



Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Fwd: Proposed Cell Tower on One Eye Creek Road in Mosquito, CA

1 message

Aaron Mount <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>
To: Charlene Tim <charlene.tim@edcgov.us>

Mon, Aug 3, 2015 at 8:03 AM

Comments received for S15-0001 scheduled for Aug 13 PC.

Aaron Mount
Associate Planner**County of El Dorado**
Community Development Agency
Planning Services
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667
(530) 621-5355 / FAX (530) 642-0508
aaron.mount@edcgov.us

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Kaiva Dahrian <kaiva@agingsolutions.com>
Date: Fri, Jul 31, 2015 at 6:50 PM
Subject: Proposed Cell Tower on One Eye Creek Road in Mosquito, CA
To: "aaron.mount@edcgov.us" <aaron.mount@edcgov.us>
Cc: Loretta Webb <lorettajanewebb@att.net>, "vijamh@aol.com" <vijamh@aol.com>, "ausmanonacs@hotmail.com" <ausmanonacs@hotmail.com>

Hi Aaron,

I have attached my letter to the board of commissioners of the El Dorado Planning Commission, along with a personal statement in the form of a story about how the proposed building of the cell tower affects my life. It is not perfect, but what I can come up with at this time.

This proposed cell tower situation is immensely difficult for the people on the hill that would be directly affected by the project.

I am in the business of advocating for elders and their needs. It is unfair to subject retirees to the kind of stress that is happening now. It is unfair that Verizon Wireless is allowed to deleteriously affect people's lives in this way. I will do what I can to bring attention to the matter.

I hope this is not a jerry-rigged issue. I hope that we have a chance on August 13th to have the county help us mandate that Verizon find another solution.

The peace of mind and happiness of people is at stake here.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Kaiva Dahrian, MS, MFT

Care Manager

Aging Solutions, Inc.

www.agingsolutions.com



PS Do you need a hard copy, or is electronic format sufficient?

2 attachments

 **Letter to El Dorado Planning Commission August 1, 2015.pdf**
66K

 **FIRST DRAFT August 1, 2015 CELL TOWER IN FRONT YARD.pdf**
92K

Kaiva Dahrian, M.S., M.F.T.
233 Posada del Sol
Novato, CA 94949
(415) 335-1260
kaivada@gmail.com

August 1, 2015

Community Development Agency
Development Services Division
County of El Dorado
2850 Fairlane Court
Placerville, CA 95667
Attn: Aaron Mount

Re: Hearing on August 13, 2015 regarding Cell Tower Industrial Complex on One Eye Creek Road in Mosquito, California

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to ask that you consider an alternative solution to the proposed cell tower industrial complex on One Eye Creek Road in Mosquito, California.

This cell tower complex that consists of an 85 foot fake tree, noisy generator, equipment shelter and related ground equipment is planned in an unclassified area that functions as a residential neighborhood of retirees and working adults.

This industrial complex is planned 150 feet from the front door of a retiree's home and 300 feet in line of sight of my property's front yard. It is planned at the top of a dead-end road where the residents are forced to see the fake tree cell tower and industrial complex whenever they leave their properties.

These actions are causing immense distress among the members of the Upper One Eye Creek Road Community. 50% of the members of this community are retirees and this is causing unnecessary alarm and anguish. It is not appropriate to subject property owners in their 70's and 80's to this sort of stress.

As for me, I am a card-carrying Earth Steward and have staked my personal savings on a piece of property on which I plan to build a home and retire. It is ironic that they want to build the cell tower industrial complex in line of sight of my front yard.

I have written my personal story, attached, as a means of processing my grief. It is a first draft, so please excuse any errors. It is my way of letting friends and family and interested parties know how I am being affected by the planned construction of this 85-foot fake tree in my front yard.

Please read and understand that I am not in the way of progress, but am standing up for my peace of mind and that of my neighbors', for we are irrevocably affected by this cell tower and industrial complex.

I know that the county recently denied a cell tower in South Lake Tahoe and you are possibly pressured to approve one now. I am quite aware that we are not as wealthy as the South Lake Tahoe residents, but we are a residential neighborhood nonetheless.

Please help us to mandate that Verizon Wireless Corporation find another way to service rural areas, and not negatively impact a residential community of workers and retirees.

As far as I know, the handful of people that are directly affected by this cell tower complex will be at the hearing on August 13, 2015 and will be presenting a joint statement.

