MINUTES OF TTFCG MEETING

To: Distribution
From: Bob Hunnicutt, Tower Coordinator, Columbia Telecommunications

A meeting of the Telecommunications Transmission Facility Coordinating Group (TTFCG) was held on February 9, 2005. The following people were in attendance:

MEMBERS
Jane Lawton OCCS (240) 777-3724
Pat Hanehan MCPS (301) 279-3609
Carlton Gilbert M-NCPPC (301) 495-4576
Jim Krause WSSC (301) 206-7199
Dave Niblock DPS (240) 777-6252

STAFF
Margie Williams OCCS (240) 777-3762
Robert Hunnicutt CTC (410) 964-5700
Matt Wolff CTC (410) 964-5700

OTHER ATTENDEES
Gregory S. Tully T-Mobile
Steven Weber T-Mobile
Amy Wicklund Cingular
Stuart Barr Lech, Early, & Brewer
Bill O'Brien Cingular
Jim Michal Jackson, Campbell

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

Consent Agenda Items:
1. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 125' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on a MDOT monopole located at I-495 and Connecticut Avenue in Kensington (Application #200412-04).

2. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 150' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of a building located at 8630 Fenton Street in Silver Spring (Application #200412-05).

3. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 177' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the WDCA lattice tower located at 5202 River Road in Bethesda (Application #200412-06).

4. Cingular Wireless application to replace six existing 48" antennas at the 47' level with six 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of a building located at 1751 Elton Road in Silver Spring (Application #200412-07).

5. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 156' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of a Park Ritchie apartment building located at 7600 Maple Avenue in Takoma Park (Application #200412-08).

6. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 142' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Bethesda VFD property located at 6700 Democracy Boulevard in Bethesda (Application #200412-09).
7. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 70’ level with up to nine 52” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the Schlesinger building located at 3720 Farragut Avenue in Kensington (Application #200412-10).

8. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 473’ level with up to nine 48” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on a lattice tower on the Shumaker property located at 16700 Barnesville Road in Barnesville (Application #200412-11).

9. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26” antennas at the 68’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the CSX lattice tower located at 2701 Forest Glen Road in Kensington (Application #200412-12).

10. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 140’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Gymkhana Club property located at 14100 River Road in Potomac (Application #200412-13).

11. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26” antennas at the 173’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Knights of Columbus property located at 17001 Overhill Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200412-14).

12. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26” antennas at the 171’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the lattice tower on the Kruhm Farm property located at 15701 Kruhm Road in Burtonsville (Application #200412-15).

13. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 209’ level with up to nine 52” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of The Promenade building located at 5225 Pooks Hill Road in Bethesda (Application #200412-16).

14. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26” antennas at the 141’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on Fire Station #33 property located at 11430 Falls Road in Potomac (Application #200412-17).

15. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 82’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on Silver Spring Volunteer Fire Department property located at 111 University Boulevard East in Silver Spring (Application #200412-18).

16. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26” antennas at the 122’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the WASH radio tower located at 2647 University Boulevard in Wheaton (Application #200412-19).

17. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24” antennas at the 120’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Colesville Center property located at 49 Randolph Road in Silver Spring (Application #200412-20).

18. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 52” antennas at the 129’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Argyle Club property located at 14600 Argyle Club Road in Silver Spring (Application #200412-21).

19. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26” antennas at the 108’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Super Fresh Shopping Center property located at 3901 Aspen Hill Road in Wheaton (Application #200412-22).

20. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 201’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Damascus VFD #13 property located at 10211 Lewis Drive in Damascus (Application #200412-23).

21. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48” antennas at the 144’ level with up to nine 54” dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Sandy Spring VFD property located at 16911 Georgia Avenue in Olney (Application #200412-24).
22. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 90' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the Seventh Day Adventist building located at 12501 Old Columbia Pike in Silver Spring (Application #200412-25).

23. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24" antennas at the 124 level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the top of a Naval Surface Warfare water tank located at 9500 MacArthur Boulevard in Bethesda (Application #200412-26).

