

STATE OF NEW YORK : COUNTY OF SULLIVAN
TOWN OF THOMPSON PLANNING BOARD

In the Matter of

HOMELAND TOWER
Route 17B

For a Telecommunication Tower with Related Equipment

PUBLIC HEARING

Date: July 11, 2012
Time: 7:30 p.m.
Place: Town of Thompson
4052 State Route 42
Monticello, NY 12701

BOARD MEMBERS: JAMES LYTTLE, Chairman
ANNA MILUCKY
PATRICE CHESTER
BERNARD COHEN
LOU KIEFER
MATTHEW SUSH
ROBERT ZANGLA

ALSO PRESENT: RICHARD D. MCGOEY, P.E.
THOMAS BRAWLEY, Building Inspector
NORA HUGHSON, Secretary

APPLICANT'S REPRESENTATIVE: ANTHONY MORANDO, ESQ.

FILE
COPY

MICHELLE L. CONERO
10 Westview Drive
Wallkill, New York 12589
(845)895-3018



CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Good evening,
everyone. We have two public hearings tonight
before the general meeting.

I'll read the public notice for the
first hearing. "Notice is hereby given that a
public hearing will be held by the Planning
Board in the Town of Thompson at Town Hall,
Route 4052, Monticello, New York on July 11,
2012 at 7:30 p.m. to consider the application
of Homeland Towers in accordance with Article
9, Section 250 through 255 of the Town Code,
Town of Thompson, for site plan approval and
special use permit for a 190-foot
telecommunication tower with related equipment.
The property is located in the HC2 zone on 637
New York State Route 17B, Section 17; Block 1;
Lot 15.1."

Okay. Who is presenting?

MR. MORANDO: Good evening. Just
address the public?

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Yeah.

MR. MORANDO: My name is Anthony
Morando, I'm an attorney with the law firm of
Cuddy & Feder and I'm here on behalf of the

Homeland Towers and AT&T.

Since this is a public hearing, I will give a brief summary of the project. While we put those boards up, I'm just going to go through a couple things with the Board if that's okay.

MS. CHESTER: Okay.

MR. MORANDO: For the record, we did submit the affidavit of service confirming our compliance with the notice requirements on July 2nd. We also prepared an elevation sheet comparing the monopole and the lattice tower which you asked at the last meeting we would have so that could be displayed tonight.

On top of that -- actually, I do have copies for the Board as well.

For the benefit of the public I'll go through a quick summary. If it's okay, I'm going to turn this towards the public. As the agenda being read indicated, this proposal is for a telecommunication tower. To understand exactly what it's for, it's to provide infrastructure so that AT&T can close a service and coverage gap in the community. That gap exists along Route 17,

17B, Route 73, the surrounding areas, the homes, the residences, the travelers going through that area. The purpose is to cover that area with this facility.

The proposal involves a 190-foot tower and it's on the property located off 17B. As you can see here -- I'm sorry if it's a little bit small -- essentially the access will be coming off 17B. It's an existing access. It is -- it will be extended and resurfaced, so we won't be creating a new access at that point.

At the base of the tower, I'll --

MS. IBERGER: Where is the access?
That's what we want to know, where it goes in.
Where is the access? At what point?

MR. MORANDO: Well, it's hard to reference here. It's at the existing address of 637 Route 17B.

MS. IBERGER: I'm at 640 17B.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That would be right next door to us.

MR. MORANDO: The access? Yes, the property.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: And there's

another house on the other side. So it will be right between two houses?

MR. MORANDO: No. Essentially this large 36-acre parcel --

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: That's right next to us.

MR. MORANDO: The access is here. I know it's kind of far for you to see. It's okay with me if they would like --

MS. IBERGER: Where is 17B?

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Identify yourself for the record, please.

MS. IBERGER: I'm Ann Iberger, I live on 640 17B.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: And the other lady?

MS. CLEMENTE: I'm Vicky Clemente, I live with my mother, June Erway, she lives at 635 17B.

MR. NOTH: I'm Jim Noth, I own the house on 655 Route 17B.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Okay. We'll give you plenty of time to comment. Why don't you just let him finish his presentation and then we'll have public comment.

MS. IBERGER: We just want to know where it is.

MS. CHESTER: At the end you can ask.

