



## DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

Isiah Leggett  
County Executive

Harash (Sonny) Segal  
Chief Information Officer

### MINUTES OF TFCG MEETING

To: Distribution

From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications Corporation (CTC)

A meeting of the Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TFCG) was held on December 3, 2014. The following people were in attendance:

#### MEMBERS

Marjorie Williams		DTS
Dave Niblock	(via phone)	DPS
Ted Bowser	(via phone)	DTS
Carlton Gilbert	(via phone)	M-NCPPC
Naeem Mia	(via phone)	OMB
Peter Geiling	(via phone)	MCPS

#### STAFF

Nancy Rodriguez		CTC
Bob Hunnicutt	(via phone)	CTC
Martin Liebman	(via phone)	CTC

#### OTHER ATTENDEES

Harold Bernadzikowski		NB&C, LLC
Michael Wieland		NB&C, LLC
Justin Blanset	(via phone)	NB&C, LLC
Arun Sudama	(via phone)	SCE, Inc.
Jacob Epstein	(via phone)	SCE, Inc.
Joshua Schakola	(via phone)	SCE, Inc.
Shari Saslow	(via phone)	SCE, Inc.

#### **Action Item: Meeting Minutes**

**Motion:** Naeem Mia moved that the minutes be approved as written. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved with Peter Geiling abstaining.

#### **Action Item: Consent Agenda**

1. Sprint application to add three panel antennas at the 235' level on a 300'-high lattice tower on Montgomery County property located at 26149 Ridge Road in Damascus (201403-06). *Minor Modification.*
2. Verizon Wireless application to attach twelve panel antennas at the 103' level atop a 100'-high office building on U.S. government property located at 1335 East-West Highway in Silver Spring (201411-13). *Co-location.*
3. Verizon Wireless application to replace twelve antennas with nine panel antennas at the 65' level atop a 147'-high five-story residential condominium building on Maplewood Park Place property at 9707 Old Georgetown Road in Bethesda (201412-01). *Minor Modification.*
4. Verizon Wireless application to replace one antenna at the 140' level on a 165'-high monopole on Andrew P. Austin & Elizabeth Thornton property located at 18743 New Hampshire Avenue in Brinklow (201412-02). *Minor Modification.*
5. Verizon Wireless application to replace nine panel antennas at the 121' level on a 126'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located in the 12400 Block of Falconbridge Drive in North Potomac (201412-03). *Minor Modification.*
6. Verizon Wireless application to add three panel antennas at the 147' level on a 150'-high PEPCO transmission line tower on PEPCO property located at 4270 Sir Walter Road in Olney (201412-05). *Minor Modification.*
7. Verizon Wireless application to add one omni-directional antenna at the 41' level atop an existing 38'-high light pole on DJW, LLC property located at 13601 Connecticut Avenue in Silver Spring (201412-07). *Co-location.*
8. Verizon Wireless application to add one omni-directional antenna at the 39' level atop an existing 37'-high light pole on DJW, LLC property located at 13601 Connecticut Avenue in Silver Spring (201412-08). *Co-location.*
9. Verizon Wireless application to add one omni-directional antenna at the 45' level atop an existing 42'-high light pole on DJW, LLC property located at 13601 Connecticut Avenue in Silver Spring (201412-09). *Co-location.*
10. Verizon Wireless application to replace three 72"-high panel antennas at the 61' level on a 43'-high public storage building on Takoma Park Land LLP property located at 1352 Holton Lane in Takoma Park (201412-10). *Minor Modification.*

11. Verizon Wireless application to replace twelve panel antennas at the 147' and 157' levels atop a 140'-high apartment building on Southern Management Corporation property located at 7600 Maple Avenue in Takoma Park (201412-11). *Minor Modification.*
12. Verizon Wireless application to remove one antenna and add four panel antennas at the 119' level atop a 98'-high office building on Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company property located at 13100 Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (201412-13). *Minor Modification.*
13. Verizon Wireless application to add one omni-directional antenna at the 37' level atop an existing 35'-high light pole on Redmill Shopping Center Association, LP property located at 7200 Muncaster Mill Road in Rockville (201412-14). *Minor Modification.*

Marjorie Williams stated that agenda items #9 and #13 would be removed from the consent agenda because they were not filed in accordance with the new zoning regulations. She stated that the two applications in question would be tabled and re-addressed at another meeting. Harold Bernadzikowski asked why the applications were being tabled. Ms. Williams explained that if an existing pole is being replaced with a new pole, the application needs to be refiled as a new pole.

