



DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Isiah Leggett
County Executive

E. Steven Emanuel
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 May 7, 2008. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Carlton Gilbert	M-NCPPC	(301) 495-4577
Helen Mu	DTS	(240) 777-2804
Marjorie Williams	OCCS	(240) 777-3762
Dave Niblock	DPS	(240) 777-6252
Mary Pat Wilson	MCPS	(240) 314-1071
Jennifer Bryant	OMB	(240) 777-2761

STAFF

Bob Hunnicutt	CTC	(301) 933-1488
Shivani Gandhi	CTC	(301) 933-1488

OTHER ATTENDEES

Sean Hughes	Donohue & Blue	
Jay O'Neill	Sprint	(443) 278-3890
Charles Ryan	Cricket	(301) 526-7342
Carmen Charalanebous	T-Mobile	(301) 775-5826
Amy Bird	T-Mobile	
Harold Bernadzikowski	NB&C/Verizon	
Charles Salamon	NB&C/Verizon	(442) 617-5691
Doug Hebard	Cricket/NBC	(443) 756-2358
Christopher Sinclair	Next G	(703) 960-4775
Chris Brown	Next G	(741) 720-9482

Action Item – Meeting Minutes: Carlton Gilbert moved the minutes be approved as written. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Item - Consent Agenda Applications:

1. Sprint-Nextel application to replace three existing antennas with three new 48" antennas at the 71' level on the steeple of the Good Shepherd Church located at 9701 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring (Application #200804-01).

2. Sprint-Nextel application to replace six 48" antennas with six new 48" antennas at the 169' level on a 199' monopole on Pleasant Excavating property located at 24012 Frederick Road in Clarksburg (Application #200804-02).
3. Sprint-Nextel application to replace two panel antennas with two new 48" panel antennas at the 100' level on the equipment shelter and penthouse walls atop the 90' high Woodmont Condominium building located at 8120 Woodmont Avenue in Bethesda (Application #200804-03).
4. Sprint-Nextel application to replace six 48" panel antennas with six new 48" panel antennas at the 49' level atop the 38' high Cedar Heights water tank located at 24213 Ridge Road in Damascus (Application #200804-04).
5. Sprint-Nextel application to replace three panel antennas with six new antennas (three 48" and three 53" antennas) at the same 183' level on a 190' monopole located at 16801 Oakmont Avenue in Gaithersburg (Application #200804-07).
6. Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 antennas (six 71" and six 47") at the 90' level on a 120' monopole at Northwood High School located at 919 East University Boulevard in Silver Spring (Application #200804-08).
7. Verizon Wireless application to attach 12 antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the 104' and 116' levels on building and equipment shelter walls of a Renaissance Apartments building located at 14000 Castle Boulevard in Silver Spring (Application #200804-09).
8. Verizon Wireless application to replace nine existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the same 98' level on the roof of the WSSC Potomac water filtration plant building located at 12200 River Road in Potomac (Application #200804-10).
9. Verizon Wireless application to replace six existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the same 141' level on a PEPCO transmission tower line #660-S located at 11200 Deborah Drive in Potomac (Application #200804-11).
10. Verizon Wireless application to replace six existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the same 107' level of a 119' tree monopole on the Baptist Home for Children property located at 6301 Greentree Road in Bethesda (Application #200804-13).
11. Verizon Wireless application to replace nine existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the same 100' level of a 162' MDOT monopole located at I-495 & Connecticut Avenue in Kensington (Application #200804-14).
12. Verizon Wireless application to replace 15 existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47", four 48" and two 71") at the same 95' level of a 160' monopole on Tri-State Stone Quarry property located at 8200 Seven Locks Road in Bethesda (Application #200804-15).