MR. MORANDO: I'm trying to keep it as close to the public as I can.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: We've seen it.

MS. CHESTER: We've seen it.

MR. MORANDO: I'll back up. It's a 190-foot tower located several hundred feet -- excuse me, about 200 feet back off the property line from the road. At the base of it there will be a compound, a fenced-in compound where the associated equipment will be located. That equipment is used to operate the tower and the antennas that will be located on the tower. AT&T will install its antennas at approximately 180, 88 feet center line at the top of that tower.

Just so you understand, per the code siting requirements, we attempted to avoid disturbing existing vegetation and basically reducing site disturbance at every opportunity. We're also attempting to keep as much of the trees between 17B and the compound so that there will be at least a little screening at the base

of the compound to hide it and tuck it back on the property as best we can, at the base.

It sounds like the public would like to comment. I can either continue to go through or --

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Let's continue.

MR. MORANDO: Okay. I understand, you know, with respect to some of the comments I'm hearing now about the location. If I could just give a better clarification on why this property is sited -- the tower is sited where it is on this property. The zoning code -- let me back up. The property is zoned HC2 as well as RR1, but the property is split. If you see here this line, this is essentially the HC2 zoning district which runs parallel along 17B. In HC2 that's where the towers are permitted. In RR1 the towers are not permitted. Essentially the code is driving the tower a little bit closer to the road with respect to, you know, keeping it in that corridor.

So you understand, when you're talking about pushing it back, or any other location, that's where it drives the siting of the tower.

1
2 If I can back up even further. When
3 AT&T is coming to find a site they look through
4 essentially a general area and a general scope
5 and they try to find first a site that meets
6 their coverage objectives, because that's the
7 point, to close a significant gap in coverage.
8 Then you go through and analyze the zoning
9 restrictions, you analyze what sites are
10 available to be leased, what sites will
11 accommodate the facility, you look at topography
12 issues that prevent the coverage objective from
13 being met, and all these things combined, and
14 then you essentially locate the tower. That's
15 what the result of the tower research provides is
16 that this is the least obtrusive site in the area
17 to locate it.

18 I understand neighbors are here and
19 it's close to their properties. I do understand
20 that. We have to keep in context with, again, the
21 zoning limitations as far as it being a public
22 utility, trying to provide infrastructure for a
23 critical service for the area. It's also
24 important to keep in context. While it sounds
25 like there are people that live in the vicinity,

1 the character of the area does lend itself well
2 to this type of facility in that there is a DPW
3 storage yard right down the road, there is the
4 substation across the street, there's the active
5 stone quarry down the block. The area does --
6 when you're trying to locate a tower you are also
7 trying to meet the character of the neighborhood.
8 It is an area that meets the zoning requirements,
9 AT&T's coverage objectives. Again, it complies
10 with the character of the neighborhood. We've
11 also, even though not necessarily required by the
12 code, did look through a number of alternative
13 sites in the area to try to find a better site.
14 But for, again, zoning restrictions,
15 availability, leasing issues and coverage issues,
16 this is the site we land on. It sort of points
17 us to that.

18
19 It's worth noting that there are no
20 variances required for the site. It's a site
21 plan/special use permit. It is again where the
22 code drives you.

23 At this point I would open it up to the
24 Board or the public.

25 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Okay. Does the Board

1

HOMELAND TOWER

10

2

have any other questions at this time?

3

MS. CHESTER: Not at this time. We've
4 seen it before. Let the public speak.

5

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Public comments? If
6 you'd like to comment, just identify yourself for
7 the record.

8

MR. NOTH: Jim Noth. The center line
9 of 17B to your dotted line, how deep is that?

10

MR. MORANDO: The tower?

11

MR. NOTH: No. To the dotted line.

12

MS. CHESTER: The distance.

13

MR. MORANDO: About 500 feet.

14

MR. NOTH: Okay. So why -- if that's
15 all -- you're on the first half of it rather than
16 the second half.

17

MR. MORANDO: Mm'hm'.

18

MR. NOTH: I'm just curious, you know,
19 the fact that you're going to leave some trees up
20 is insignificant for a 190-foot tower. I don't
21 even know if a lot of people understand how big a
22 190-foot tower is. It's gigantic.

