

James Feenan - Fwd: Re: Cell Tower 3750 Spyrock Rd., Laytonville, CA 95454

From: PBS PBS
To: Jesse Davis; James Feenan
Date: 8/17/2020 1:02 PM
Subject: Fwd: Re: Cell Tower 3750 Spyrock Rd., Laytonville, CA 95454

Planning & Building Services Staff

County of Mendocino

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AUG 17 2020

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>>> Chemaine Beber-Vanzo <chemainebv@gmail.com> 8/14/2020 3:24 PM >>>

On Fri, Aug 14, 2020 at 2:12 PM Chemaine Beber-Vanzo <chemainebv@gmail.com> wrote:

Subject: Cell Tower 3750 Spyrock Rd., Laytonville, CA 95454

Hello,

I am opposed to extending the cell phone tower at 3750 Spyrock Rd., Laytonville, CA, 95454.

The extension of the tower at this location is wrong, just plain wrong. I know that the company, Crown Castle, circumvented Mendocino County regulations from the illegal purchase of the lot to the continued pushing of the limits of previous approvals. Putting fake greenery on a cell phone tower in no way mitigates the risk. The community is not provided any benefit and the children of the community are exposed at SCHOOL by the location and orientation of the cell tower.

The company should legally purchase property or negotiate a contract. The company must follow proper procedures and adhere to approved limits in the Spyrock area. This would add to community safety and first responder safety by providing cell phone reception in areas that currently need coverage. 3750 Spyrock Road is not the best area for the cell tower in the area. There is a fire lookout tower that offers better elevation and less obstructions and would better serve an underserved area. Sensible placement of the cell phone tower would reduce the continual need to extend it. Of course the cell tower's signal doesn't penetrate Iron Peak Mountain, it could however, be placed atop it. Problem solved. This would be meaningful change and modernization for an underserved rural area. Modern times require we meet the need for digital connectivity for work, distance learning, as well as medical and fire safety. We must be

logical and place the technology where it will do the most good. Geographic features like a mountain range limit the gains extending the tower would give while the location and orientation toward a school increase unnecessary risk. 3750 Spyrock Rd. is not the proper place to increase cell coverage for the area, please oppose the proposed tower extension and revoke their permits.

The cell phone company should respect Mendocino County's rules and regulations and increase community safety. The company has been flouting Mendocino County's authority for decades. I have VHS recordings of previous teachers and students making speeches to the Board of Supervisors in the 1990s in opposition to the company's proposals. The company, Crown Castle, has not honored their agreements and should have their permits revoked. I oppose the extension of the cell phone tower directed at the Spyrock School from 3750 Spyrock Rd, Laytonville.

I propose that the company properly follow Mendocino County procedures to place the tower where it will successfully serve its purpose and provide meaningful connectivity to a rural area.

Sincerely,

Chemaine Beber-Vanzo
PO Box 1814
Laytonville , CA, 95454
[\(707\) 354-5101](tel:(707)354-5101)
chemainebv@gmail.com

James Feenan - Fwd: Cell phone tower at 3750 Spyrock Road, Laytonville, CA

From: PBS PBS
To: James Feenan; Julia Acker; Keith Gronendyke
Date: 8/6/2020 8:19 AM
Subject: Fwd: Cell phone tower at 3750 Spyrock Road, Laytonville, CA

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>>> Carolyn Carpenter <carolync1948@gmail.com> 8/5/2020 5:14 PM >>>

Dear John,

Thank you for representing our end of the county on the Board of Supervisors. I look forward to your reports in the Observer.

I was dismayed to learn recently from a neighbor that Crown Castle is again trying to raise the height of their cell phone tower. This tower was built too close to Spyrock School in the first place, and they should be required to look for a new location instead. I don't know of any of my Spyrock neighbors who received written notification of the request to increase the height of the tower, including those who have children who attend Spyrock School. Parents and neighbors have been opposed to a height increase every time they have petitioned to do it, and will be again and again. We should have received written notification of this recent attempt so that we could have all voiced our concerns.

I am a retired teacher, and have owned my home below Spyrock School for thirty-one years. While I understand the need to get good cell service out here, I strongly feel the tower should be located further from the school. It is time for Crown Castle to shop for a new site, instead of hoping we will give up our opposition to increasing the height of the current tower. Enough is enough!

Sincerely,
Carolyn Carpenter
P.O. Box 1959
Laytonville, CA 95454

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August 11, 2020

To whom it may concern,

I am opposed to extending the cell phone tower at 3750 Spy Rock Road, Laytonville, CA 95454.

The extension of the tower is wrong, just plain wrong. The company, Crown Castle, circumvented Mendocino County regulations from the illegal purchase of the real estate lot to the continued pushing of the limits of previous approvals. Putting fake greenery on a cell phone tower in no way mitigates the risk. The community is not provided any benefit and the children of the community are exposed at SCHOOL by the location and orientation of the cell tower.

The company should legally purchase property or negotiate a legal contract at another location. The company must follow proper procedures and adhere to previously approved limits in the Spy Rock area. This would add to community safety, fire safety, and first responder safety by providing cell phone reception in areas that currently need coverage. 3750 Spy rock Road is not the best area for the cell tower in the area. There is a fire lookout tower on Iron Peak that offers better elevation and fewer obstructions. This would better serve an underserved area that needs coverage and dramatically improve service and reception. Sensible placement of the cell phone tower would reduce the continual need to extend it. Of course the cell tower signal doesn't penetrate Iron Peak mountain rock. It should be placed atop the mountain. Problem solved.

This would be meaningful change and modernization for an underserved rural area. Modern times require we meet the need for digital connectivity for work, distance learning, as well as reception for medical and fire safety. We must be logical and place the technology where it will do the most good. Geographic features like the mountain limit the gains extending the cell tower would give while the location and orientation toward a school and populous area increase unnecessary risk. 3750 is not the proper place to increase cell coverage for the area. Please oppose the proposed tower extension and revoke their permits.

