# Albany Facility (Stearns County) – 10 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 10.0 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 231 acres (facility land control); 107 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Stearns County, Albany Township, Sections 8 & 17, T 125N, R 31W; southwest quadrant of 360th St./235th Ave. intersection.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned Agricultural A-40. The nearest residence is located approximately 192 feet north of the preliminary development area, within the facility land control boundary.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** The Lake Wobegon Trail is within one half mile of the proposed facility; there are no other recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile.

## Natural Environment

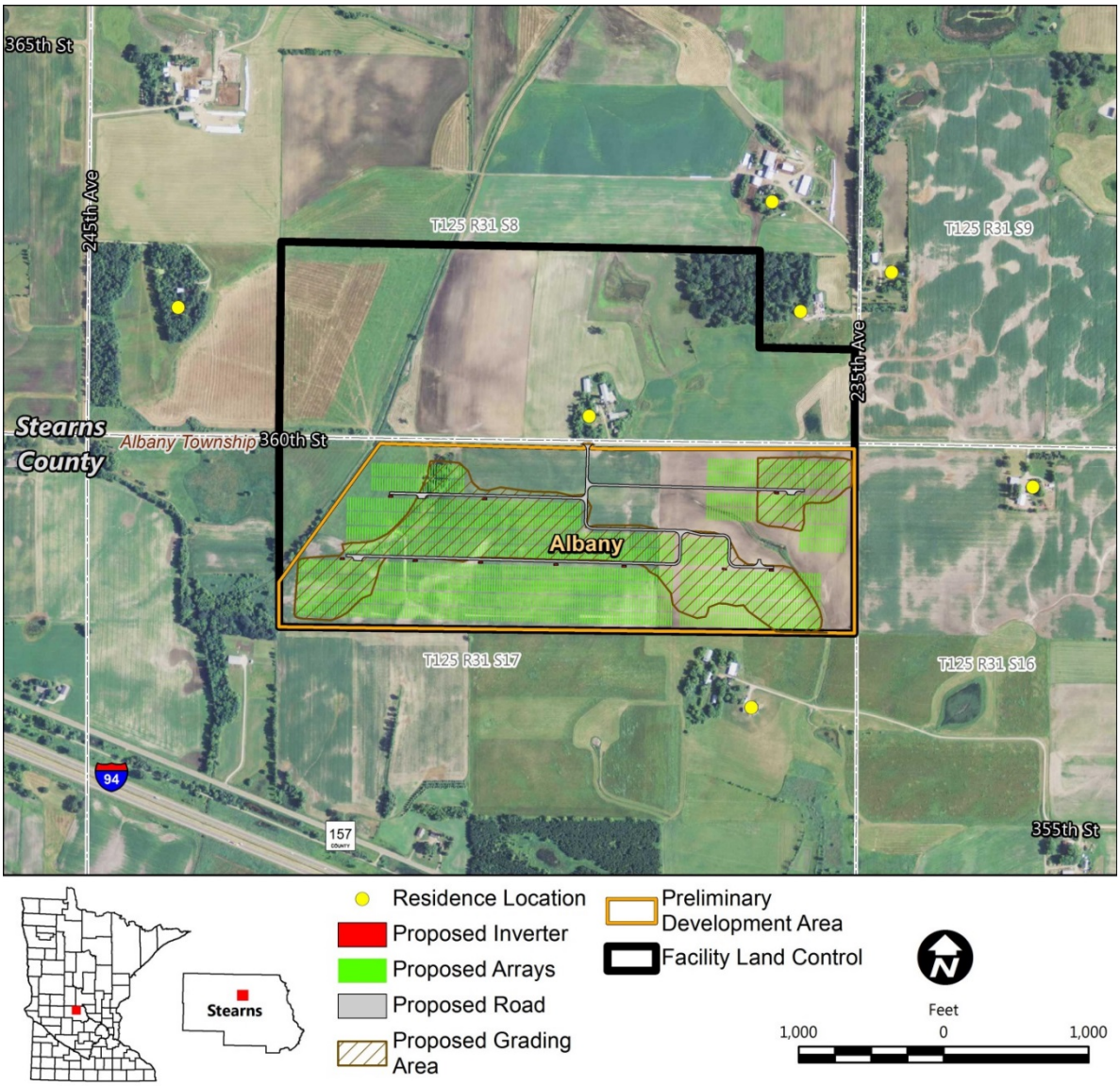
**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

# Albany Facility (Stearns County) – 10 MW

(approximately 83%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as recently disturbed or modified (approximately 9%), forest/ flooded and swamp forest (5%), developed/urban (3%), and freshwater wet meadow (<1%)[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 10.7 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Annandale Facility (Wright County) – 6 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 6.0 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 71 acres (facility land control); 71 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Wright County, Corinna Township, Section 32, T 121N, R 27W; southwest of the intersection of South Poplar Lane and Klever Avenue NW.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located just south of Annandale in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned transitional agricultural. The nearest residence is located approximately 537 feet north of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** A snowmobile trail crosses the preliminary development area along road right-of-way, and the facility is directly north of the Annandale Waterfowl Production Area. There are no other recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