Mr. Bernadzikowski asked why the applicants were not advised of this prior to the meeting. Bob Hunnicutt explained that neither of those applications noted that the antennas were not being attached to an existing pole. He stated that in the application shown on the agenda as #9, which was filed as a co-location, the applicant proposed that an existing light pole be replaced with a taller one; he also stated that in the application shown on the agenda as #13, which was filed as a minor modification, there is no existing pole at all.

Nancy Rodriguez added that the photos attached with the application for agenda item #13 were simulations, but that the photos were not identified as such; only after closer examination of the plans was this information discovered, and then verified by site visits.

Ms. Williams noted that the current regulations state that these small cell antennas are only permitted on an existing structure.

Mr. Bernadzikowski said that not only was he concerned about his two applications being tabled at this meeting, but he is also concerned for all applications in the future. He stated that he does not believe that the TFCG is interpreting the Code correctly and would like additional clarification so that all carriers know how to prepare these types of applications. Ms. Williams replied that the meaning of the Code was verified by Pamela Dunn, who works for the office that wrote the Code, and by Cliff Royalty, the County Attorney for TFCG matters. Carlton Gilbert stated that the TFCG's interpretation in these examples was his understanding of the new Code requirements as well.

Ms. Williams suggested she could perhaps schedule a meeting with Ms. Dunn and Mr. Royalty to confirm the interpretation.

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert moved that all items on the Consent Agenda except for Items #9 and #13 be recommended. Peter Geiling seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

### **Regular Agenda**

**Action Item:** Sirius XM application to attach one panel antenna and one dish antenna at the 188' and 194' levels atop a 194'-high apartment building on BVF-11 Enclave LLC property located at 11235 Oak Leaf Drive in Silver Spring (201411-12). *Minor Modification.*  
*Conditioned on immediate resolution of any RF conflicts with the County Public Safety Radio frequencies should they arise.*

Nancy Rodriguez summarized the application noting that, because the County has public safety radio antennas atop this building, and as has been the case with prior recommendations for this location, the recommendation is conditioned on Sirius immediately addressing any conflicts with the County services should any occur.

**Motion:** Peter Geiling moved that the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Ted Bowser seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** Sprint application to add three panel antennas at the 150' level on a 195'-high WSSC lattice tower on WSSC property located at 12600 Great Seneca Road in Germantown (201412-04). *Minor Modification.*  
*Conditioned on the application providing written approval from WSSC at the time of permitting that WSSC approves of the attachment*

Nancy Rodriguez summarized the application noting that WSSC has not yet approved this modification. Consequently, the recommendation is conditioned on WSSC's approval.

**Motion:** Carlton Gilbert moved that the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Peter Geiling seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

**Action Item:** Verizon Wireless application to construct a 74'-high monopole and attach up to fifteen panel antennas at the 70' level on DJW, LLC property located at 14495 Southlawn Lane in Rockville (201412-06). *New.*

Mr. Hunnicutt summarized the application noting that this monopole is situated in a primarily industrial and commercial area and that because of its relatively low height, it may have minimal impact on nearby residential areas. The engineering review of the RF maps showed that there may not be a significant difference in coverage with antennas at the proposed height or 20 feet lower. However, because the TFCG has expressed interest in seeing new monopoles being

designed to support additional antennas, the application is recommended at the requested height because this application shows the availability of space on the monopole for a second carrier's antennas.

Dave Niblock asked if it is still a requirement to show that two additional carriers can co-locate on a new monopole. Mr. Hunnicutt replied that it is a condition for constructing a new monopole in residential areas permitted as a conditional use. However, he noted, the zone for this property is industrial, so that requirement does not apply.

Marty Liebman commented that the monopole as proposed could support additional carriers' antennas beneath the Verizon Wireless antennas at the proposed height.

**Motion:** Ted Bowser moved that the application be recommended as conditioned by the Tower Coordinator. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the TFCG will be held on January 7, 2015 in Room #225 of the COB.