13. Verizon Wireless application to replace nine existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the same 95' level on the roof of the Sudbury House condominiums located at 2100 Washington Avenue in Silver Spring (Application #200804-16).
14. Verizon Wireless application to replace 12 existing antennas with 12 new antennas (six 47" and six 71") at the same 160' level of a 180' lattice tower on Boy Scout Troop 52 property located at 16100 Darnestown Road in Dawsonville (Application #200804-17).
15. T-Mobile application to install nine 59" antennas on sled mounts at the 210' on the roof of the White Oak Towers apartment building located at 11700 Old Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200804-20).

Bob Hunnicutt advised the group that Jim Krause of WSSC had asked that Item #8 be placed on hold pending resolution of lease issues with Verizon for their antennas at the Potomac Filtration Station on River Road. He added that there was an error on the recommendation form for Item #7. He said it should read that eight 71" high and four 47" high antennas are proposed for that rooftop installation instead of six of each as written on the recommendation.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved that all of the consent agenda items be recommended except for Item #8. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with Mary Pat Wilson abstaining from voting on Item #6.

Action Item: Sirius Satellite Radio application to attach two 54" dish antennas on the roof of the Washingtonian building located at 9701 Fields Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200804-05).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application and noted that previous cumulative RF studies for this site reported the RF emissions exceeded FCC guidelines. Consequently, previous applications at this site had been conditioned on the applicant taking measures pursuant to the FCC requirement to post notices for workers entering the roof area. Therefore, he recommended this application conditioned on the carrier submitting a cumulative RF study and taking any necessary steps required to comply with FCC guidelines for rooftop attachments.

Mary Pat Wilson asked if earlier applications had been similarly conditioned. Mr. Hunnicutt replied that was the case.

Motion: Carlton Gilbert moved the application be recommended conditioned on Sirius submitting to the Department of Permitting Services and the Tower Coordinator results from a cumulative RF study and a statement of how they plan compliance with any requirements set forth therein if the emissions exceed FCC minimum levels. Mary Pat Wilson seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Discussion Items – Design Changes to Recommended Applications: Mr. Hunnicutt explained that there were several applications previously reviewed by the TFCG that subsequently had required design changes that should be brought to the attention of the Group. These applications are as follows:

- Verizon Wireless Application #200801-03. The design for the use of a faux chimney to conceal antennas at the end of the building would replace a pole mounted attachment design originally proposed.
- Verizon Application #200709-05. The elevation of the antennas is now planned to be three feet higher than originally planned.
- NextG/Sprint-Nextel Application #200704-23. Mr. Hunnicutt summarized a number of changes to the DAS network proposed by that application: nine omni-directional antennas will be used in lieu of panel antennas; two panel antennas will be used in lieu of omni-directional antennas; one pole will be replaced by a 50' high wooden pole; and several pole extensions would now be 6' in height, rather than 4', in order to meet PEPCO requirements for clearance above the primary electric lines.

Mary Pat Wilson asked if the changes warranted submission of a minor modification application. Marjorie Williams replied that the TFCG policy was that since the antennas had not yet been attached, simply advising the group of the minor design revisions was considered acceptable with no further action needed.

Discussion Item – Cricket Deployment: Charles Ryan was introduced to present information about upcoming applications from Cricket, a wireless provider currently entering the market in the County.

Mr. Ryan explained that Cricket, primarily a west coast provider, was entering the east coast market and planned to submit 67 applications for colocation on existing structures in the County to meet a May 2009 launch of service deadline. He explained that Cricket had approximately three million subscribers nationwide and that a recent award of approximately 90 additional licenses to Cricket opened the market to additional service areas. He exhibited a mock up illustration of an antenna for review by the group. He stated there are three antennas planned for each collocation site. The antennas were to either be chain-mounted to the support structure or offset approximately 2-1/2 feet from the structure.

Marjorie Williams asked Mr. Ryan to explain the nature of the Cricket service. Mr. Ryan stated that Cricket's service is limited to traditional wireless voice and data services. He stated that by limiting the services provided to those basic wireless services, Cricket is able to offer services for a much lower cost than competitors whose service offerings include more expensive broadband services.

The next meeting of the TFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, June 4, 2008 at 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.