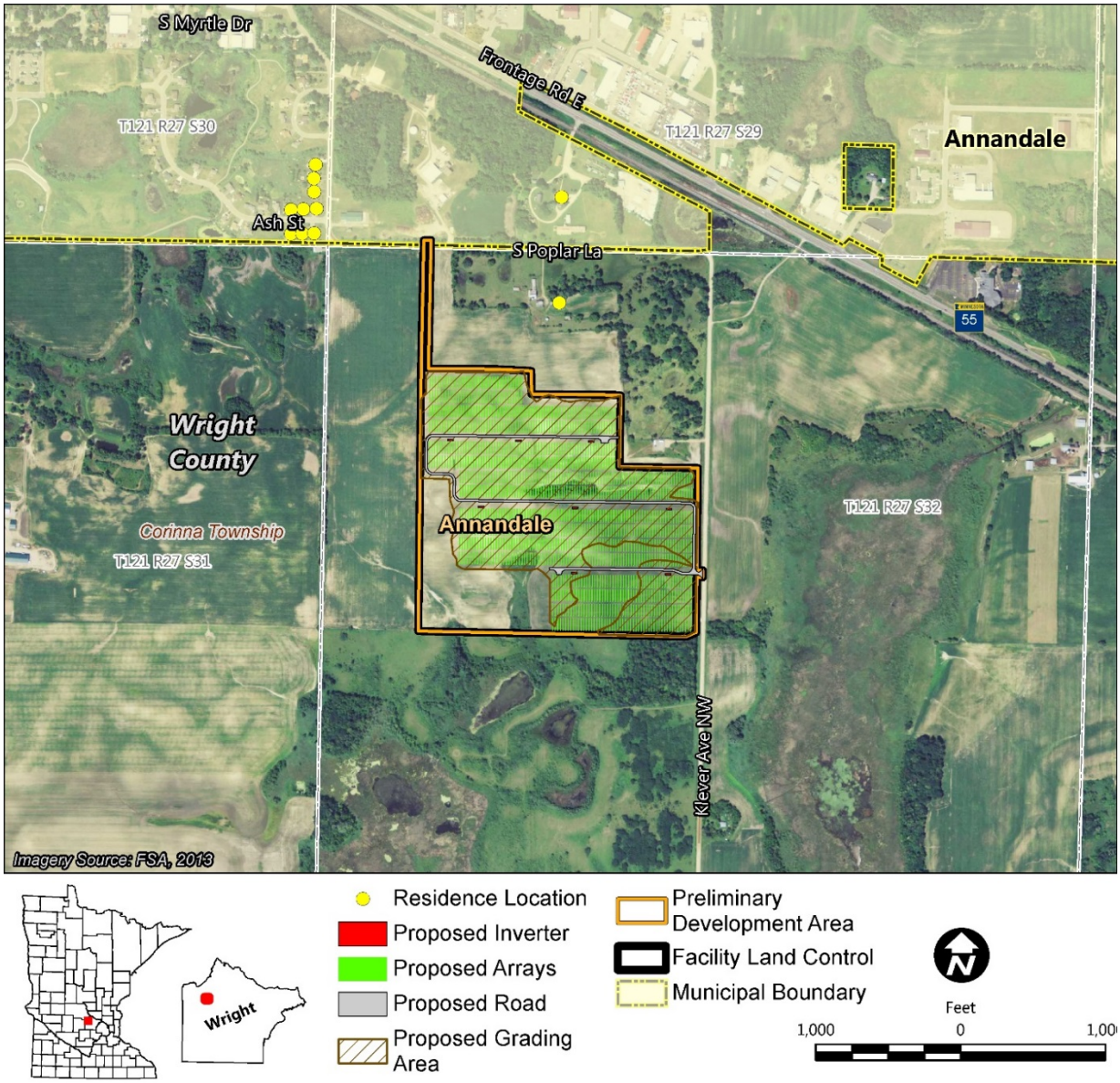
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

(approximately 99%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as cool temperate forest (approximately 1%), and recently disturbed/modified and developed/urban representing less than 1%[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 1.6 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Atwater Facility (Kandiyohi County) – 4.0 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 4.0 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 40 acres (facility land control); 36 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Kandiyohi County, Gennessee Township, Section 1, T 119N, R 33W; northeast of intersection of US Highway 12 and County Road 2.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located just north of Atwater in a rural area with a residential development to the west. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned A: 1 Agricultural within Urban Growth District. The nearest residence is located approximately 81 feet west of the preliminary development area; the nearest residence to the proposed solar arrays, per preliminary design, is 184 feet to the west.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** With the exception of a snowmobile trail located within one-half mile of the facility, there are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

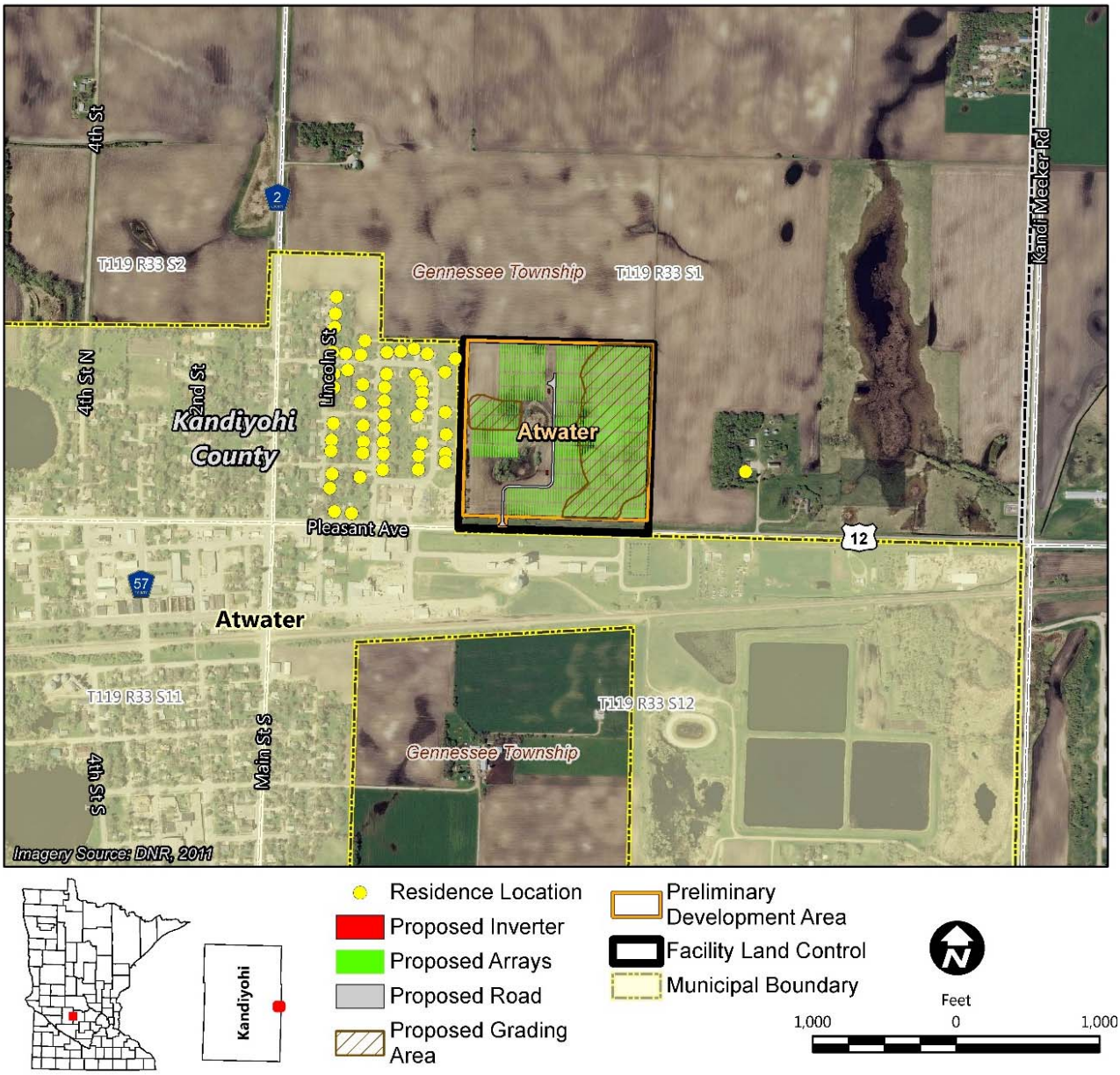
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the North-Central Glaciated Plains Section of the Prairie Parkland Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

99%) with less than 1% of the preliminary development area characterized as cool temperate forest and developed/urban[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Brooten Facility (Stearns County) – 1.5 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 1.5 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 13 acres (facility land control); 13 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Brooten, Stearns County, North Fork Township, Section 31, T 124N, R 35W; along County Road 18, northeast of the State Highway 55 and 493rd Avenue intersection.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural residential area with a residential development to the south. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area, but is within the municipal boundaries of Brooten. The nearest residence is located approximately 46 feet west/southwest of the preliminary development area; the nearest residence to the proposed solar array, per preliminary design, is 415 feet to the south.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** There are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