23

MR. MORANDO: Well --

24

MR. NOTH: It's in the clouds.

25

MR. MORANDO: Not quite that high but

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOMELAND TOWER

it is -- you know, it's a larger tower. The tower will accommodate additional carriers to reduce the need for future towers in the area. The goal is to allow all the carriers to go on this one tower.

And I will address that question but I'm going to back up again. Part of the -- one of the applicants on the project is Homeland Towers. Their job is to find a location also that meets AT&T's qualifications and also one that lends itself well to future co-location. It's good business for Homeland to find a site that other carriers will want to go on. Again, I understand your concern.

I'll now get to the question of the location on this area. We meet the setbacks for the tower here, but part of the code is also minimizing disturbance to the property, minimizing the reduction in vegetation, and also there's topography issues. We have Greg Lahey here from Tectonic Engineering who can probably speak to this better than I can. The topography tends to drop off when you go back which creates an issue for siting the tower. All those factors

1
2 considered, we did our best to minimize, again,
3 the site disturbance and minimize the visibility
4 from the base perspective. Obviously it's a 190-
5 foot tower, and when you stand in front of a 190-
6 foot tower, you're going to see it.

7 MR. IBERGER: How much radiation does
8 that put out?

9 MR. MORANDO: We submitted this and
10 it's in the record. We submitted an FCC RF
11 compliance report. As part of that report,
12 essentially what we have to do is the applicant
13 and carriers demonstrate that we meet the Federal
14 standards for maximum permitted emissions.

15 MS. IBERGER: That doesn't help any.

16 MR. MORANDO: I'm going to explain it
17 to you. It's measured in percentage-based
18 numbers. Essentially there's 100 percent maximum
19 permitted emissions. We're at less than 1
20 percent of that with a fully --

21 MS. IBERGER: We have the Marcy line
22 there, we have the electric power company and
23 then we have Tetz, the sand and gravel place
24 there, which shakes the stuffins out of our
25 houses when they blast, and we have had enough of

1 that with all this commercial stuff coming around
2 us. When Tetz blasts they blast our houses right
3 off the foundations half the time. I'm
4 complaining for years about it and nobody does
5 anything about it. We don't need another tower
6 or something here to disrupt the rest of our
7 life. I've been here since 1962. We built our
8 house here. I don't expect -- I've had nothing
9 but problems ever since we built there.

11 MS. CLEMENTE: My concern --

12 MR. MORANDO: Could you state your name
13 for the stenographer.

14 MS. CLEMENTE: Vicky Clemente. My
15 concern is the gravel -- well, she wants to know
16 how far it is from the house, but also the gravel
17 and those other towers are not right in between
18 two little houses -- two houses. That's behind a
19 house and there's two houses on either side, two
20 small houses, and we're one of them. My mother
21 wanted to know how far that would be from her
22 house, that tower?

23 MR. MORANDO: I'd have to -- I can't
24 give you exact distance at this point without
25 knowing exactly your location. I can tell you

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOMELAND TOWER

14

the closest house is approximately 270 to 275 feet away. I can't say if that's your house or not, but that would be the closest house.

MR. MCGOEY: Their tax lot is 17-1-17.

MR. MORANDO: This is an approximation based on just hearing this information right in front of us. I think what Greg -- again, this is Greg Lahey from Tectonic Engineering.

MR. LAHEY: The closest home, we have it right on our plan here, is just due west of the tower along 17B. That's 271 feet. The next structure is to the east, and that's almost three times that. So that would be just over 600 feet.

MS. CLEMENTE: That would be us kind of -- kind of -- I have something to say.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Mr. Kiefer.

MR. KIEFER: I live on 45 Coopers Corners Road. It's my understanding that originally Homeland had a contract to put the tower on the -- next to Marcy South on top of the mountain.

MR. MORANDO: Marcy South?

MR. KIEFER: Marcy South power line. My brother owns acreage which is split by the

1
2 Marcy South. He had a contract with Homeland
3 Towers to put the tower up on top of the mountain
4 there which is the same height as the airport,
5 the Sullivan County Airport. Now, I don't know
6 why the change or what happened but you're
7 putting this right along the highway where -- on
8 top of the mountain. If it would have been off
9 in the distance, it wouldn't even have been
10 noticeable, and, on top of it, you would have had
11 a much higher elevation for better reception.

