



DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

Michael H. Knuppel
Acting Chief Information Officer

MINUTES OF TFCG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TFCG) was held on April 4, 2007. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Marjorie Williams	OCCS	(240) 777-3724
Helen Xu	DTS	(240) 777-2804
Mary Pat Wilson	MCPS	(240) 314-4707
Carlton Gilbert	M-NCPPC	(301) 495-5476
Martin Rookard	WSSC	(301) 206-8979
David Niblock	DPS	(240) 777-6252

STAFF

Bob Hunnicutt	CTC	(410) 964-5700
Carol Watson	CTC	(410) 964-5700

OTHER ATTENDEES

Vanessa Cooper	NBC for T-Mobile
Adam Knubel	NBC for Clearwire
Kevin Russ	Horizon Wi-Com
Kip Thomas	Citizen
Matt Reimer	Citizen

Action Item – Meeting Minutes: Marjorie Williams noted that the minutes sent to the members with their packets were on old letterhead but corrected copies have been provided at today's meeting. Carlton Gilbert moved the minutes be approved as written. Martin Rookard seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Consent Applications:

1. Clearwire application to attach three 3' panel antennas at the 93' level and three 2' dish antennas at the 88' level on a 110' monopole located at 919 University Boulevard in Silver Spring (Application #200701-07).
2. Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 142' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 146' level on a 134' PEPCO transmission line tower #683-E located at 18300 Bowie Mill Road in Olney (Application #200703-03).
3. Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 112' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 116' level on a 122' PEPCO transmission line tower #620-N located at 12457 Falconbridge Road in North Potomac (Application #200703-04).
4. Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 140' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 144' level on a 150' PEPCO transmission line tower #689-E located at Evangeline Lane in Olney (Application #200703-05).
5. Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 131' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 135' level on a 141' PEPCO transmission line tower #653-S located at Falls Road in Rockville (Application #200703-06).
6. Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 113' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 117' level on a 121' PEPCO transmission line tower #644-S located at Lloyd Road in Rockville (Application #200703-07).
7. Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 112' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 116' level on a 122' PEPCO transmission line tower (Application #200703-08).
8. Clearwire application to attach four 42" panel antennas at the 223' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 227' level on a 349' PEPCO self-supporting lattice tower located at 17101 Germantown Road in Germantown (Application #200703-09).
9. Clearwire application to install three 3' panel antennas and three 2' dish antennas at the 108' level on the roof of 79' building located at 13100 Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200703-10).
10. T-Mobile application to install nine 59" antennas at the 172' level on an existing 183' monopole located at 4301 Brookeville Road in Brookeville (Application #200703-11).
11. Horizon Wi-Com application to install two 58" antennas at the 155' level on an existing 190' self-supporting lattice tower located at 15030 Frederick Road in Rockville (Application #200703-12).

Discussion: Bob Hunnicutt noted that Mary Pat Wilson alerted him that the location maps provided with some of the applications did not show where the site was located and that one map was for the wrong area of the County. He explained that when copying the original maps, locations that had been drawn on the maps by the applicant using a highlighter did not show up on the photocopies. He said that he would check the maps more closely in the future to make sure the site is clearly identified in the correct location. Ms. Wilson commented that for two of the applications for Pepco attachments, it was also not clear how the site would be accessed.

Adam Knubel distributed copies of corrected maps and explained how the sites mentioned would be accessed. Mr. Hunnicutt explained that the Pepco sites are usually towers located immediately next to roadways where access is typically a gravel roadway from the street to the Pepco right-of-way. He added that he would check that the applicants clearly illustrate access on future applications.

Helen Xu asked for clarification about the building height for item number 9 noting that it appeared the building height was 103' not the 79' stated on the Tower Coordinator's Recommendation Form. Mr. Hunnicutt explained that the overall height of the building complex at the site is 79' but that the section of the building where the antennas are to be attached was indeed 103' above ground. He agreed it would have been clearer if that had been stated in the Recommendation Form. Mr. Knubel explained that there is a 30' parapet at that building concealing the cooling stacks, etc. Dave Niblock stated that he would view the accurate height of the building as 79' above ground.

Ms. Xu also noted that the elevation drawing for item number 10 showed a lattice tower but the application was for a monopole. Mr. Hunnicutt apologized and explained that it appeared in collating the packets an error had been made. He provided the correct elevation profile for that application.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved the consent agenda items be recommended. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with Mary Pat Wilson abstaining from Item number 1.

Action Item: Clearwire application to attach four 3' panel antennas at the 91' level and four 2' dish antennas at the 87' and 91' levels on a 150' monopole located at I-495 and Connecticut Avenue in Kensington (Application #200701-08)

Carol Watson summarized the application noting that since this was the seventh carrier to attach to the monopole, the Tower Coordinator's recommendation was conditioned on submission of a structural analysis.

Marjorie Williams asked how it is determined if the structure could support the antennas. Bob Hunnicutt briefly explained the nature of the structural engineering considerations of wind and weight loading in a structural analysis report. He added that his direction from the TFCG had been to request a structural analysis when it appeared that there may be a concern for heavily loaded support structures or structures that appeared to be structurally questionable. He added

that in those cases it is often determined that structural modifications are needed. For those applications, recommendations are conditioned on making the structural modifications prior to attachment of the antennas, which also flags the condition for the Department of Permitting Services.

Motion: Martin Rookard moved the application be recommended conditioned on submission of a structural analysis report to the Department of Permitting Services and copy to the Tower Coordinator that verifies the structure can safely accommodate Clearwire's antennas and related equipment. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Discussion Item – DAS Application Fees: Marjorie Williams mentioned that she had been asked about the fees for a distributed antenna system (DAS) application. She said that the County policy requires a fee for each antenna attachment to each pole. She said that makes applications for those designs expensive and that at the time the fee structure was established, a DAS was not contemplated. The fee for those designs may be revisited since they would like to encourage those less intrusive attachments in the community where possible.

Discussion Item – Next Meeting: The next meeting of the TFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 2007 at 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.