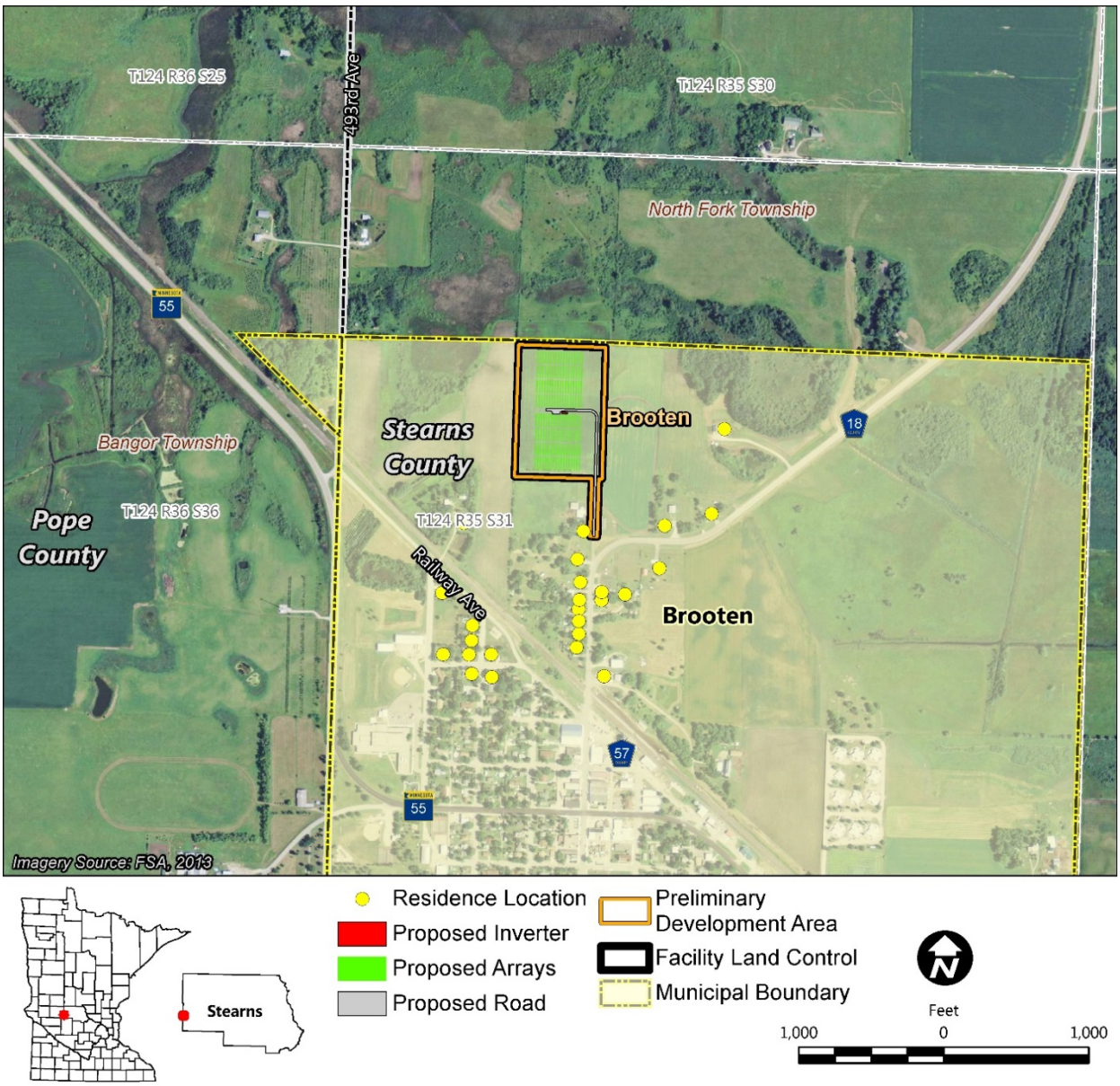
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the North-Central Glaciated Plains Section of the Prairie Parkland Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

87%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as recently disturbed /modified (approximately 8%), flooded and swamp forest (approximately 3%) and cool temperate forest (approximately 2%)[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Chisago Facility (Chisago County) – 7.5 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 7.5 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 62 acres (facility land control); 61 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Chisago County, Lent Township, Section 12, T 34N, R 21W; southwest of the intersection of Lincoln Road (County Road 14) and Kost Trail (County Road 11).

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned Agricultural District. The nearest residence is located approximately 179 feet south of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** The Carlos Avery Wildlife Management Area and a snowmobile trail are located within one mile of facility; there are no other recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile.