12 MR. MORANDO: We looked at several
13 sites.

14 MR. KIEFER: He had a contract. This
15 isn't looking at several sites. He had a
16 contract with a \$10,000 deposit for the property.

17 MR. MORANDO: Okay. I'm just asking --

18 MR. KIEFER: Something happened where
19 they changed their mind. But this is the way it
20 was a year ago. Now you want to put it right
21 along the highway there where it's going to be
22 right across the street from these people.

23 MS. IBERGER: Right across the street.

24 MR. MORANDO: I believe the property,
25 for instance Kiefer, we refer to the Kiefer

1 HOMELAND TOWER 16

2 property. That property is actually zoned again

3 RR1.

4 MR. KIEFER: There are variances. It

5 would be adjoining Marcy South, the power line.

6 Now, you can't tell me that there would be a

7 problem getting a variance to put this tower

8 right next to a power company line.

9 MR. MORANDO: We meet the code

10 requirements. Again, we looked at the zoning

11 codes.

12 MR. KIEFER: You're going for the

13 cheapest way out is what you're doing. And what

14 you're going to do is you're going to have this

15 tower right in the middle of everybody's site.

16 MR. MORANDO: It's the district that

17 doesn't permit the use.

18 MR. KIEFER: Like I said, there are

19 variances.

20 MR. MORANDO: A use variance.

21 MS. CHESTER: We get the point.

22 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: It's a use variance.

23 Thanks. Do we have other public comments?

24 Vince.

25 MR. LOCASCIO: My name is Vinnie

1
2 Locascio, I live in Monticello but we have a
3 conservation club not too far from his house,
4 down the road. I can tell you something about
5 those towers. First of all, that quarry, at the
6 time I used to work up there many years ago.
7 That's a high place. Have you guys looked up
8 there to put it out of everybody's way, someplace
9 where they're not going to blast?

10 MR. MORANDO: Yes. As part of our
11 alternative site analysis we did look at the Tetz
12 property, and it's documented.

13 MR. LOCASCIO: I live in Monticello. I
14 live 300 feet from one. It's kind of snuck it's
15 way up. We didn't know about it. I'll tell you
16 how funny it was. After it was up, it was a
17 cloudy morning and I went to work. I look and
18 see a red light in the sky and I didn't know what
19 it was. I thought it was a UFO. I actually went
20 to the police department and told them I think
21 there's a UFO up there, until they laughed me out
22 of the precinct. Anyway, it was a top light. It
23 didn't blink.

24 Here's the thing. I, one time, bought
25 the best AT&T remote phone for the house, right.

1
2 One that would do everything. As soon as I got
3 out in the yard, which was like about 100 feet
4 from the tower, if you were talking to somebody
5 it would hang up. Didn't give you a chance to
6 walk back and get the phone call like the old
7 ones. I took it back to where I bought it,
8 Service Merchandise in Middletown, and the guy
9 told me -- the guy, he said you're the only guy
10 that ever complained, and we almost had a fist
11 fight. Here's what the thing was. He asked me
12 do you live near a cell tower, I said yes. He
13 said that's the whole thing. He said you can't
14 use this phone near a cell tower because the
15 radiation coming out of a cell tower. So there
16 is radiation coming out of a cell tower. It
17 messed up my remote phone. So that's not maybe.
18 That's true. Why can't you guys put it someplace
19 out of everybody's way on top of a mountain?

20 MR. MORANDO: If it's okay with you,
21 I'm going to have to address that question. We
22 have Yvonne Joseph here who is with AT&T. If you
23 could speak to that issue, Yvonne.

24 MR. JOSEPH: My name is Yvonne Joseph,
25 I'm the radiofrequency engineer for AT&T.

I'm not exactly sure what kind of phone you said that you purchased.

MR. LOCASCIO: It was a 900 megahertz.

MR. MORANDO: A landline?

MR. JOSEPH: The home remote, the wall phone.

MR. JOSEPH: All phones and devices operate on different spectrums and frequencies. AT&T doesn't operate on the same frequency that your home phone operates on.

MR. LOCASIO: It did at that time.

