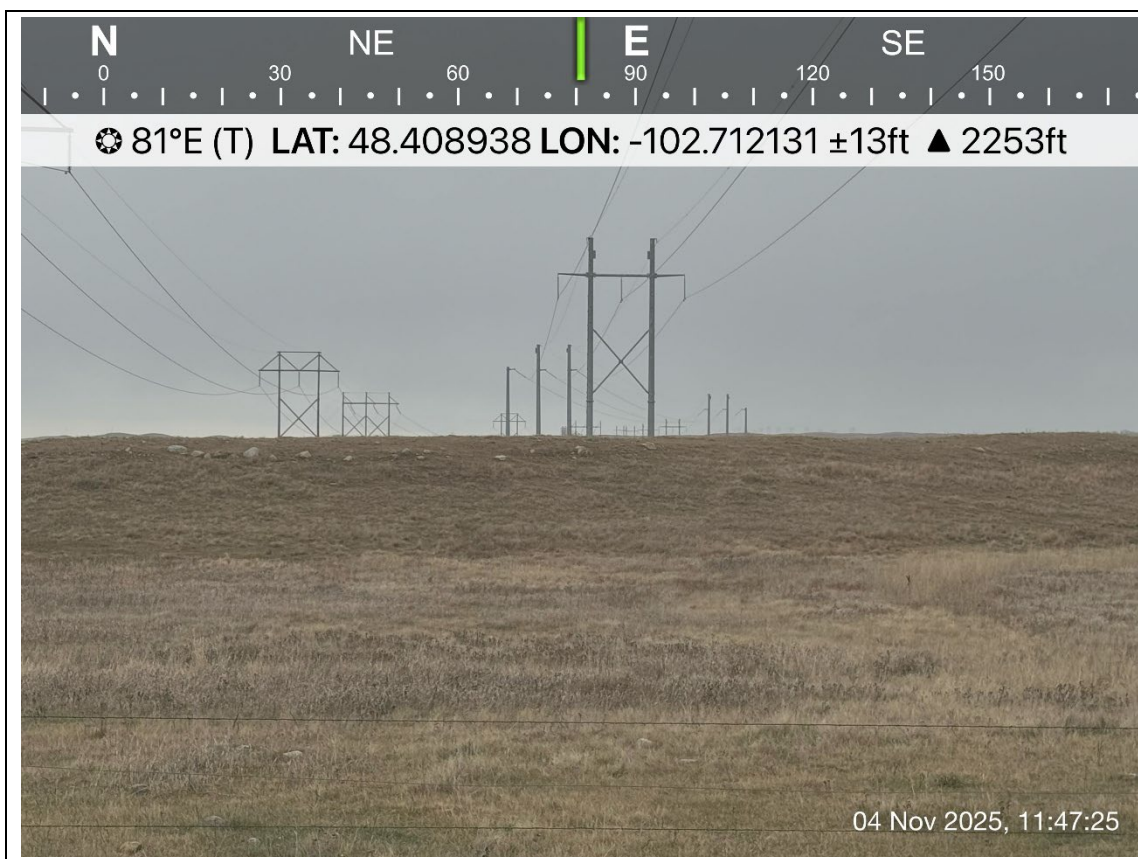


Photo #: 4  
Direction: West  
Description: Project structures located in cropland.  
Observer: Zach Peterson  
Date: 11/4/2025  
Latitude: 48.408837  
Longitude: -102.777285

On-Site Photographs


Basin Electric Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project- Mountrail County


	<p>Photo #: 5</p> <p>Direction: South</p> <p>Description: Project structures in cropland and pastureland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.408581</p> <p>Longitude: -102.753356</p>
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	<p>Photo #: 6</p> <p>Direction: East</p> <p>Description: Project structures built in pastureland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.408938</p> <p>Longitude: -102.712131</p>
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On-Site Photographs



Basin Electric Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project- Mountrail County

<p>NW N NE E 300 330 0 30 60 90</p> <p>☉ 22°NE (T) LAT: 48.327309 LON: -102.667038 ±19ft ▲ 2326ft</p>  <p>04 Nov 2025, 12:00:17</p>	<p>Photo #: 7</p> <p>Direction: North</p> <p>Description: Project structures built in hayland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.327309</p> <p>Longitude: -102.667038</p>
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<p>SE S SW W 120 150 180 210 240 270 300</p> <p>☉ 212°SW (T) LAT: 48.298445 LON: -102.666765 ±16ft ▲ 2379ft</p>  <p>04 Nov 2025, 12:06:28</p>	<p>Photo #: 8</p> <p>Direction: Southwest</p> <p>Description: Project structures built in cropland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.298445</p> <p>Longitude: -102.666765</p>
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On-Site Photographs

Basin Electric Neset to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project- Mountrail County

 <p>04 Nov 2025, 12:23:21</p>	<p>Photo #: 9</p> <p>Direction: East</p> <p>Description: Project structures located in pastureland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.244268</p> <p>Longitude: -102.655923</p>
 <p>04 Nov 2025, 12:32:52</p>	<p>Photo #: 10</p> <p>Direction: Southwest</p> <p>Description: Project structures built in between wetlands.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.225859</p> <p>Longitude: -102.603444</p>