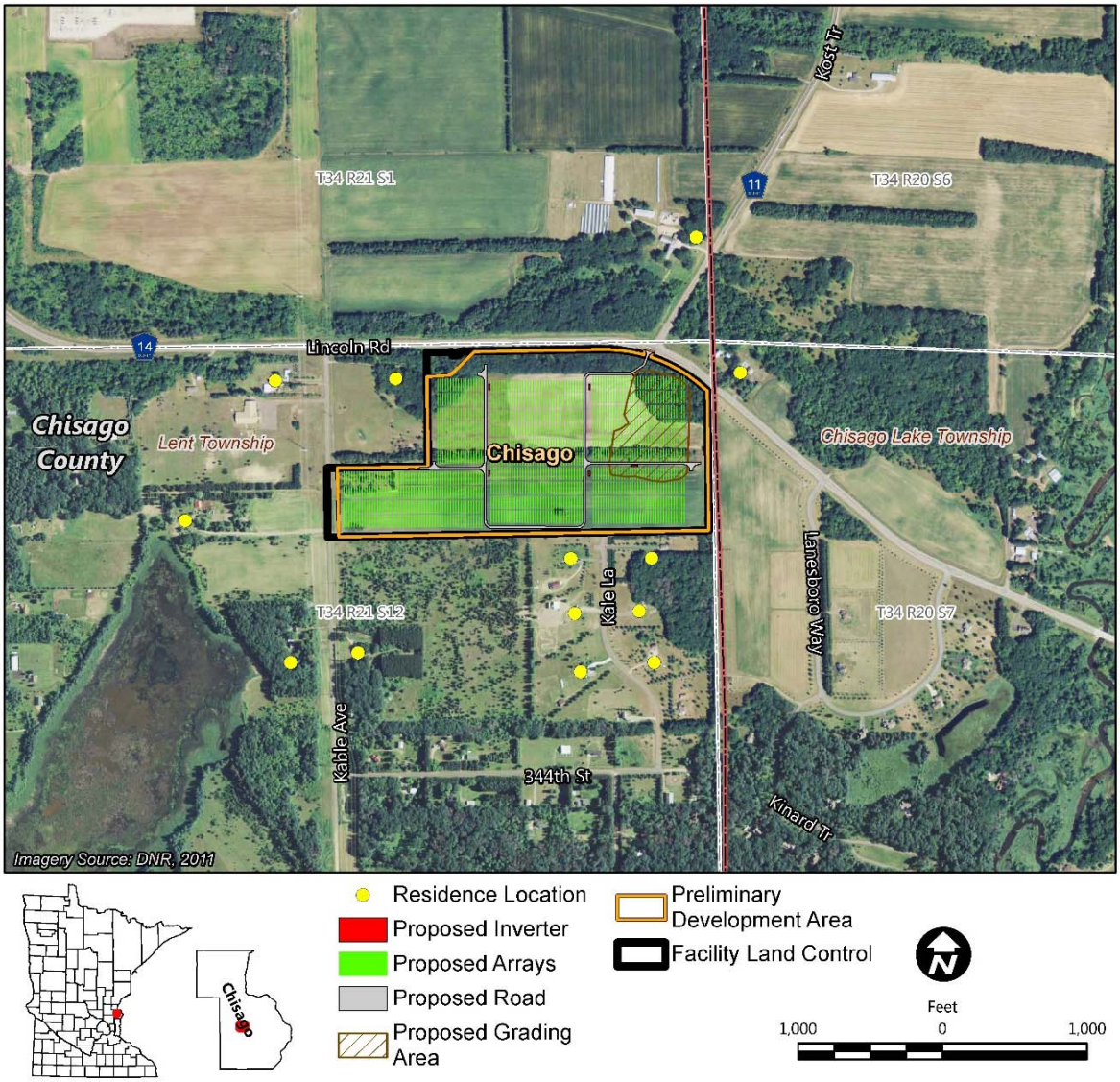
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately 74%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as cool temperate forest (approximately 17%), developed/ urban (approximately 6%), recently disturbed/ modified (approximately 2%), flooded and swamp forest (approximately 1%) and boreal forest (<1%)[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 1.1 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Dodge Center Facility (Dodge County) – 6.5 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 6.5 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 68.5 acres (facility land control); 60 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Dodge County, Wasioja Township, Section 32, T 107N, R 17W; southwest quadrant of 635th Street and 180th Avenue intersection.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located west of Dodge Center in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as Urban Expansion District. The nearest residence is located approximately 50 feet north of the preliminary development area; the nearest home to the proposed solar arrays, per preliminary design, is 230 feet.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** With the exception of a snowmobile trail, there are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

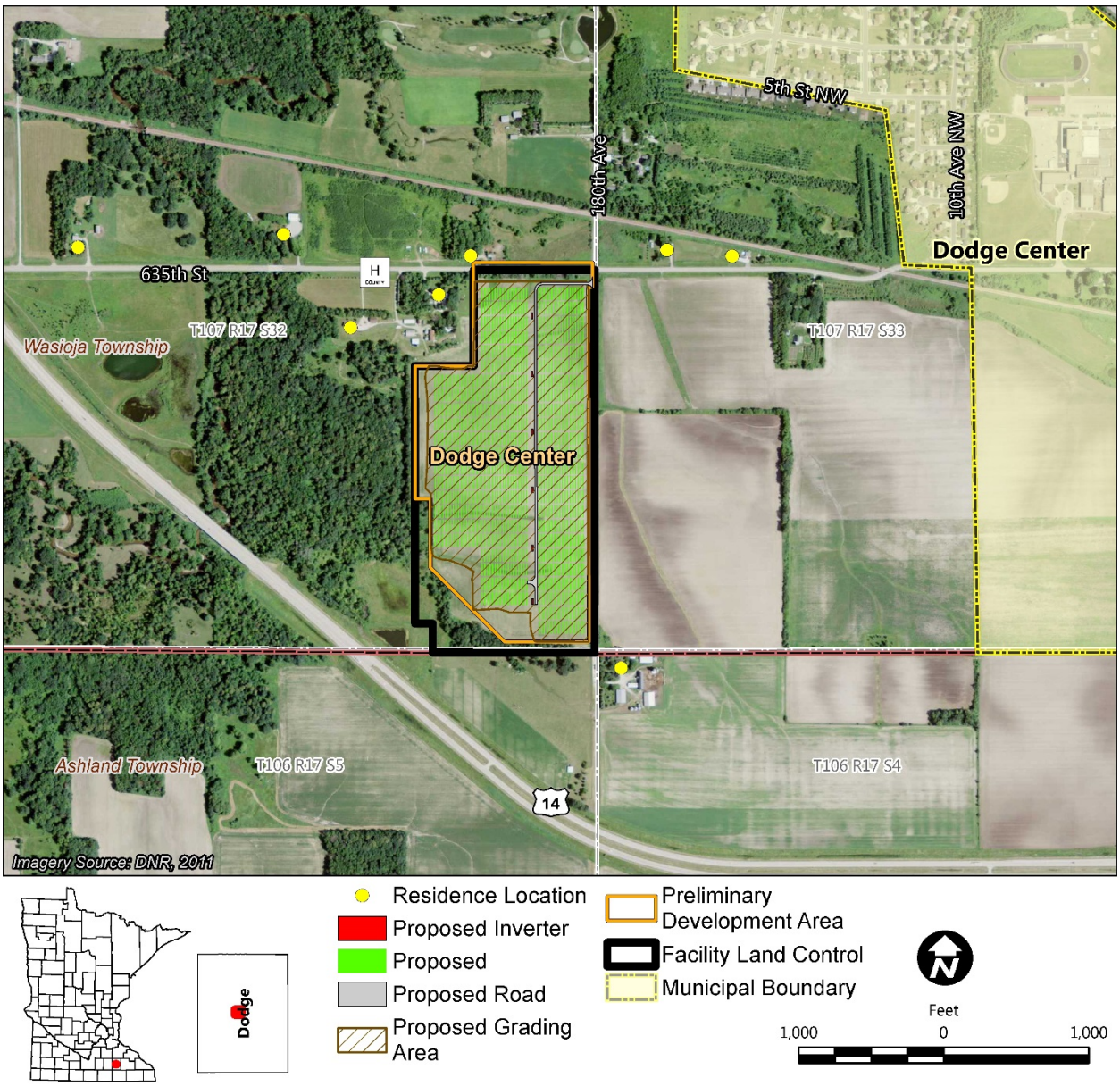
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

(approximately 95%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as developed/urban (approximately 5%), and cool temperate forest (<1%)[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Eastwood Facility (Blue Earth County) – 5.5 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 5.5 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 49.7 acres (facility land control); 49.7 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Blue Earth County, Mankato Township, Section 14, T 108N, R 66W; southwest of the intersection of County Highway 17 and County Road 186.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as an Agricultural District. The nearest residence is located approximately 217 feet south of the easternmost portion of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** There are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