MR. JOSEPH: No, it doesn't. The home phones operate on a different frequency than the spectrum that's allocated by the FCC. For whatever reason you might have had a problem with your phone. As an experienced radiofrequency engineer, it's not related to our system. Our system operates on separate frequencies.

MR. LOCASCIO: I had an AT&T phone.

MR. JOSEPH: Right. For cell phones. I'm not talking about a cell phone.

MR. LOCASCIO: No, I'm not talking about a cell phone. I'm talking about a wall phone where you have a remote so you can walk out

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

HOMELAND TOWER

20

in the yard.

MR. JOSEPH: A wall phone is a home phone.

MR. LOCASCIO: You had different frequency ones. When you went outside, that was the problem. So I'm just trying to tell you radiation.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: That's a radio tower.

MR. MORANDO: I think he's referring to a radio tower perhaps.

MS. CHESTER: It's a radio, not a cell phone.

MR. MORANDO: I think what Yvonne is saying is the home landline phone for AT&T is not related to a cell phone tower. An interesting issue with respect to radiation is something that I've learned, and I'm not an RF engineer. Something I have learned in my experience is the towers are actually more highly regulated than cell phones you put to your head. So there are actually more emissions from a cell phone that you use every day than there is from a tower, even a 190-foot tower with several carriers on it. Again, I know it's hard to understand that

1
2 but with respect to meeting the emissions, this
3 tower is extremely below the maximum permitted
4 amount. And based on the scientific information
5 provided behind that stat, that's what we rely
6 on.

7 MS. CALLAHAN: Do you have children?

8 MR. MORANDO: Not yet. Hopefully some
9 day.

10 MS. CALLAHAN: Would you let your
11 children live around there?

12 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Your name?

13 MS. CALLAHAN: Linda Callahan. I have
14 property that's right next to there, which is
15 commercial property, okay. You're going to tell
16 me what kind of property -- what my property is
17 going to be worth after that tower is up there?

18 MR. MORANDO: From my own experience
19 actually a tower in an area where there's
20 currently no service often helps the community
21 from a business perspective. Most companies,
22 businesses and residences are starting to rely on
23 -- these are factual numbers -- are starting to
24 rely on cell phones and wireless communications
25 as opposed landlines.

MS. CALLAHAN: I'm talking about commercial property.

MR. MORANDO: I understand. Businesses, commercial uses rely on wireless.

MS. CALLAHAN: They rely on --okay. What about children? I have three grandchildren that live right down the road from that.

MR. MORANDO: Again, --

MS. CALLAHAN: What about --

MR. MORANDO: -- we meet the standards. I understand your concern. We meet the standards. I'm actually often near these towers --

MS. CALLAHAN: Would you let your children meet those standards? I mean I want the answers to these questions.

MR. MORANDO: Absolutely.

MS. CALLAHAN: Do I have to move out and move my children out because we have a tower going up?

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: -- Federal Government.

MR. MORANDO: I wasn't going to do that. I wasn't going to go there because I do

understand the concern. I understand the concern.

MS. CALLAHAN: Give me some answers, please.

MR. MORANDO: We submitted the science --

MS. CALLAHAN: Do I have to move out? Give me answers. Do I have to sell?

MR. MORANDO: Absolutely not.

MS. CALLAHAN: Would you live with children? Give me these answers. If you can't give me these answers you can't put up a tower like this.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: The Federal Government says they can, so --

MS. IBERGER: Well the Government isn't us. We are the Government.

MS. CHESTER: We're here to hear your opinions but let's be fair to the presenter.

MS. IBERGER: We're living here, not the Government.

MS. NOTH: Helen Noth. We have a house there, a beautiful house that we've been trying to sell, I would say for four years now. The

1
2 real estate business in Sullivan County is
3 terrible as it is. This, I feel, which you'll be
4 able to see from our house there, is certainly
5 not going to help sell my house. It's going to
6 look terrible. I can't even rent this house half
7 the time because people don't want to live there.
8 Now we're going to have this tower. You say
9 well, we have Tetz there, we have the commercial
10 power line there, we have the electric lines
11 there. Don't we have enough? Don't we have
12 enough there?

