Utility Pole Drone Inspection Shot List

For New Drone Pilots

Purpose: Capture clear, detailed imagery of utility poles for inspection purposes. Each shot ensures all parts of the pole, including top hardware, lines, and surrounding area, are properly documented.

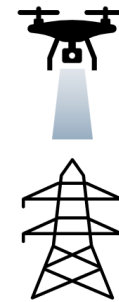\\Ensure.location.settings.are.turned.on.for.drone.image.capture¡.

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1. Nadir Shot (1)

Label: Nadir
Description: A top-down shot taken directly above the pole.
Instructions:

- Fly directly over the pole at a safe height.

- Ensure the camera is pointed straight down (90°).

- Center the pole in the frame.

- Capture a single, high-resolution photo showing the pole base and immediate surroundings.

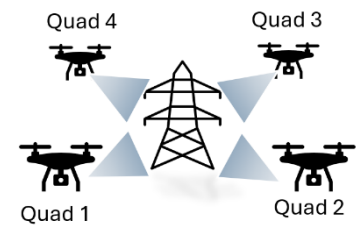- This shot's meta data (GPS coordinates) will be used for confirming or updating GPS coordinates of the pole.

2. Quadrant Shots (4)

Labels: Quadrant 1, Quadrant 2, Quadrant 3, Quadrant 4
Description: Capture each quadrant of the pole at roughly the top third of the pole's height. This highlights crossarms, insulators, and hardware.
Instructions:

- Imagine the pole divided into four quadrants (front-left, front-right, back-right, back-left).

- Position the drone at the top third of the pole's height.

- Take a photo facing each quadrant.

- Ensure the pole is centered in the frame with all hardware visible.
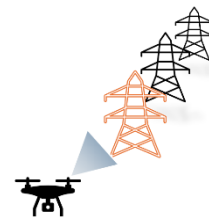

Quad 4   Quad 3
Quad 1   Quad 2

3. Upstream Shot (1)

Label: Upstream
Description: A horizontal shot looking along the direction of the utility line coming to the pole.
Instructions:

- Stand at the downstream side of the pole.

- Point the camera along the line toward the pole.

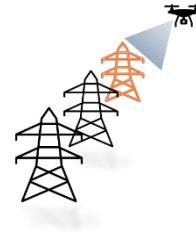- Capture the pole and lines entering it.

4. Downstream Shot (1)

Label: Downstream
Description: A horizontal shot looking along the direction of the utility line leaving the pole.
Instructions:

- Stand at the upstream side of the pole.

- Point the camera along the line away from the pole.
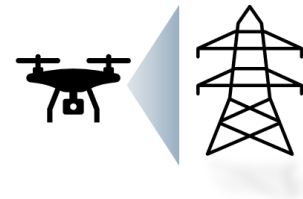
- Capture the pole and lines leaving it.

5. Pole Overview Shot (1)

Label: Pole Overview
Description: Shows the full pole from ground to top for context.
Instructions:

- Position the drone at a distance to capture the full height of the pole.

- Include surrounding environment for scale.

- Ensure the pole is entirely visible from base to top in a single frame.

Tips for New Pilots:

- Always maintain a safe distance from live wires.

- Check drone GPS and battery before flight.

- Avoid windy conditions that may affect stability.

- Take multiple shots if unsure; clarity is critical.