

## MINUTES OF TTF CG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Telecommunications Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TTF CG) was held on June 8, 2005. The following people were in attendance:

### MEMBERS

Jane Lawton DTS (240) 777-3724

Pat Hanehan MCPS (301) 279-3609

Steve Batterden DPWT (240) 777-6063

Helen Xu DTS (240) 777-2804

Jim Krause WSSC (301) 206-4209

Carlton Gilbert M-NCPPC (301) 495-4576

Dave Niblock DPS (240) 777-6252

Martin Rookard WSSC

### STAFF

Margie Williams DTS (240) 777-3762

Robert Hunnicutt CTC (410) 964-5700

Matt Wolff CTC (410) 964-5700

### OTHER ATTENDEES

Bill O'Brien Cingular

Jill Goyette Cingular

Katie Oppenheimer T-Mobile

Mike Budde T-Mobile

M.G. Diamond Verizon Wireless

Will Dunlop Verizon Wireless

Bob Posilkin Verizon Wireless

Discussion Item - Meeting Minutes: Pat Hanehan moved that the minutes be approved as written. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Discussion Item - WSSC Representative: Jim Krause introduced Martin Rookard as his replacement to represent the WSSC on the TTF CG.

Discussion Item - TTF CG Database: Jane Lawton noted that at last month's meeting, M.G. Diamond reported that the County's database was not being maintained with up-to-date documents. She asked Margie Williams if she had been able to resolve that problem. Ms. Williams reported that she was now authorized to update the documents on the website and will continue to do so in the future.

### Consent Agenda Items:

1. Verizon Wireless application to install six 71" dual band panel antennas at the 134' level on an existing 138' PEPCO transmission line tower located at 4270 Sir Walter Road in Olney (Application #200505-01).
2. Nextel application to install 12 - 48" panel antennas at the 90' level on the parapet walls atop the 85' Verizon building located at 13100 Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200505-02). Three GPS antennas will also be added.
3. Nextel application to install 12 - 48" panel antennas at the 68' level atop the 58' Century 21 building located at 20010 Century Boulevard in Germantown (Application #200505-03). Three GPS antennas will also be installed on the ground level equipment shelter.

4. Nextel application to install 12- 48" panel antennas at the 69' level on the penthouse walls atop the 56' Phillips Office building located at 9420 Key West Avenue in Rockville (Application #200505-06). Two GPS antennas will also be installed.
5. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 51" panel antennas with up to nine 55" dual band panel antennas at the 125' level on PEPCO transmission line tower #637-S located at 13900 Piney Meeting House Road in Rockville (Application #200505-08).
6. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 52" panel antennas with up to nine 54" dual band panel antennas at the 92' level on the six-story Potomac Water Filtration Plant building located at 12200 River Road in Potomac (Application #200505-09).
7. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 51" panel antennas with up to nine 54" dual band panel antennas at the 170' level on the fourteen-story Chevy Chase building located at 5530 Wisconsin Avenue in Chevy Chase (Application #200505-10).
8. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing panel antennas with up to nine 55" dual band panel antennas at the 150' level on the 150' Rock Creek Terrace building located at 12360 Veirs Mill Road in Rockville (Application #200505-11).
9. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 51" panel antennas with up to nine 55" dual band panel antennas at the 190' level on the existing mounts on the Glenmont water tank located at 12405 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring (Application #200505-12).
10. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 51" panel antennas with up to nine 55" dual band panel antennas at the 151' level on PEPCO transmission line tower #171-N located on Ednor Road in Rockville (Application #200505-13).
11. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing antennas with nine 54" dual band panel antennas on a 180' monopole on the Wheaton Park Maintenance Yard property located at 12012 Alpert Lane in Wheaton (Application #200505-14).
12. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing panel antennas with up to nine 54" dual band panel antennas at the 118' level on the 130' Cabin John VFW Post monopole located at 11511 MacArthur Boulevard in Potomac (Application #200505-15).
13. Verizon Wireless application to install 12 panel antennas (six 47" and six 71" high) at the 83' level on the penthouse walls of the 65' Baker Confectionary & Tobacco Union building located at 10401 Connecticut Avenue in Kensington (Application #200505-16).

Motion: Dave Niblock moved the consent applications be recommended. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and it was approved with Pat Hanehan abstaining on all of the Cingular applications.

Action Item: Cingular Wireless application to attach six 22" panel antennas at the 50' level and three 54" panel antennas at the 45' level atop the 39' Burkland Medical Center building located at 10313 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring (Application #200505-04).

Matt Wolff summarized the application and noted the screening of the equipment platform and a set of antennas on the rooftop. Mr. Wolff also noted that this recommendation was conditioned on Cingular obtaining a Special Exception because the building did not meet the 50' height required for the zone.

Bob Hunnicutt added that Cingular's representative Jill Goyette originally reported that just the equipment platform would be screened but that Cingular now planned to screen the antennas as well. She distributed copies of photo simulations showing the expected appearance of the screening on the rooftop.

Ms. Lawton commented that she was troubled by this application because the intent of the zoning ordinance was to encourage carriers to locate facilities on buildings that are at least 50' tall in residential areas. She said she also objected to the 12' height of the facilities to be placed on top of this short building and thought that the TFCG should consider not recommending applications that do not meet the minimum height requirement.