13 MS. IBERGER: Yes, we do.

14 MS. NOTH: Isn't there some place you
15 can attach whatever you need on something that's
16 there already?

17 MR. MORANDO: We actually do an
18 analysis for existing towers and tall structures,
19 it's part of the code requirements, and try to
20 find a place where AT&T can co-locate, in other
21 words install their antennas on an existing
22 structure to avoid the need to build a tower.
23 Upon doing that review there is no tower in the
24 area or existing tall structure that would
25 accommodate that and provide the coverage

objective.

MS. CLEMENTE: It doesn't make sense to me, with all the land up here, why you have to put it between two little houses. That doesn't make sense. My mother has a small little house, then there's another house on the other side of that property that's very small, too. It doesn't make sense to me. You say about the quarry and even those electrical towers. They're down the road. They're not in between two little houses. They're much further down -- I mean up. Up the road.

MS. NOTH: Helen Noth again. And as far as the cell coverage, big deal. You can't answer your phone for five minutes, not even, when you're on 17B. You're not supposed to be answering your phone when you're driving anyway. So big deal. So we have to have this horrendous 20-story tower so you can answer your cell phone.

MS. IBERGER: My cell phone works fine from my house. I don't need another tower.

MS. NOTH: Mine works fine.

MS. IBERGER: And I'm right across the street from where you're going to put that. That

1
2 tower, whatever the tower, whatever it is, it
3 works just fine for me. I have a full scale on
4 my --

5 MR. NOTH: Jim Noth. There is another
6 cell tower in White Lake.

7 MR. MORANDO: Mm'hm'.

8 MR. NOTH: It's directly across from
9 the lake.

10 MR. MORANDO: Yes, I'm familiar with
11 that site. AT&T is already on that site. That
12 site actually -- Yvonne can correct me if I'm
13 wrong. That site actually hands off coverage to
14 this proposed site. In other words -- and
15 Yvonne, if you want to show that plot just for
16 descriptive purposes, that would be fine. In
17 other words, the signal hands off to that tower.
18 That's the plan is to close this gap by handing
19 off to that White Lake site.

20 MR. JOSEPH: Again, my name is Yvonne
21 Joseph. As Anthony was mentioning, we're
22 currently located on the property on White Lake,
23 and we're also located on the other tower at
24 Monticello. Between the two there are no other
25 communication towers in order for AT&T to provide

adequate service.

What I prepared here, and I've submitted it to the Town as well, is a map which shows AT&T's existing coverage in the Town. As you can see, along 17B there are a lot of significant gaps where people or residents or anyone traveling through the area will have a lot of difficulty making calls. The reason why, if you are able to use your phone, is because of the elevation of where we're proposing the tower. It's actually ideally located for us to put another communications tower because it's equal distance between two sites, between Monticello and White Lake, and it's at an elevation in which we'll be able to cover to the east of 17B and to the west on 17B as well.

So the green represents areas where we currently have reliable coverage. You can see, on the east and to the west we have a significant gap.

Now, what this map represents is the areas of coverage that we'll gain from placing a communication facility here. As you can see, we fill in all the gaps along 17B and we provide

significant coverage throughout the Town.

MS. NOTH: Helen Noth. What is the big blue area on your right?

MR. JOSEPH: I'm going to do this again. This is the base map. This is a United States graphical survey map which is called a U.S.G.S. map and it represents the area. This blue line is the Town border. Then you can see the terrain, different valleys and the hills throughout the Town.

MS. NOTH: Who lives in that area? What's in that blue area?

MR. JOSEPH: There's roads and there's county roads and state roads.

MR. NOTH: Not the geographical map but the blue. The new proposed coverage area.

MR. JOSEPH: Okay.

MS. NOTH: Who's there?

MR. JOSEPH: This is part of our area that we're required to provide service, which is not just the main roads but along county roads and secondary and tertiary roads as well.

MR. MORANDO: Yvonne, sorry to cut you off. You bring up another point that I was going

1
2 to get to. Part of --

3 MS. IBERGER: I travel that windy 17B
4 all the time from here to Scranton and back and I
5 can always get coverage except one place in
6 Narrowsburg. That's the only place I can not get
7 coverage -- get service. Otherwise 17B is wide
8 open and I can call anybody I want.