## Natural Environment

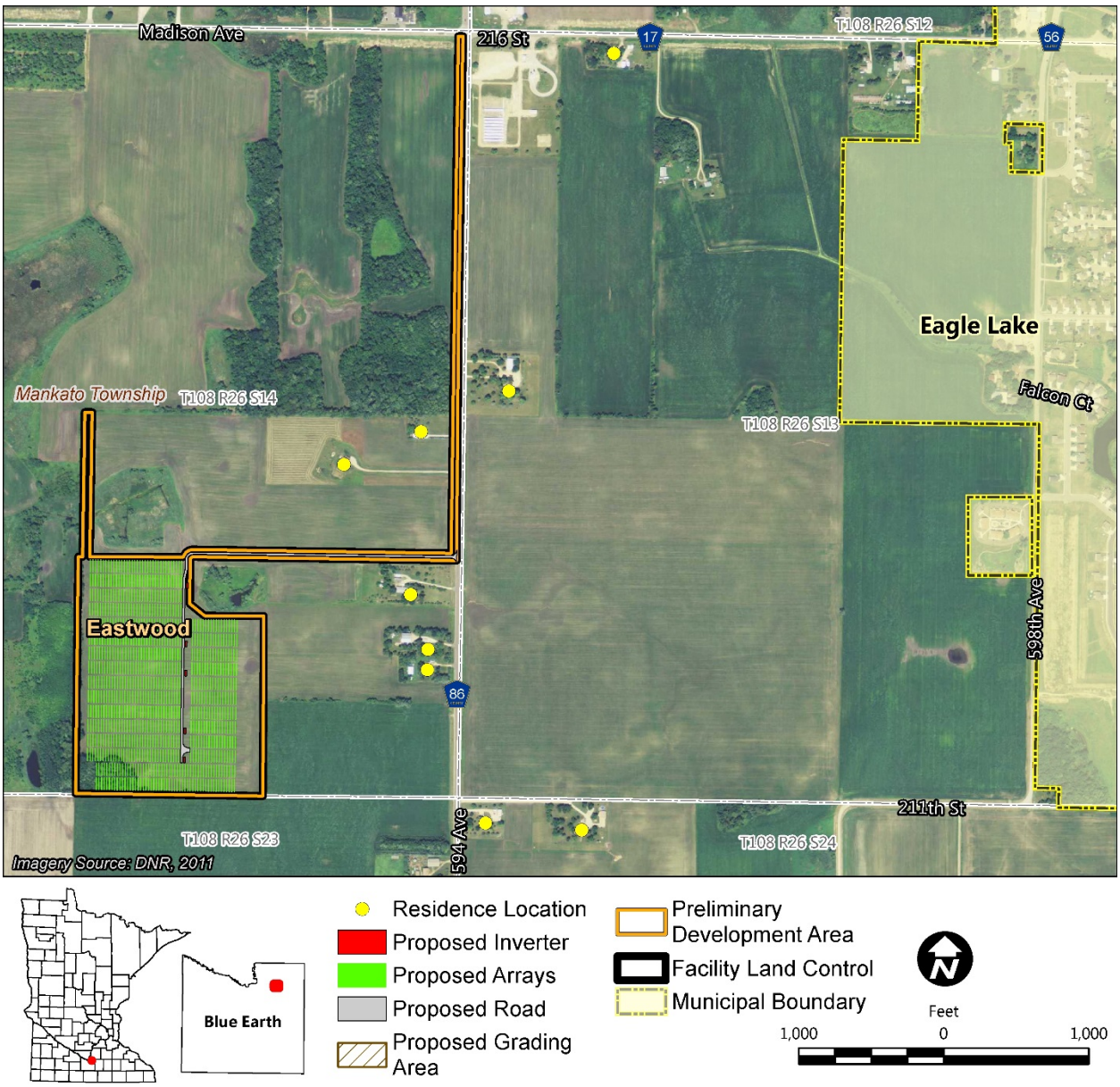
**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately 88%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as flooded/swamp forest (approximately 6%), developed/urban

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

# Eastwood Facility (Blue Earth County) – 5.5 MW

(approximately 4%), and cool temperate forest (approximately 2%)[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0.4-acre of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Fiesta City Facility (Chippewa County) – 2.5 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 2.5 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 25.6 acres (facility land control); 25.6 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Chippewa County, Sparta Township, Section 9, T 117N, R 40 W; northeast of the intersection of State Highway 7 and 24th Street.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located just east of Montevideo in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as an Agricultural District. The nearest residence is located approximately 1,669 feet southeast of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** With the exception of a snowmobile trail, there are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

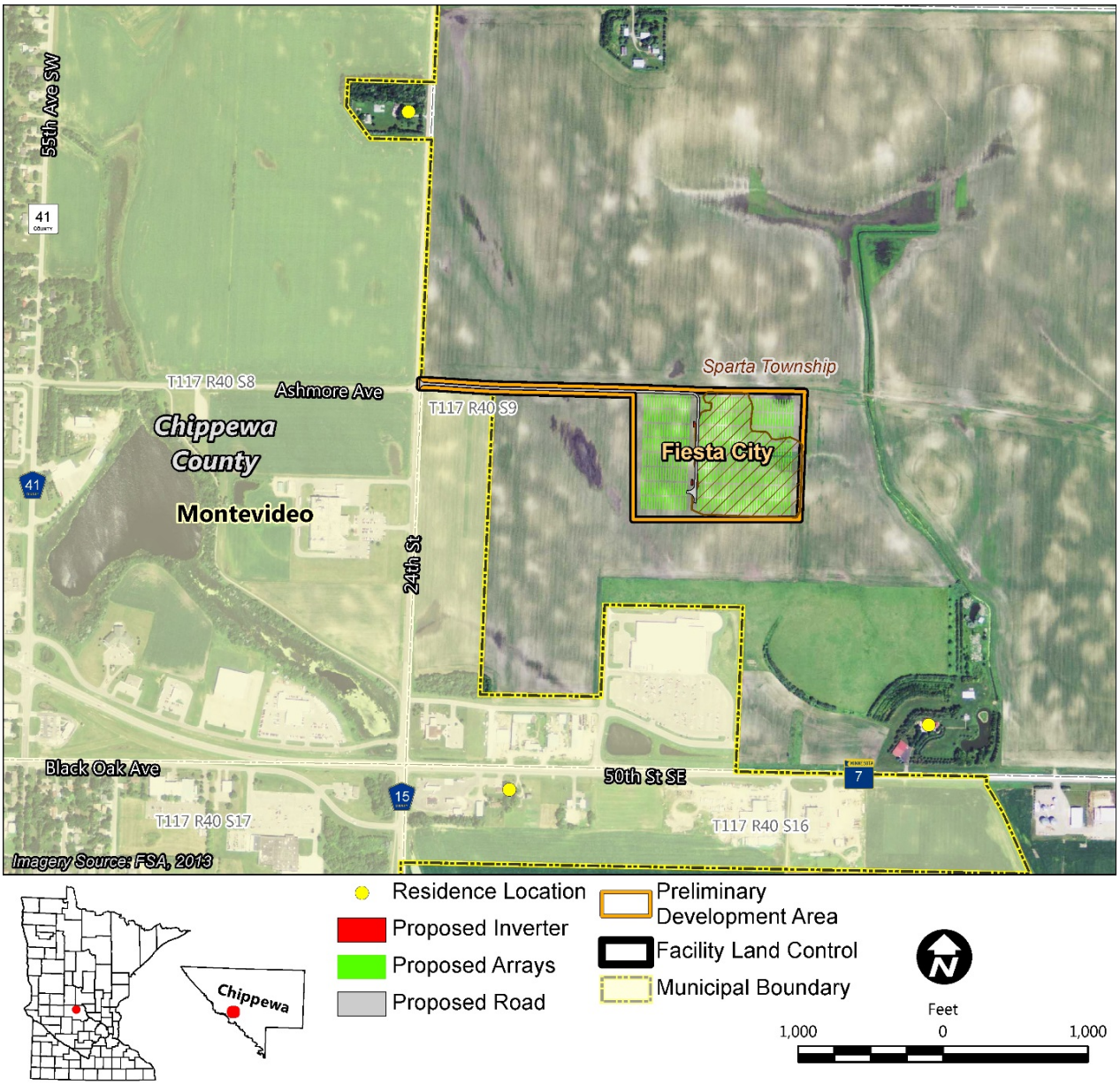
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the North-Central Glaciated Plains Section of the Prairie Parkland Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is entirely agricultural vegetation (100%)[2].