Dave Niblock commented that even though the zoning ordinance required the building to be at least 50' in height, applicants could request a Special Exception, and if approved by the Board of Appeals, could place its facilities on shorter buildings. He said the Council's intent was to leave that avenue open for cases such as this. Ms. Lawton said that approval of these kinds of applications did not encourage carriers to work harder to find existing structures for its antennas where they could meet the intent of the code. M.G. Diamond noted that the Board of Appeals had previously approved a Special Exception (#S-2492) for a similar attachment and screening atop a short building in a residential zone at Layhill and Bonifant Roads. Ms. Lawton stated she was aware of two other such cases, and asked the Tower Coordinator to obtain a copy of that Board of Appeals opinion for her review.

Carlton Gilbert asked where the homes were in relation to this building. Bob Hunnicutt stated that the homes were across Georgia Avenue and across Dennis Avenue from the building.

Ms. Goyette explained that on rooftop attachments, Cingular usually uses a sled mount for its antennas, but in this case they thought it appropriate to add the screening in the interest of minimizing the visual impact to the residential area. She said that the building owner had suggested that the screening be of the same dark brown color as the awnings on the building to make it blend in more with the building, but suggested that Cingular could make the screening appear as a brick façade if that would lessen the visual impact.

Ms. Goyette added that this was a last resort for coverage in this area and that other sites had been ruled out by Cingular because they were either too close to another site or there were structural issues. She said these other sites included water tanks as well as two churches in the area.

Ms. Lawton noted that this building was owned by a condominium association and asked if there were residential units in the building. Ms. Goyette replied that this building only housed medical offices.

Helen Xu asked how high was the County building located behind this building. Ms. Goyette replied she believed that was a two story building and that all the buildings in this vicinity were fairly low.

Ms. Lawton agreed that for attachments to short buildings, it was appropriate to screen the equipment and antennas in a manner that blended in with the building. She reiterated that she was concerned that it may appear that the TFCG encouraged these kinds of sitings. Ms. Goyette stated that Cingular's understanding of the code was that although it was not permitted as a rule, it could be permitted with approval of a Special Exception.

Ms. Lawton asked why a Distributed Antenna System (DAS) could not be used in this case. Mr. Hunnicutt said that he did not know how extensive the aerial plant was in this vicinity to accommodate DAS antennas. Ms. Lawton asked if this site was needed for capacity or coverage. Ms. Goyette replied it was needed to provide additional coverage to the area.

Ms. Xu asked if the antennas and the equipment shelter could be relocated to a different part of the roof farther away from the homes. Ms. Goyette replied that the screening is to suggest that the structure is a penthouse structure, which is usually in the center of the building, and the only alternative to this site would be use of a raw land site.

Martin Rookard asked if this site was not approved, would the only alternative for Cingular be to build a freestanding structure on raw land. Ms. Goyette said that would be the only alternative, as they had exhausted all other viable options to site antennas in this area. She noted that a new monopole would be more objectionable than the proposed faux penthouse atop this structure.

Ms. Lawton asked if the merger with AT&T Wireless had provided Cingular with options to combine network sites in lieu of this siting. Ms. Goyette explained that engineering of this site had already taken into account AT&T's current sites, which also showed a gap in coverage for this vicinity.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved that the application be recommended conditioned on obtaining a Special Exception from the Board of Appeals. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and it was approved with Pat Hanehan and Carlton Gilbert abstaining.

Action Item: Verizon Wireless application to construct a new 140' monopole and attach 12 panel antennas (six

48" high and six 71" high) at the 138' level on the Wheaton Park Trolley Museum property located at 1313 Bonifant Road in Colesville (Application #200505-07).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application. He noted that this was a stealth monopole designed to resemble a tree. The site for the monopole is in the center of a very large piece of park property near the area where a new Trolley Museum was planned for construction. He added that this recommendation was conditioned on Verizon obtaining a Special Exception for the structure.

Jane Lawton asked how far the monopole would be from nearby residences. M.G. Diamond stated that it would be approximately 900 feet to the nearest residence. Ms. Lawton asked if the facility would be able to accommodate antennas from two other carriers. Mr. Diamond replied that it would. Ms. Lawton noted that the recommendation was also conditioned on the applicant reducing the height of the facility from 140' to 120', and asked the Tower Coordinator to explain this condition.

Mr. Wolff explained that based on his review of the drive test results provided by the carrier, there was very little difference between coverage measurements from the drive tests with antennas at 140' and antennas at 120'. Consequently, he did not see the need for the additional 20 feet in height for this facility.

Mr. Hunnicutt added that he reviewed photo simulations provided by Verizon and compared those to photos from the balloon test. He said it appeared that the photo simulations were a fairly accurate representation of the view from the residences once the monopole was constructed.

M.G. Diamond explained that Verizon required a height of 140' to help relieve capacity at the Glenmont Water Tank site, and that the 120' level did not adequately address this need. Mr. Hunnicutt asked how far away that facility is from this proposed site. Mr. Diamond replied that it is approximately 1.5 miles away.

Motion: Pat Hanehan moved the application be recommended at the proposed 140' level but conditioned on Verizon obtaining a Special Exception from the Board of Appeals. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Discussion Item - Next Meeting: The next meeting of the TFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, July 13, 2005 at 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.