9 MS. CLEMENTE: We have Verizon so we
10 get coverage everywhere we go.

11 MR. MORANDO: That's good marketing for
12 Verizon.

13 Part of what Yvonne was saying is part
14 of AT&T's mandate under their FCC license is to
15 provide coverage and close these gaps. That's
16 what the objective here is.

17 Another issue I'd like to raise is
18 public safety. I've done towers up in this area
19 and I've seen the result of putting a tower in an
20 area that currently doesn't have one and all of a
21 sudden you have coverage and an emergency comes
22 out and then somebody can make a phone call when
23 you're stuck on the side of the road in a snow
24 ditch and otherwise would be in a big problem.
25 I'm sure you've all seen news articles. I'm not

1
2 going to go into detail but you've seen those
3 articles where people are saved by cell phones,
4 or the article is the sad one where people would
5 have been saved by having a cell that worked.
6 That's part of what AT&T, it's not just about
7 what you probably think the marketing side of it
8 but it's also about providing a public service.
9 On top of that it's part of Homeland's proposal
10 that it will be available to public service areas
11 in the area and the local communities to be able
12 to put their facilities on it.

13 MS. CALLAHAN: Then I think you should
14 put it in an area where it's not going to affect
15 other families and the homes that are there and
16 the people that live right here on 17B. That's
17 why we're at this meeting right now.

18 MR. MORANDO: I completely understand
19 your concern.

20 MS. CALLAHAN: Why should you
21 inconvenience other people for the towers where
22 you could put it where there's no homes right
23 there. You have family members right here.
24 Right down here we have a house right alongside
25 of me with children. I have grandchildren. You

1
2 have family here. You have a family sitting
3 here. You want to put a tower there blocking
4 everybody.

5 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Okay. We hear your
6 concern.

7 MR. MORANDO: I can explain in basic
8 terms, if I can try at least, with respect to the
9 radiation which keeps being raised. Again, it is
10 a preempted issue with respect to the Federal
11 Government. For the benefit I will try to
12 explain it. The radiation or emissions that come
13 out of a tower are -- or antennas are what's
14 called nonionizing. That's related to something
15 like a microwave or a baby monitor. Things of
16 that nature. The same type of emissions come out
17 of it. It's not the x-ray radiation or these
18 other different levels of radiation or emissions.
19 It's radiation that you see familiar in your
20 every day life. So I understand the concerns and
21 the fear. We have submitted the science and the
22 materials that are available with the -- in the
23 Town's records to review, hopefully to ease your
24 minds to at least some degree.

25 MS. IBERGER: If you go up by those

towers and you stand under them, you can hear the hum and the hair on your arms raise up. So don't tell me there isn't any radiation around there that's not going to be dangerous to people.

MR. MORANDO: Again --

MS. CALLAHAN: They say that all the time.

MS. CLEMENTE: Vicky Clemente. I read up on that through the Cancer Society. They did say the same thing you just said about the radiation. They also said because cell phones haven't been around that long, since 1990, they haven't been used to the extent that they are now, that they're not really sure what the future holds for people with the cell phones and the towers because, you know, it's -- it's fairly new. It's like anything else. Even like medication, you start taking it and twenty years later, thirty years later you find out that it causes an illness, cancer or something. So I don't think it's -- they don't know -- what you said was true, that microwaves give more radiation off. But they're not really sure what the future holds for them. That's what I read.

That was from the Cancer Society, so --

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Well, as you said, the Federal Government has preempted us. That means it's excluded the radiation issue as a criteria from which we can review this. So, you know, we can't use that as a criteria to determine whether this tower should be there or not. There are other considerations which you brought to our attention.

The gentleman in the back, state your name please.

MR. KOLDENBACH: Todd Koldenbach. I live at 607 Route 17B. Why don't they look at the site where the town garage is, where the Sullivan County garage is and they can use the revenue off the tower to help shrink down the roads. Or put it up where the electrical lines are. There are already towers there.

MR. MORANDO: As part of our review and analysis of the area those sites were considered. Unfortunately they're not available to put a tower or co-locate on any of those facilities.

MR. KOLDENBACH: The town garage is like half a mile from the site you're talking

about.

MR. MORANDO: I'm sorry, I thought you were speaking of the county DPW.

MR. KOLDENBACH: Yes.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: He's talking about the county garage.

MR. KOLDENBACH: Whatever that garage is there.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: The substation.