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

# Fiesta City Facility (Chippewa County) – 2.5 MW

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Hastings Facility (Washington County) – 5.0 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 5.0 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 40.6 acres (facility land control); 40.6 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Washington County, Denmark Township, Section 8, T 26N, R 20W; northeast of Highway 10 and Norell Road South.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as Agricultural A-2 District. The nearest residence is located approximately 645 feet northwest of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** The Rutstrum Wildlife Management Area and the St. Croix National Scenic Riverway are located within one mile of the facility. There are no other recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

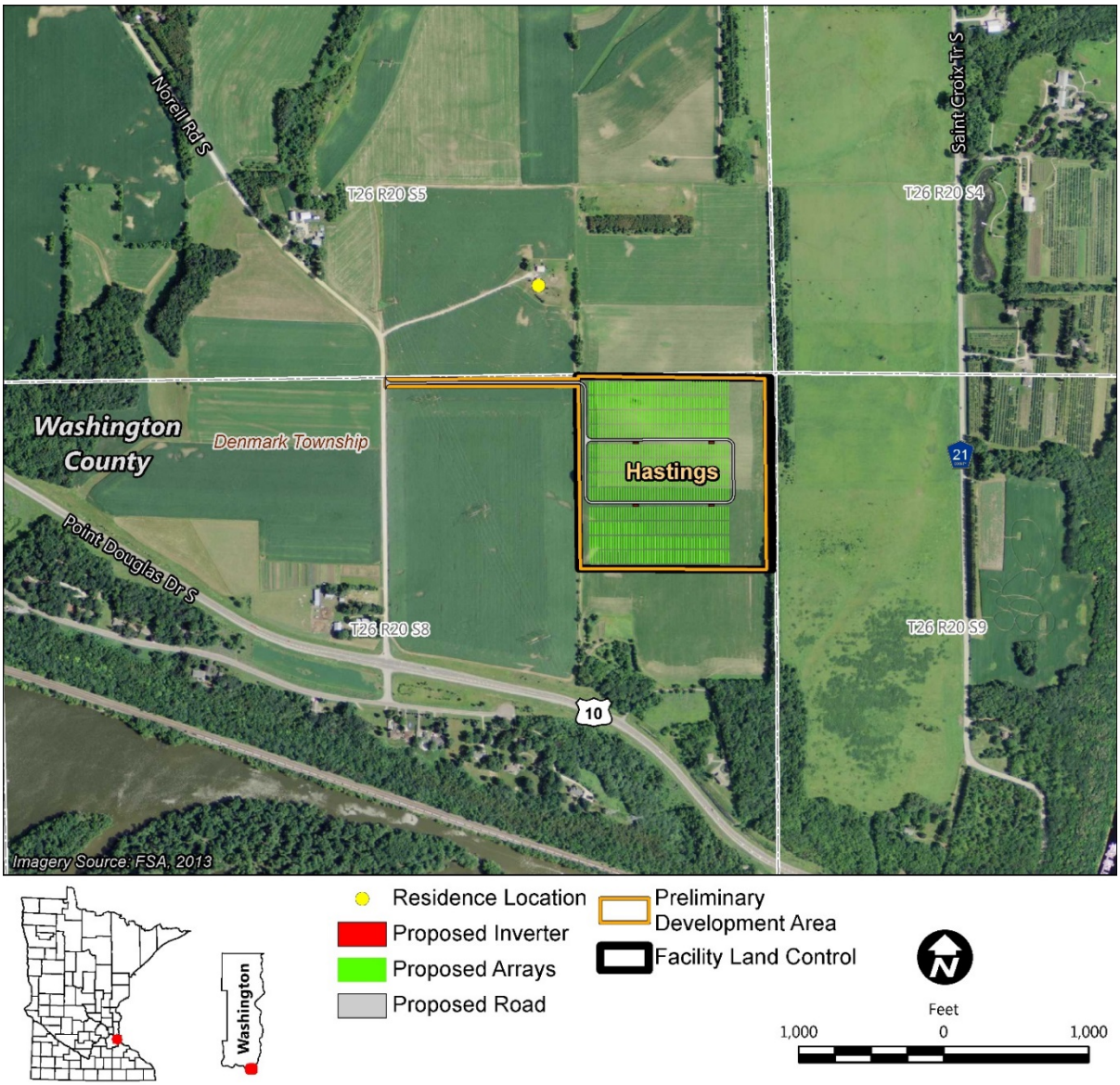
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately 87%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area characterized as grassland/shrubland (approximately 13%), and less than 1% in recently disturbed/modified and developed/urban[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Lake Emily Facility (Le Sueur County) – 5.0 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 5.0 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 46.9 acres (facility land control); 42.4 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Le Sueur County, Kasota Township, Section 24, T 110N, R 26W; northwest of the intersection of State Highway 99 and County Road 106.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as an Agricultural District. The nearest residence is located approximately 508 feet north/northeast of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** There are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility. The Ottawa Wildlife Management Area is within one mile of the facility.