Respectfully yours,

Kaiva Dahrian

A Modern Horror Story

First Draft

August 1, 2015

Introduction

I am fully expecting to have my heart further broken in this crazy situation, but I have a personal story to tell about my tiny piece of land on a private, dead-end, dirt road in the Sierra Foothills. The story is about a mega-corporation and a non-resident neighbor that plan to desecrate personal space, peace of mind, enjoyment of property, and investments.

It is about a "Perfect Storm" of circumstances - the 22nd largest corporation in America, governmental protocols, consumer economic demand, and a landowner who is not concerned about an 85-foot high cell tower in his back yard because he does not live underneath it. But my neighbors and I do.

It is a David and Goliath story. A story about a handful of poor people that are having their peace and security threatened by Verizon Wireless Corporation (\$127 billion in revenues), a neighbor who sees dollar signs, and a government that does not want this cell tower industrial complex on their own land.

As of date, there are 52 pages of documents from agencies and Verizon Wireless Corporation that say that this cell tower project is perfectly OK and poses no negative impact. Do we have a chance of impacting this situation?

In any case, here is the story. Perhaps others will be made aware of how the potential building of a cell tower can affect their lives.

Personal Statement

I own a small piece of property that I have loved and cared for 17 years. It is a place that has brought me peace, joy, safety and connection with nature. It has been a place of rest and healing. It sits on the edge of civilization at the site of 60 miles of national forest. The times that I have spent visiting there have brought me immeasurable joy. I was planning to build a house and to retire there.

I am a student of Native American culture and tradition, and I bought my property 17 years ago in the spirit of Earth Stewardship and Land Conservation. This small property was described as an Eagle's Nest by a friend, a property nestled into the top of a hill. I have reforested this little place that was burned in the Chile Bar Fire of 1979. I have planted at least 30 trees, some of which are 40 feet high now, and landscaped the area to resemble a park. It has been my pride and joy to watch this land grow and flourish.

I have put many hours of weekend sweat equity into this project and am a proud parent. I am fighting for this little piece of dirt that I promised to protect during my lifetime. This land has been a chief focus of mine for the last 17 years. It is a place where I followed my bliss and made the earth a better place ("....To leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition.....that is to have succeeded," Success by Ralph Waldo Emerson.)

Out of all the places to put an 85-foot fake tree cell tower and mini-industrial, the forces to be want to put it in an Earth Steward's front yard! Life is full of ironies.....

Problem Overview

Verizon Wireless Corporation and a non-resident landowner propose to put up an 85-foot high cell tower with six antennae that is made to look like a tree. This is planned within line of sight of my front yard, and directly in front of a neighbor's front door. 85 feet tall is as tall as a 6 to 7-story building. In addition to this, a mini-industrial complex of a noisy generator and other equipment is set to be built on this 1,200 square foot space right next to the road. The property owner that does not live in the neighborhood has given them permission to do it. Verizon Wireless Corporation is paying \$1,500 a month to rent this space.

The planned building site sits at the top of One Eye Creek Road, a private dirt road where the residents cherish the simplicity of life at the edge of the El Dorado National Forest, which consists of 786,994 gross acres. The people that inhabit the top of this hill live here in order to enjoy the naked and rugged beauty of the area. They are willing to put up with a dirt road, and they care about the peaceful environment and nature. They do not want this cell tower there. It threatens their peace and security.

The cell tower complex is proposed to be 150 feet from the front door of a home. The pictures that purport to make this cell tower look innocuous have not been taken to

include the view from this person's front door and driveway. Why? Because it looks awful and unnatural.

The cell tower is being proposed 300 feet from my front yard and would completely dominate the Northeastern view of my property.

The cell tower is proposed within 50 feet from the road, on a property that is 39.75 acres large. The neighbor has only leased a smidgeon of his property that is near the road.

Does anyone reading this want a cell tower 150 to 300 feet from their home?

Verizon Wireless Corporation wants to build its cell tower in the middle of a small residential neighborhood atop the hill, next to 786,994 acres of national forest. It appears that it is difficult to get permission from the El Dorado National Forest to put a cell tower on their land. The county maintains that is perfectly OK in a residential neighborhood. Why? Residents that are directly affected by the proximity of the cell tower are adamantly against it.

The goal of the cell tower is to reach other towns in the area which sit across the canyon and to make sure that people in the National Forest have access to cellular phone coverage. That's all well and good. But why negatively impact a residential neighborhood and not put it where it will not negatively impact people's lives.

