

Oscar Zero Missile Launch Facility



Cooperstown, North Dakota

Electrical Construction: \$65,652

Year Completed: 2009

Project Manager: Dale Hagen

Project Foreman: Bryan Berger

Owner: ND Historical Society

Bergstrom Electric updated the lighting and fire alarm system for the Oscar Zero Missile Launch Facility so it could host visitors as a part of the Ronald Reagan Minuteman Missile State Historical Site. The facility, along with the nuclear missile launch site called November 33, are the last remnants of the 321st Missile Wing, which was the nation's front line of the nuclear cold war.

Bergstrom's work on the project consisted of installing new emergency and exit lights, a fire alarm system, a new 80 kw emergency generator, updating some exterior lights, and hooking up a new fire sprinkler pump. The project took a total of 450 man-hours.

"The most difficult part of the job was that we couldn't disturb hardly anything

that was there," noted Dale Hagen, Bergstrom's Project Manager. "We had to leave everything the way it was. It was pretty unique working 60 feet below ground - not many of our projects require that."

Originally built in 1965, Oscar Zero was decommissioned in 1991 as a part of the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (START). All of the 14 other Missile Alert Facilities and their connected launch facilities that were part of the 321st Missile Wing were dynamited or filled in as a part of that treaty. The North Dakota Historical Society worked in close cooperation with the US Air Force to preserve the Oscar Zero facility and November 33 launch site and they became a state historic site in 2007.



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