24. Cingular Wireless application to replace ten existing 48" antennas at the 181' level with up to ten 48" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Weitzer property located at 14705 Sugarland Road in Poolesville (Application #200412-27).

25. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 113' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the WSSC water tank located at 7806-A Tomlinson Avenue in Cabin John (Application #200412-28).

26. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24" antennas at the 118' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the CNS lattice tower located at 15030 Frederick Road in Rockville (Application #200412-29).

27. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 138' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the Crescent building located at 4600 East West Highway in Bethesda (Application #200412-30).

28. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 52" antennas at the 153' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on Fire Station #31 property located at 12100 Damestown Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200412-31).

29. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 180' level with up to nine 48" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the lattice tower on Boy Scout Troop 52 property located at 16100 Damestown Road in Dawsonville (Application #200412-32).

30. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24" antennas at the 118' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on WSSC property at Avenel Golf Course located at 10010 Oaklyn Avenue in Potomac (Application #200412-33).

31. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 90' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the building located at 6400 Goldsboro Road in Bethesda (Application #200412-34).

32. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 152' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the tower on the Ferguson Farm property located at 14825 Comus Road in Clarksburg (Application #200501-03).

33. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 152' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the Hights Branch tower located at 6300 Damascus Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200501-04).

34. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 104' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the Airpark water tank located at 20511 Woodfield Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200501-05).

35. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 147' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Quail Hill Farm property located at 18743 New Hampshire Avenue in Brinklow (Application #200501-06).

36. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 184' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole located at 20530 Georgia Avenue in Brookeville (Application #200501-07).

37. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 42" antennas at the 127' level with up to nine 54"
38. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 106' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the Brink water tank located at 21701 Ridge Road in Germantown (Application #200501-09).

39. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 150' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Aspen Landscape property located at 15710 New Hampshire Avenue in Silver Spring (Application #200501-10).

40. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 26" antennas at the 54' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the Semmes building located at 10220 River Road in Potomac (Application #200501-11).

41. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24" antennas at the 130' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the MDOT monopole located at I-270 and Montrose Road in Rockville (Application #200501-12).

42. Cingular Wireless application to replace 11 existing 27" antennas at the 113' level with up to 11) 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the Wall Lane water tank located at Woodglen and Executive Boulevard in Rockville (Application #200501-13).

43. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 99' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the AT&T long line tower located at 12419 Middlebrook Road in Germantown (Application #200501-14).

44. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 119' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Bethesda Country Club property located at 7601 Bradley Boulevard in Bethesda (Application #200501-15).

45. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 110' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the Bradley water tank #2 located at 7005B Radnor Road in Bethesda (Application #200501-16).

46. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 97' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the monopole on the Baptist Home for Children property located at 6301 Greentree Road in Bethesda (Application #200501-17).

47. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24" antennas at the 141' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the Classic Residence building located at 8100 Connecticut Avenue in Chevy Chase (Application #200501-18).

48. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 150' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the lattice tower on the Izaak Walton League property located at 18301 Waring Station Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200501-19).

49. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 24" antennas at the 108' level with up to nine 54" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the tower on the Public Safety Training Academy building located at 10025 Damestown Road in Rockville (Application #200501-20).

50. Cingular Wireless application to replace nine existing 48" antennas at the 132' level with up to nine 52" dual band antennas on the existing mounts on the roof of the Park Montgomery building located at 8830 Piney Branch Road in Silver Spring (Application #200501-21).

51. T-Mobile application to attach nine 54" antennas at the 46' level on the roof of an existing 36' E-Z Storage building located at 12311 Parklawn Drive in Rockville (Application #200501-02).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the consent agenda items and distributed a spreadsheet that detailed the work to be performed at each site. He explained that these were antenna change-outs at multiple locations throughout
the County. He said the applications were similar in nature, except that three of the applications would require placement of an additional equipment cabinet at sites with no shelters. He stated that the additional cabinet at these sites would not use any additional ground space than has already been approved for the equipment area. Jane Lawton asked if Bill O'Brien, Cingular's representative, had any comments regarding these applications.