Verizon Wireless Corporation claims that it has done an alternative site search. This has consisted of targeting One Eye Creek Road Hill and then approaching all relevant property owners until they secured permission from a property owner who does not live in the neighborhood and wanted to earn some easy cash. This property owner has no personal stake in this community, as he does not live here. And it is his right to do exactly what he is doing. Moral conscience plays no part in business.

Verizon Wireless Corporation and our neighbor, though, are showing no regard whatsoever for community and peace of mind. This is heartbreaking and a slap in the face of people's values and their primary investments.

NEGATIVE INFLUENCES OF CELL TOWER

These are the reasons that we do not want a cell tower in our front yards.

Aesthetics

There are no 85 foot trees in the area because they all burned down in the Chile Bar Fire of 1979. This cell tower is an unseemly eyesore in an otherwise pristine vertical landscape. It would be easily identifiable by its height, the five foot high metal fence, noisy generators and other equipment within 50 feet of the road. The complex is not hidden, as the report says. As neighbors, we live, walk and drive in the area and would see it every day. The pictures in the Exhibits do NOT show what it looks like from the neighbor's front yard 150 feet away. From my front yard it is clearly visible, because it is different and taller than all other trees in the area.

Environmental Impact

The 6 page environmental impact report talks about raptors and deer that might live and travel through this property and the safeguards made for them. But we humans cannot avoid this 85-foot fake tree and industrial complex. My neighbor and I personally see it from our front yards. The inhabitants of the upper hill neighborhood must drive or walk by it every day, because the road is dead-end and there is no choice to go the other way.

Health

Because of the FCC Telecommunications Act of 1996, health and safety effects cannot be used in the case of challenging a cell tower application. So we cannot talk about this, but search the Internet and there are many studies about the deleterious effects of cell towers. One such report is a meta-analysis of individual studies by the Valhalla Wilderness Society of Canada

In a review of 14 studies collected from the WHO database and put together by Drs. Michael Kundi and Hans-Peter Huttera, **10 out of the 14 presently existent peer-reviewed studies analyzed found significant increases in ill health effects from cell tower exposures.** (Kundi, 2008 at the London EMF International Conference). Populations close to cellular antennas show an increase in the effects of health problems in those closest to the antennas with the risk factors dropping off as distance and RFR levels decrease. Symptoms range from sleep disturbances and headaches to breast and brain cancers.

But scratch this evidence, as these studies are not considered valid in the United States.

Location

This cell tower complex directly affects a residential neighborhood. It is directly in front of the home of a retired person by 150 feet. It is 300 feet from my front yard. It is on a private road in a residential neighborhood.

Peace of Mind and Enjoyment

These actions threaten the peace of mind and enjoyment of the inhabitants of this residential neighborhood, especially the ones that have to see it and go by it every day on the way to work, the mailbox, or a walk in the forest.

Property Values

Property values go down. We lose return on our investments. There are few people that want to live underneath a cell tower. Real Estate agents demand to know when a cell tower is near a property. That is because it lowers property values.

Senior Citizen Impact

A large majority of the people directly affected by this cell tower are senior citizens who are living out the last years of their lives on this quiet hill. The proposed building of this cell tower is causing immense distress to these residents and impacts their health and wellbeing.

Personal Result/Forced to Sell Property

The personal upshot of this is that since I will not retire underneath a cell tower and mini-industrial complex, this proposed unfortunate business maneuver forces me to sell my property and find another piece of land on which to retire. For at least 5,000 years of human civilization, a property on top of a hill was a place of safety. That is not the case in the last 20 years, hence the name, "A Modern Horror Story."

I am an aging worker and this land is my security. In line with my values and the proposed plans, I am forced to sell at loss. I lose my primary investment, my security, and peace of mind.

How is a corporation that has so many resources, options and choices of location in this area allowed to do this?

Why does Verizon Wireless Corporation find it necessary to disturb a residential neighborhood and blatantly disregard the community that lives there?

Why won't Verizon Wireless Corporation do the work to find a solution that they do not destroy peace of mind and property values?

Solution

Verizon Wireless Corporation can do some more homework and find a solution that does not impact a residential neighborhood. They have the resources to do so.

There is Bald Mountain and Slate Mountain and 780,000 acres of national forest. They can work with their sponsors, the government and other interested parties and put the cell tower on top of a hill where it would actually blend in and not negatively impact a residential neighborhood.

Verizon Wireless Corporation can figure out another way.

There is a solution here that does not cause the heartache and emotional devastation that you are planning on inflicting.

Let us find that solution.

Cc: Family and Friends
For Immediate Release to Interested Parties