

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TF CG) was held on March 4, 2009. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS

Mitsuko Herrera	OCCS	(240) 777-2928
Marjorie Williams	OCCS	(240) 777-3762
Dave Niblock	DPS	(240) 777-6252
Carlton Gilbert	M-NCPPC	(301) 495-4577
Helen Mu (via phone)	DTS	(240) 777-2804
Mary Pat Wilson	MCPS	(240) 314-4707
Steve Batterden	DGS, ORE	(240) 777-6063

STAFF

Bob Hunnicutt	CTC	(301) 933-1488
David Doulong	CTC	(301) 933-1488
Martin Liebman	CTC	(301) 933-1488

OTHER ATTENDEES

Michael Kelly	Cricket	(240) 274-7774
Carmen Charalambous	T-Mobile	(301) 775-5826
Cliff Kinney	MCRA	

Action Item Meeting Minutes: Mary Pat Wilson moved the minutes be approved as written. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and the minutes were unanimously approved.

Action Item Consent Agenda Applications:

1. Cricket Wireless application to install four panel antennas on the roof of a Grosvenor House apartment building located at 10101 Grosvenor Place in Rockville (Application #200810-13).
2. Cricket Wireless application to attach three panel antennas on the penthouse walls atop the Semmes office building located at 10220 River Road in Potomac (Application #200811-01).
3. Cricket Wireless application to install three panel antennas on the roof of a White Oak Towers apartment building located at 11700 Old Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200811-06).
4. Cricket Wireless application to attach three panel antennas on an existing lattice tower on Kenwood Country Club property located at 5601 River Road in Bethesda (Application #200811-10).
5. Cricket Wireless application to attach three panel antennas on the penthouse walls atop the Westlake Towers apartment building located at 7420 Westlake Terrace in Bethesda (Application #200811-13).
6. Cricket Wireless application to attach three panel antennas on an existing monopole on MDOT property located at I-495 & Connecticut Avenue in Kensington (Application #200811-37).

7. AT&T application to install one dish antenna atop a WSSC water tank located at 11400 Woodglen Drive & Executive Boulevard in Rockville (Application #200903-01).

8. AT&T application to install one dish antenna to the penthouse wall of the Westlake Towers apartment building located at 7420 Westlake Terrace in Bethesda (Application #200903-02).

Motion: Mary Pat Wilson moved the Consent agenda items be recommended. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item - Cricket Wireless application to attach three panel antennas on the penthouse walls atop the Chateau Apartments building located at 9727 Mt. Pisgah Road in Silver Spring (Application #200811-02).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting that the Tower Coordinators recommendation was conditioned on resolving any conflicts for placement of Crickets roof top equipment with AT&T, whose application documents (still under review) showed their equipment in same space as Cricket proposed for their equipment.

Motion: Mary Pat Wilson moved the application be recommended conditioned on Cricket, AT&T and the landlord resolving the equipment and cabling placement conflicts. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item - Cricket Wireless application to attach three panel antennas on an existing monopole on Fire Station #31 property located at 12100 Darnestown Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200811-14).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application noting that based on the structural analysis conditions as explained by Steve Batterden, the Tower Coordinator recommendation is revised to be conditioned on the removal of the deactivated AT&T antennas atop the monopole prior to attaching the Cricket antennas.

Mitsuko Herrera asked if there would be any interference with the existing services at this fire station. Mr. Hunnicutt replied that it did not appear there would be any interference problems.

Mary Pat Wilson asked if this would be a mandatory referral review application. Mr. Hunnicutt said he thought so. Mr. Batterden said that they only refer new, first time tower or monopole applications to the M-NCPPC to meet mandatory referral review. Mary Pat Wilson said that the schools do the same.

Motion: Mary Pat Wilson moved the application be recommended conditioned on removal of the deactivated AT&T antennas atop the monopole prior to attaching the Cricket antennas. Steve Batterden seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item - T-Mobile application to construct a 100 monopole on Extra Space Storage property located at 18920 Earhart Court in Gaithersburg (Application #200901-04).

Bob Hunnicutt noted that this application had been tabled at the February meeting pending receipt of the FAA determination for this monopole and on obtaining a response from WSSC as to whether they would permit a second monopole on their pumping station property on Snouffers School Road.

He advised the group that WSSC had replied that they could not dedicate additional ground space for another monopole on that property. He added that the applicant provided a copy of the FAA determination which found that the monopole as proposed was not a hazard to air navigation but conditioned their determination on T-Mobile coordinating frequency activation with the FAA to verify that there is no interference with the FAA facilities.

Cliff Kinney of the Montgomery County Revenue Authority commented that the Authority strongly urged marking the monopole with a steady red light atop the monopole to alert pilots to its presence since it is so close to the airport. Mr. Hunnicutt added that he had received an e-mail from John Luke, the Airport Manager,

that noted that since the airport is operated 24 hours a day, even in inclement weather, there is a need to make the monopole conspicuous to all aircraft at all times. Mr. Luke also noted in his email that they preferred a strobe light but, in consideration of the impact that may have on the surrounding community, they recommended a steady red light to mark the monopole instead.

Mitsuko Herrera asked what the FAA's policy was for a monopole like the one proposed. David Doulong replied that since the FAA's determination was that the monopole did not have to be marked at all, the steady light would likely not be a problem as a voluntary action by the tower owner. Ms. Herrera asked if T-Mobile would agree to place a steady red light atop the monopole. Carmen Charalambous representing T-Mobile stated that she did not believe that would be a problem.

Mr. Hunnicutt noted that the Tower Coordinators recommendation was conditioned on marking the tower as requested by the Revenue Authority and meeting the FAA's request to coordinate frequency activation.

Ms. Herrera asked Ms. Charalambous if that was agreeable to T-Mobile. Ms. Charalambous replied that it was.

Motion - Helen Mu moved the application be recommended as conditioned on marking the tower as requested by the Revenue Authority and meeting the FAA's request to coordinate frequency activation. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was approved with David Niblock voting against the motion.

The next meeting of the TFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, April 1, 2009 at 2 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.