Mr. O'Brien stated that these applications were basically one-for-one antenna change-outs at each site, with no change in the mounting location or height for the antennas - in many cases Cingular would use the existing antenna mounts. He said the changes were necessary to add new voice and data services and capacity to Cingular's existing sites.

Ms. Lawton said Cingular had worked with the Tower Coordinator and County staff to coordinate submission of these applications. She noted that the Executive Regulation for Multiple Minor Modifications had not considered such a large number of simultaneous submissions, and the County was considering a revision to the Executive Regulation to accommodate these kinds of submissions in the future. She added that if the group had time today, they might discuss options for changes to the Executive Regulations. She added that any changes would have to go to the County Council for approval.

Pat Hanehan asked if it would be possible for the Tower Coordinator to handle these kinds of applications administratively rather than requiring a full review by the TTFCG. Ms. Lawton said they would take Mr. Hanehan's request into consideration.

Mr. Hunnicutt exhibited one of the change-out applications to show how these kinds of applications were being prepared. He noted that photographs of the site and structure identifying existing antennas were submitted in lieu of full site plans, as the TTFCG had agreed to permit.

Motion: Carlton Gilbert moved the consent agenda items be recommended. Jim Krause seconded the motion and it was approved with Pat Hanehan abstaining.

Action Item: T-Mobile application to attach three 54" panel antennas to a 15" “faux” chimney extension to an existing chimney on the existing 25’ St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church building located at 9100 Colesville Road in Silver Spring (Application #200407-03).

Bob Hunnicutt summarized the application. He noted that when this application was first reviewed in July 2004, the group tabled the application pending T-Mobile's consideration of alternative sites recommended by the Tower Coordinator and submission of a photo simulation of the chimney extension. Mr. Hunnicutt stated that T-Mobile had submitted the photo simulation of the chimney extension and RF maps for the three alternative sites recommended by the TTFCG. Mr. Hunnicutt asked Matt Wolff to summarize the RF review for the alternative sites.

Mr. Wolff stated that based on his review of the RF maps, the two alternative locations to the north and east of the proposed site did not provide coverage along Route 29 in the vicinity of the church and points south. He stated that the RF map for the third location, a tall building closer to downtown Silver Spring, did not provide coverage along Route 29 north of the site towards Sligo Creek Parkway. Mr. Hunnicutt added that antennas on the tall building would be very close to T-Mobile's existing antennas on Wayne Avenue and would interfere with service from those antennas.

Regarding the photo simulation submission, Ms. Lawton noted that the copy provided in the packets was too dark to be legible. T-Mobile's representative, Steven Weber provided a color photo for review. He commented that the existing structure was shown in the bottom right corner of the photo, and the other photos were simulations from various views to the property.

Ms. Lawton asked if the site was needed for coverage or capacity. Mr. Wolff replied that T-Mobile wanted to provide additional coverage to this area.

Ms. Lawton asked if the church was 50 feet in height, as was required for an existing building in a residential zone. Dave Niblock explained that for attachment to an existing tall structure such as a chimney or church steeple, the County's position was that for a 50-foot building, regardless of whether the antennas were on the interior or exterior of the structure to which they were being attached, it would be approved. If the building was
less than 50 feet in height, the County’s interpretation of the code required the antennas to be concealed within any modification to an existing structure such as this chimney extension. He said this was to ensure the antennas would be concealed from view.

Jim Krause asked for an explanation of the rationale for the minimum 50-foot structure height. Jim Michal stated that when the original legislation was adopted there was a provision to prohibit antennas in residential zones. Because there were tall buildings in residential areas that were well suited for antenna attachment, the carriers persuaded the County to permit antennas in residential areas if the structure was at least 50 feet tall, which would mitigate the visual impact of the antennas. Mr. Weber added that in non-residential areas, the minimum height is only 30 feet. Ms. Lawton noted that antennas were not permitted on single-family dwellings and that Montgomery County was unique from other areas of the country in that they do permit antennas in residential areas with some restrictions, whereas other communities do not permit antennas in residential areas at all.