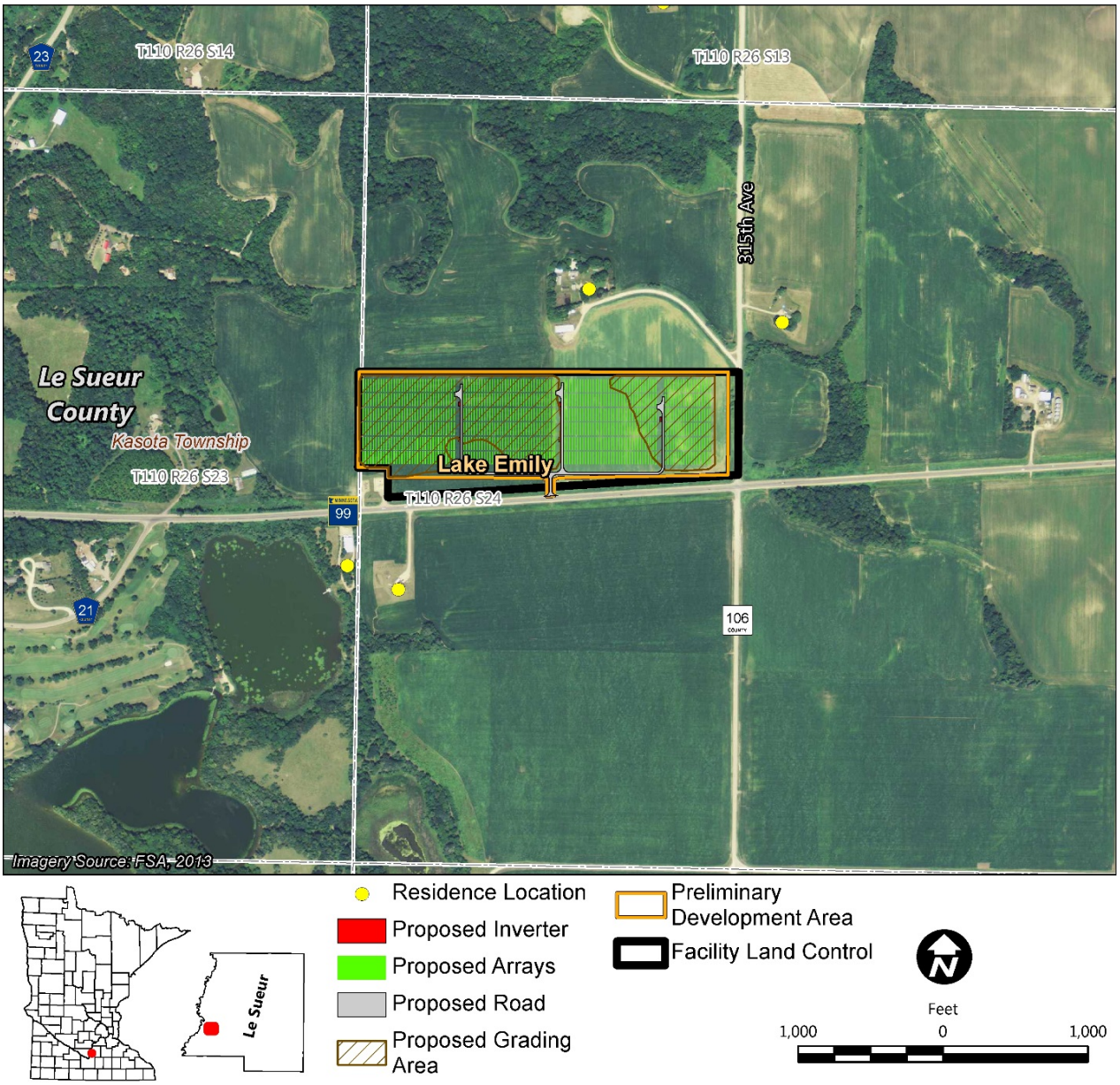
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

(greater than 99%) with less than 1% of the preliminary development area characterized as developed/urban[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Lake Pulaski Facility (Wright County) – 8.5 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 8.5 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 75.8 acres (facility land control); 63.2 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Wright County, Buffalo Township, Section 15, T 120N, R 25W; west of Eaken Avenue NE.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as AG-Agricultural District. The nearest residence is located approximately 279 feet northeast of the preliminary development area.

Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** With the exception of a snowmobile trail, there are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

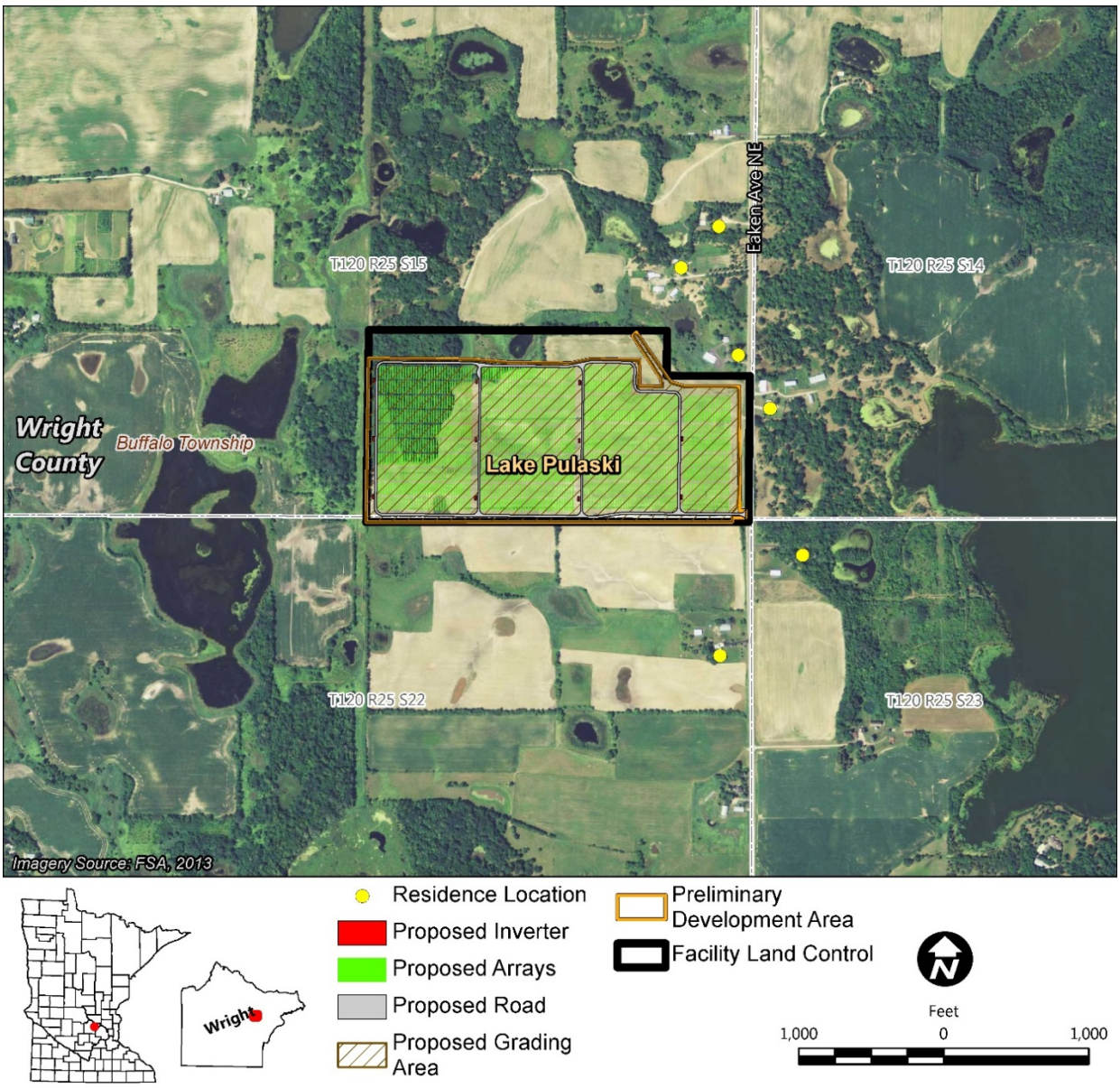
## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Minnesota and Northeastern Iowa Morainal Section of the Eastern Broadleaf Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately 83%) with smaller portions of the preliminary development area

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

characterized as cool temperate forest (approximately 13%), recently disturbed/modified (approximately 2%), and approximately 1% each of freshwater wet meadow/riparian/marsh, and flooded/swamp forest[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 3.9 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.