MR. MORANDO: And the substation. Both of those properties were investigated and are unavailable.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Any other comments?

MR. LOCASCIO: One more thing is all I'm going to say. The radiation, I've done quite a lot of study on that, okay. The radiation does go through us. Right now we're all sitting in this room. There's millions of rays of radiation going through our heads and everything, from the fire department, from the TV. It's not harmful that they know of. I read one time in a magazine article in a science magazine that science -- this was in the 1980s. What they found was that the actual rays going through your head didn't

1
2 make -- it was so small it couldn't make a hole
3 but if you had a lot of them in the same place,
4 that caused your brain cells to re-root to get
5 away from that, which sometimes causes cancer.
6 It wasn't enough to make a big deal out of it.
7 The radiation from all this stuff is. Where are
8 the honey bees? Where are the other kind of
9 bees? Something is doing that to them. We have
10 to find out before we put tower, tower, tower,
11 tower what's happening to us. I myself use my
12 cell phone. I'm glad I have it sometimes.
13 Sometimes I use in an emergency. I'm not saying
14 they're not good, I'm just trying to tell you
15 there's a problem. Some schools won't allow
16 these on their roofs on account of that.

17 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Well again, --

18 MS. CHESTER: We can't take that into
19 consideration.

20 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: -- we appreciate
21 everyone's concerns. We have to consider all
22 these things.

23 MS. CALLAHAN: I would like you to take
24 consideration if I'm going to look out my back
25 window, am I going to sit here and look at a 190-

foot tower? That's going to be my new view?

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: We have to make a decision on this.

MS. CALLAHAN: That's from a selling point, decreasing any value. I bought on 17B.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Any other comments?

(No response.)

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: If not, I'd like a motion to close the hearing.

MS. CHESTER: I'll make the motion.

MR. COHEN: Second.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: All in favor.

MS. MILUCKY: Aye.

MS. CHESTER: Aye.

MR. COHEN: Aye.

MR. KIEFER: Aye.

MR. SUSH: Aye.

MR. ZANGLA: Aye.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Aye.

We closed the hearing. You can also submit written comments to the Planning Board if you'd like. This is still under consideration.

The hearing is over.

MS. CHESTER: No action will be taken

1
2 tonight. It will be awhile before any action is
3 taken. Tonight's purpose was to hear from the
4 public your concerns.

5 MS. IBERGER: How far along is it with
6 the Planning Board? How far along is it with the
7 Planning Board?

8 MS. CHESTER: We're at the public
9 hearing stage. We're not that far. They
10 submitted initial plans to us, we asked them to
11 go back and do some other things for the public
12 hearing and then we have the public hearing. So
13 we have a few steps yet to go. We'll take your
14 comments into consideration. Okay. So there
15 will be no action taken, especially tonight, on
16 it.

17 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Thank you.

18 MR. MORANDO: If I may ask a question
19 procedurally. Moving forward, are we going to be
20 on the next agenda to discuss --

21 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: As the engineer do
22 you have other things to review?

23 MR. MCGOEY: We can put it on the
24 agenda.

25 CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Do you need a work

session with them?

MR. MCGOEY: No.

MS. CHESTER: Right to agenda.

MR. MORANDO: Just to gauge where we are. The next meeting is --

MS. CHESTER: The 25th.

MR. MORANDO: So we'll come back here.

MR. MCGOEY: We haven't taken SEQRA action. You have to respond in writing to the comments that were raised tonight.

MR. MORANDO: Okay. The majority of them are addressed in our materials already. If you'd like me to --

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: Highlight the responses. Radiation you can deal with.

MR. MORANDO: Can we talk about the tower structure tonight?

MS. CHESTER: It's not on the agenda.

MR. MORANDO: Okay. The 25th we'll be back.

MS. CHESTER: We'll be back to discuss the comments.

CHAIRMAN LYTTLE: See you on the 25th.

(Time noted: 8:05 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, Michelle Conero, a Shorthand
Reporter and Notary Public within and for
the State of New York, do hereby certify
that I recorded stenographically the
proceedings herein at the time and place
noted in the heading hereof, and that the
foregoing is an accurate and complete
transcript of same to the best of my
knowledge and belief.

Michelle Conero

DATED: August 1, 2012