Pat Hanehan asked if these antennas would be setback 300 feet from the nearest residence. Mr. Hunnicutt stated that based on his review of the site plan, he thought it might meet the 300 foot setback requirement. Mr. Weber stated that the code did not require a 300-foot setback for co-location on an existing structure. Ms. Lawton asked the Tower Coordinator to review the code to see if the requirements applied to cases such as this one.

Motion: Pat Hanehan moved the application be recommended conditioned on submission of a structural analysis showing that the faux chimney can accommodate the antennas and cabling, and approval of the siting by the Department of Permitting Services. Carlton Gilbert seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Action Item: T-Mobile application to attach nine 54” panel antennas at the 42’ level on two existing silos (six antennas on one silo, three antennas on the other silo) on the Steinberg property located at 15021 Dufief Mill Road in Gaithersburg (Application #200501-01).

Matt Wolff summarized the application. He noted that this was an historical site and there were some issues with the Special Exception for this property. Bob Hunnicutt explained that in response to his question, T-Mobile stated that this was a historical site and that they would need to obtain a work permit from the Historical Preservation Commission. Mr. Hunnicutt stated there was also a Special Exception for the property. He said his review of the Special Exception record found a number of issues related to the veterinary practice on the property, and that the property had been cited for a number of violations of that Special Exception. He said that according to an opinion issued by the Board of Appeals, these violations either had to be addressed by the property owner or an application for a major modification to the Special Exception would need to be filed and approved via a public hearing. Mr. Hunnicutt said that based on that opinion, it appeared that a work permit from the Historical Preservation Commission and a major modification to the Special Exception would be needed to attach the antennas and add the fenced equipment area; consequently, his recommendation was conditioned on those approvals.

Jane Lawton asked about the height of the silos. Mr. Wolff stated the silos were 50 feet tall. Ms. Lawton asked if the mounting height of the antennas was greater than 50 feet. Mr. Wolff explained the antennas would be mounted at the 34-foot level on the exterior side of the silos. Dave Niblock noted that §59-A-6.14 (a) 3 of the zoning code requires antennas to be mounted at a minimum height of 50 feet in a residential zone. Mr. Niblock explained that in order to mount the antennas at a lower elevation, the landowner would need to request a variance in conjunction with a modification to the Special Exception.

Mr. Hunnicutt stated this was the first application for TTFCG review that had an issue regarding attaching antennas to a 50-foot structure in a residential zone but below the 50-foot level. He stated that he thought previous applications for 50’ buildings had been rooftop mountings where the antennas were also above the 50-foot level.

Mr. Weber stated the landlord was aware of the violations to the Special Exception and was working to address those issues. Stuart Barr, the tenant's attorney, affirmed that they were working to address the outstanding Special Exception issues. Ms. Lawton stated that given the issues related to this site, she did not believe the TTFCG could approve the application. She said if the applicant could obtain the approval of the
Historical Preservation Commission and address the Special Exception issues, T-Mobile could resubmit the application for review by the TTFCG.

Pat Hanahan asked if the TTFCG could request an opinion from the County Attorney regarding the interpretation of §59-A-6.14 (a) 3. Dave Niblock said he would ask the attorney for the Department of Permitting Services for an opinion.

Motion: Pat Hanahan moved to table the application. Dave Niblock seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Discussion Item - Cingular Monopole at Northwood High School (Application #200411-04): Bob Hunnicutt summarized the November 2004 TTFCG review of this application. He noted that during the preliminary review, Calvin Nelson with the M-NCPPC had requested the TTFCG review possible co-location on the Wheaton park monopole as an alternative to constructing a new monopole at the high school.