# Lawrence Creek Facility (Chisago County) – 4.0 MW

## Facility Overview

**Facility Capacity:** 4.0 megawatts (MW) – alternating current

**Facility Area:** 74.3 acres (facility land control); 39.4 acres (preliminary development area). Final acreage to be determined at final design depending on site conditions, engineering studies, environmental surveys, and interconnection details.

**Facility Location:** Chisago County, Shafer Township, Section 27, T 34N, R 19W; north of County Road 37.

**Facility Design:** Primary components include photovoltaic (PV) modules mounted on a linear axis tracking system mounted on piers and a centralized inverter(s). Balance of plant components include electrical cables, conduit, electrical cabinets, step-up transformers and metering equipment. The solar facility will contain internal access roads and the perimeter will be fenced.

## Human Environment

**Land Use and Zoning:** The facility is located in a rural area just west of Taylors Falls with scattered residences where the land use is dominated by cultivated agriculture. The facility is not located within an orderly annexation area. The area is zoned as an Agricultural District. The nearest residence is located approximately 233 feet southeast of the preliminary development area.

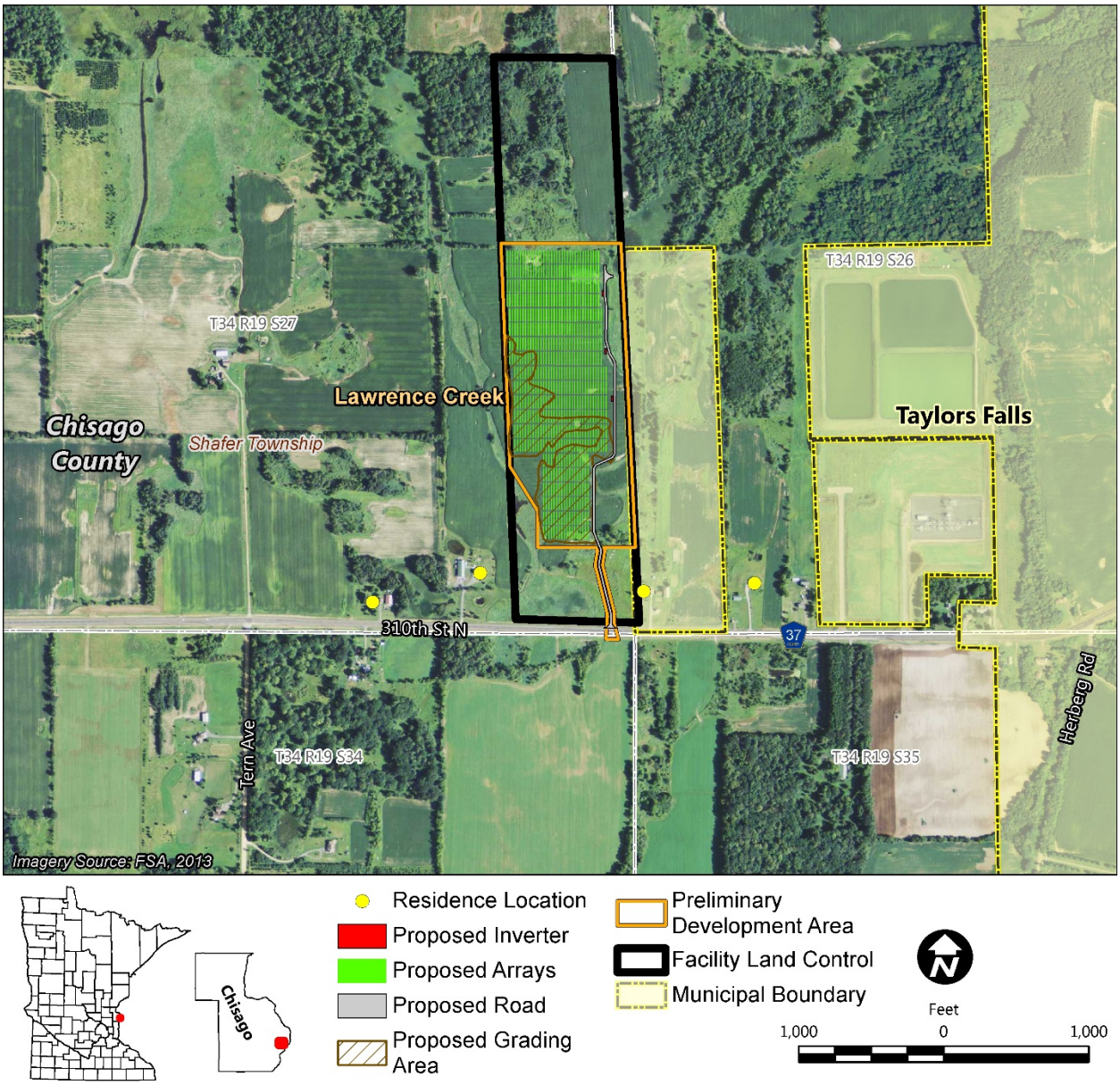
Construction of the Project will require temporary conversion of agricultural land to a PV solar energy facility. The land on which the Project facilities are located may revert to cultivation or other agricultural production after the useful life of the Project and decommissioning. Aurora does not have the authority to exercise the power of eminent domain to acquire the land necessary for the Project. The owners of the land on which Project facilities are located will be compensated by Aurora through the negotiated purchase or lease of the land.

**Recreational Resources:** There are no recreational trails, county, state or local parks located within one-half mile of the proposed facility.

## Natural Environment

**Environmental Setting/Land Cover:** The facility is located within the Western Superior Uplands Section of the Laurentian Mixed Forest Province[1]. Land cover within the preliminary development area is primarily agricultural vegetation (approximately 96%) with a smaller portion of the preliminary development area characterized as recently disturbed/modified (approximately 2%), with cool

[1] Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Ecological Classification System (ECS)
[2] U.S. Geological Survey National Gap Analysis Program Land Cover Data

temperate forest, developed/urban and flooded/swamp forest representing less than 1% each of the preliminary development area[2].

**Wetlands and Waterbodies:** There are no rivers, streams or lakes within the boundaries of the proposed facility. There are 4.0 acres of mapped National Wetland Inventory-mapped wetlands within the preliminary development area. Field delineations are occurring in summer 2014 and the final design will avoid and minimize impacts to the extent practicable.