On-Site Photographs

Basin Electric Nenet to Northshore 230kV Transmission Line Project- Mountrail County

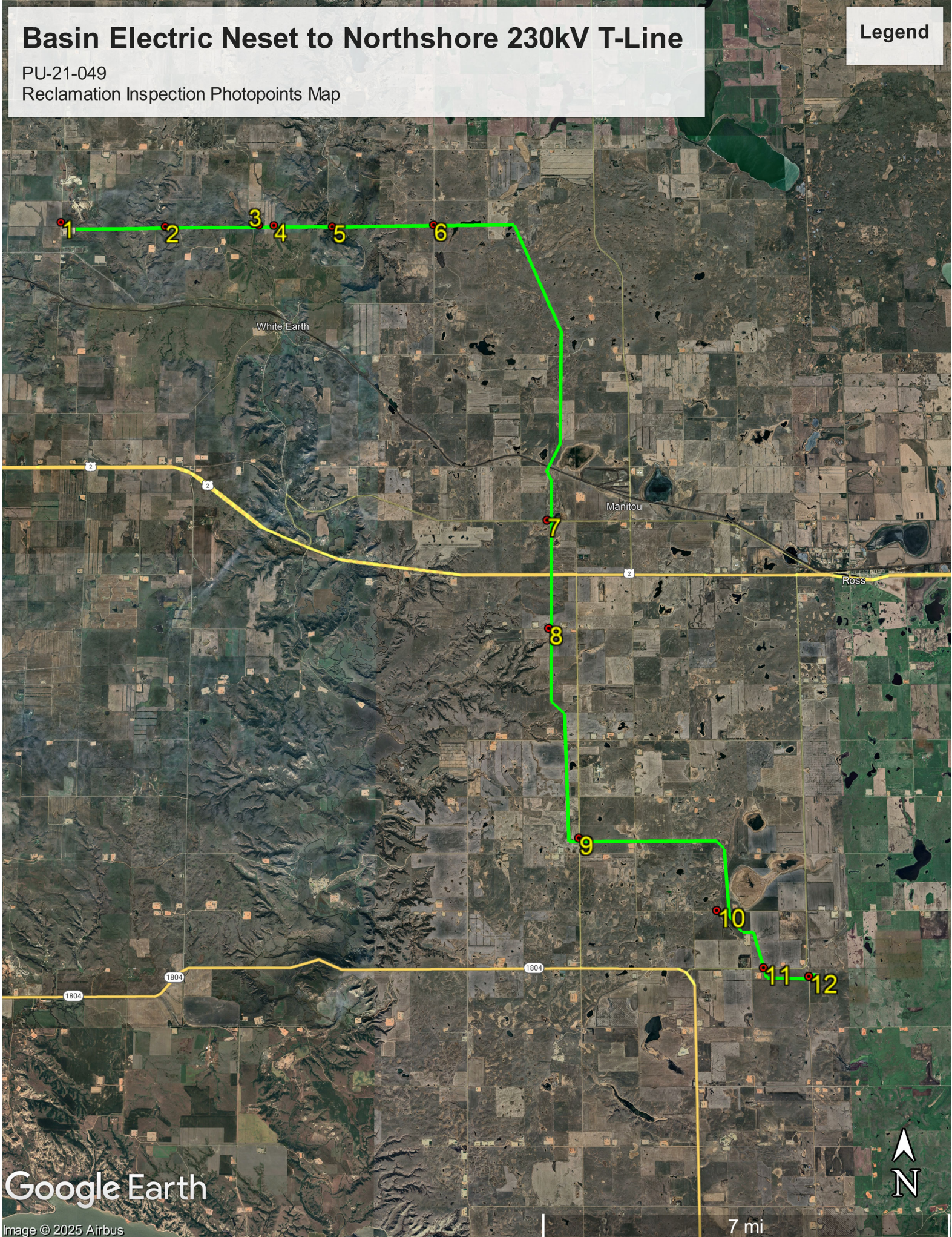
<p>W 270 NW 300 330 N 0 NE 60</p> <p>☉ 348°N (T) LAT: 48.211444 LON: -102.586231 ±16ft ▲ 2418ft</p>  <p>04 Nov 2025, 12:36:57</p>	<p>Photo #: 11</p> <p>Direction: North</p> <p>Description: Project structures located in hayland.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.211444</p> <p>Longitude: -102.586231</p>
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<p>NE 30 E 90 SE 120 150 S 180</p> <p>☉ 100°E (T) LAT: 48.209250 LON: -102.569128 ±13ft ▲ 2419ft</p>  <p>04 Nov 2025, 12:41:59</p>	<p>Photo #: 12</p> <p>Direction: East</p> <p>Description: Project tie-in to Northshore Substation.</p> <p>Observer: Zach Peterson</p> <p>Date: 11/4/2025</p> <p>Latitude: 48.209250</p> <p>Longitude: -102.569128</p>
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# Basin Electric Naset to Northshore 230kV T-Line

Legend

PU-21-049  
Reclamation Inspection Photopoints Map



Google Earth

Image © 2025 Airbus

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