Crown Castle should respect Mendocino County's rules and regulations and increase community safety. The company has been flouting Mendocino County's authority for decades. I have VHS recordings from the 1990s of previous teachers and students making speeches in opposition of this company's proposals. The company has failed to honor their agreements and county limits and should have their permits revoked. It is a waste of county time and resources to continually have Crown Castle using the bureaucratic process to override the limits the county reasonably places each time. This short term fix has repeatedly failed to fix the problem. I oppose the extension of the cell phone tower directed at the Spy Rock School from 3750 Spy Rock Road, Laytonville, CA and you should too.

I propose that the company properly follow Mendocino County procedures to place a tower where it will successfully serve its purpose and provide meaningful connectivity to a rural area.

Sincerely,
Chemaine Beber-Vanzo
PO Box 1814, Laytonville
Laytonville, CA 95454
(707)354-5101
chemainebv@gmail.com

Background:

I am the person who owns the property around this cel phone tower. The cel phone tower was put up before I owned the property around it. Crown Castle owns 1/3 acre inside of my property, which, by the way, is illegal, since here the minimum zoning for property is 20 acres. The cel phone tower was erected with no notification to surrounding property owners, including me. The road in is mine, and the gate, but that did not stop them from putting a lock on the gate, and did not notify me of the combination. I telephoned them, but did not get it. When I saw the man there and asked him, he said he did not know it. After much more conversation, he finally gave me the combination.

Hi, and thanks for your reply. Below are two letters from me, and one from Carolyn Carpenter. I would like them please to be part of the file for this case. Please confirm that these THREE letters have been added to the file.

Thank you very much,
Marcia Miller

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Marcia Miller letter #1

The piece of property with my home, 3390 Spyrock Road, is the parcel below the parcel that surrounds the cel phone tower.

Over and over through the years, Crown Castle has wanted to increase the height of the tower. The last two times at the meetings at the Planning Commission, the Planning Commission said it would never be raised. I would like a copy of all the transcripts of the meetings, by the way, so I can readily access this. But I was at the meetings at the Planning Commission, and I heard it, both times.

I found out about this latest attempt to raise it AGAIN in the newspaper, the Mendocino County Observer. They are required by law to send me and the surrounding property owners a letter, but they did not send it.

This tower is close to Spyrock School, and it is pointed straight at the school. If it is raised, the rays will be directed right at the school.

Raising the height will also diminish my enjoyment of this beautiful property. I love to walk there.

Please help me to stop them. Please keep the word of the Planning Commission.

Thank you,

Marcia Miller
P O Box 1590
Laytonville, CA. 95454

Marcia Miller

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Marcia Miller letter #2
7/28/20

Subject: Cel phone tower 3750 Spyrock Rd, Laytonville, CA 95454. CNS-3377745#

I have not had a response to my email of July 11, 2020.

I own two parcels on Spyrock Road. My house is on the lower parcel, and this cel phone tower did not exist when I bought my house. No one was ever notified when it was erected. I bought the upper parcel to protect my water after the tower was erected. Crown Castle owns 1/3 acre inside of my property, which, by the way, is illegal, since here the minimum zoning for property is 20 acres.

I found out about this latest attempt to raise it AGAIN in the newspaper, the Mendocino County Observer. They are required by law to send me and the surrounding property owners a letter about this increase in height, but they DID NOT SEND IT.

There have been hearings to increase the height of this tower in 1999, 2002, 2005, 2009, 2012, 2014 and now 2020.

This tower is very close to Spyrock School. In a previous height increase of 2009, the teacher at Spyrock School, Tim Henry, was opposed to the application. He is now the Principal of the High School in Laytonville. He said in 2009, "there was sufficient coverage and expanding the height would impact the school. He asked that the Commission to request the applicant look for a new site that would benefit the community." THEY HAVE NEVER LOOKED ELSEWHERE and refused to look.

In the minutes of the meeting of December 18, 2014 of the Mendocino County Planning Commission, item 6C, it is stated that the request to extend the pole to 75 feet was denied by the Planning Commission in 1998. Every few years Crown Castle comes back to increase the height. Now they want it to 70 feet. The last two meetings, the Commissioners said it would not have the height increased again. Minutes of 2014 state Mr. Duley felt it was appropriate to look for alternative sites. This cel phone tower is in the most highly populated area of Spyrock Road. Commissioner Holtkamp was concerned that the tower be adequately stealthed. She asked for a guarantee as to the quality of the project. Please see the photo of the stealth tower. Commissioner Gustavson suggested adding language to modify Condition #8, that if PBS determines the stealth design does not adequately conceal the arrays, the use permit may be brought back before the Planning Commission for modification or REVOCATION. The Commission agreed that they liked the additional language. Conditions of approval, item 7 under Aesthetics states, "branches of the entire monotone shall extend beyond the antennas and fully conceal the supporting structure and antennas. The branches must be constructed to a density of 3.5 branches for each one vertical foot of pole." Please see the photo. It is nowhere near compliance. Condition #9 Aesthetics states, "Failure of the applicant to comply with conditions 7 through 9 may result in the revocation of this permit." PLEASE REVOKE IT!

My neighbor has her beautiful home up for sale. She is directly to the north of my property in direct view of the tower. This ugly tower will make it harder for her to sell it, and reduce the amount she could receive.

Please help me to stop this height increase. It is dangerous to the school. If they must have more equipment, and since they are unwilling to even look for another site, let them put up a second tower up to the height of the first one or less.

Thank you,

Marcia Miller
P O Box 1590
Laytonville, CA. 95454