

FAA Expands Drone No-Fly Zones

December 21, 2017

The FAA has issued a [notice](#) announcing that it is expanding the list of areas special permission is required to fly unmanned aerial vehicles (or drones) to cover seven sites operated by the federal Department of Energy, including the Hanford Site in Washington, the Los Alamos National Laboratory in New Mexico and the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. The restrictions will go into effect on December 29, 2017.

The FAA already has restricted drone flights over many sites in the US, including major airports, military bases, landmarks and large dams, as well as within 15 miles of Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport. The FAA has made an interactive [map](#) of current and pending restricted areas, which is available online, The FAA also has created an [app](#) that drone operators can use to determine if there are restrictions in the areas where they wish to fly.

The map and app are designed to provide information on FAA-imposed restrictions only, but do not necessarily include all FAA restrictions. They also omit restrictions imposed by other entities. Notably, the map does not include National Parks, which generally do not permit operation of drones without prior permission. In addition, the map and the app are not updated in real time and so may not reflect all current restrictions. There also are additional restrictions based on local activities, such as professional sporting events, and the FAA imposes temporary restrictions for major events. Information on all of the restrictions on drone flights is available on the FAA's unmanned aerial vehicles [site](#).

This content is provided for general informational purposes only, and your access or use of the content does not create an attorney-client relationship between you or your organization and Cooley LLP, Cooley (UK) LLP, or any other affiliated practice or entity (collectively referred to as "Cooley"). By accessing this content, you agree that the information provided does not constitute legal or other professional advice. This content is not a substitute for obtaining legal advice from a qualified attorney licensed in your jurisdiction, and you should not act or refrain from acting based on this content. This content may be changed without notice. It is not guaranteed to be complete, correct or up to date, and it may not reflect the most current legal developments. Prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome. Do not send any confidential information to Cooley, as we do not have any duty to keep any information you provide to us confidential. When advising companies, our attorney-client relationship is with the company, not with any individual. This content may have been generated with the assistance of artificial intelligence (AI) in accordance with our AI Principles, may be considered Attorney Advertising and is subject to our [legal notices](#).

Key Contacts

J.G. Harrington Washington, DC	jgharrington@cooley.com +1 202 776 2818
-----------------------------------	--

This information is a general description of the law; it is not intended to provide specific legal advice nor is it intended to create an attorney-client relationship with Cooley LLP. Before taking any action on this information you should seek professional counsel.

Copyright © 2023 Cooley LLP, 3175 Hanover Street, Palo Alto, CA 94304; Cooley (UK) LLP, 22 Bishopsgate, London, UK EC2N 4BQ. Permission is granted to make and redistribute, without charge, copies of this entire document provided that such copies are complete and unaltered and identify Cooley LLP as the author. All other rights reserved.