Mr. Hunnicutt said he asked Cingular to provide RF maps for antennas at the Wheaton park site. He said Cingular had submitted those RF maps just prior to leaving his office for today’s meeting. He said Matt Wolff had reviewed the maps just before the meeting and could discuss his findings, but he had not had an opportunity to prepare a written evaluation for the group. He said Cingular’s objective for the Northwood site was to provide coverage to Randolph Road between Route 29 and Georgia Avenue. Mr. Wolff stated that based on his review of the Wheaton Park RF maps, it appeared that Cingular’s desired coverage did not serve areas to the east of Northwood High School. He said he also reviewed a coverage map for an alternative location on Route 29 to see if Cingular used that site in conjunction with the Wheaton Park monopole could they meet their objective. However, it appeared that even using both sites, it would still leave a gap below the target signal level around Route 193 and Arcola Avenue.

Mr. Hunnicutt added that if Cingular planned to place antennas on two locations anyway, as Mr. Nelson reported Cingular had said, it made sense to consider use of the Wheaton Park monopole in conjunction with another existing alternative site in lieu of the Northwood monopole in order to attain the desired coverage objectives.

Mr. Michal stated that although he had told Mr. Nelson that Cingular may attach to the Wheaton Park site in the future, with the merger between Cingular and AT&T Wireless, Cingular was now uncertain whether they would actually attach to the Wheaton Park monopole so they were now considering other options. He said that Cingular had met with the Northwood PTA, who had no objections to the proposed monopole. He added that he had provided Mr. Hunnicutt and Mr. Hanahan with a copy of an e-mail from Cingular stating that Nextel would co-locate at the 110’ level on the proposed Northwood monopole.

Ms. Lawton asked the Tower Coordinator to prepare a letter to Mr. Nelson from the TTFCG Chair to summarize the engineering review of the use of alternative sites.

Motion: Dave Niblock moved that the group prepare a letter to Mr. Nelson that the Tower Coordinator’s review of the RF maps submitted by Cingular determined that use of the Wheaton Park monopole did not appear to meet Cingular’s coverage objectives. Jim Krause seconded the motion, which was approved with Pat Hanahan abstaining.

Discussion Item - TTFCG Position on Health Issues: Jim Michal stated that many community members had cited health-related issues as a reason for not permitting antenna attachments - especially at school sites. He requested that the TTFCG issue a position statement that cellular antennas do not pose public health threats if the carrier complies with the FCC requirements for RF exposure limits. Jane Lawton said she was aware that some residents may be generally misinformed about cellular RF health threats and that her department had received resident inquiries about potential RF health effects as well. She noted, however, that it was not within the purview of the TTFCG to issue such a statement.

Mr. Michal said the Tower Coordinator could easily prepare such a statement for the group's review and endorsement. Mr. Hunnicutt stated that when the FCC first took a position on health issues related to RF exposure, the TTFCG had asked the Tower Coordinator to review the FCC requirements. He said his review at that time had determined that the FCC had jurisdiction over these matters and that the burden was on the applicant to comply with the FCC requirements. He said the County's application had then been revised to
include the section regarding acknowledgement of the FCC compliance requirements for RF exposure limits. He said that was the extent of the TTFCG's involvement in the issue, and he would not recommend that the TTFCG issue such a statement.

Mr. Michal stated that Fairfax County had issued such a statement and that he could provide a copy to the TTFCG for consideration.

Ms. Lawton reiterated her position that the TTFCG should not issue such a statement, regardless of what Fairfax County issued.

Mr. Hunnicutt added that the only sure way to determine whether there is a health threat from RF exposure is to take measurements at the site once the antennas are activated. He said that without knowing the results of these measurements, one could not verify that there are no health threats at a site.

Pat Hanehan commented that although there had been community objection at one school location, at the reviews for both the Einstein and Northwood High Schools, RF health effects had not been a concern.

Discussion Item - Next Meeting: The next meeting of the TTFCG is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, 2005 at 2:00 p.m. in the second floor conference room #225 of the COB.