

EAST KENTUCKY NETWORK
101 TECHNOLOGY TRAIL
IVEL, KY 41642
PHONE: (606) 874-7550
FAX: (606) 874-7551

EAST KENTUCKY
NETWORK



RECEIVED

FEB 26 2016

Public Service
Commission

February 23, 2016

Hon. Jeff Derouen, Executive Director
Public Service Commission
211 Sower Blvd.
P.O. Box 615
Frankfort, KY 40602

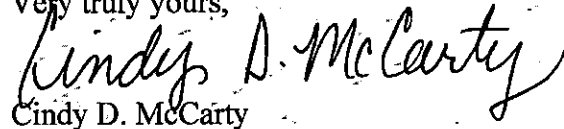
Re: Case No. 2015-00421
East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless

Dear Mr. Derouen:

As directed by the letter from the Public Service Commission dated February 19, 2016, East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless has submitted a written response directly to Claude Johnson and Anna Johnson concerning their comments dated February 13, 2016.

Please find enclosed for filing in your usual manner eleven (11) copies of said response (the original having been sent directly to Mr. and Mrs. Johnson). If you have any questions or concerns regarding the enclosed, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,


Cindy D. McCarty

Enclosures

EAST KENTUCKY NETWORK
101 TECHNOLOGY TRAIL
LYNCH, KY 41642
PHONE: (606) 874-7550
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EAST KENTUCKY
NETWORK



February 23, 2016

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL – RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED

Claude and Anna Johnson
PO Box 264
Lynch, KY 40855

RECEIVED

FEB 26 2016

Public Service
Commission

Re: Case No. 2015-00421
East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Johnson,

Thank you for your letter dated February 13, 2016.

We have worked closely with the City of Lynch and many other agencies for several years in order to find an appropriate space for a cell tower so that we may bring much-needed cellular service to this community. Mayor Adams has expressed that the lack of cellular service has been not only inconvenient, but also very dangerous for the Police force and others in the community. Mayor Adams also expressed that the lack of cellular service has impeded economic opportunities for the community and its citizens. It is our goal to provide cellular service for the benefit of the entire community.

Though we remain convinced that proceeding with this project at the selected site is in the best interests of the community and its citizens, we certainly take your concerns very seriously and want to address the issues that you have raised.

You have indicated that there is substantial vacant land in the area and that other potential sites should be explored. We have considered numerous alternatives and concluded that the selected site is the only logical option. Most of the mountaintop property in this area is owned by Alpha Natural Resources Partners. We attempted to obtain property from Alpha Natural Resources, but we were unable to negotiate terms for a permanent structure to be built. Alpha Natural Resources wanted the right to require the tower to be moved on 90-days notice in the event that it decided to mine coal at or near the tower site. Because of the significant monetary investment required to construct a tower, as well as the logistics involved in obtaining approvals from several governmental agencies before moving the tower to a new site, such terms simply are not feasible.

We also considered the possibility of placing antennas and equipment on an abandoned Smokestack. We hired a contractor to inspect the Smokestack for structural integrity, and they found the structure to be unsafe for this type of equipment.

N E X T G E N E R A T I O N C O M M U N I C A T I O N S

February 23, 2016

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We also looked at property located behind an apartment building. However, the ground was too unstable and would not support a tower. In addition, due to the distance from the City of Lynch, this site would have resulted in minimal in-building penetration coverage. Accordingly, even if this site could be used, a second tower would still be required for complete coverage.

We also looked at the possibility of placing antennas on two different water tanks, but these would also result in incomplete coverage and would ultimately require construction of another tower. We also considered placing a tower in the parking lot next to the Old Clinic building. Once again, it was determined that an additional site would be required to cover the same area as the currently proposed site.

In summary, the current proposed site is the only feasible option for providing the maximum coverage needed to vastly improve the safety of the civil servants in the area.

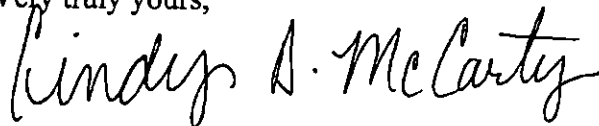
You have also pointed out that the proposed location is used by children catching the school bus in inclement weather. We do not anticipate that the presence of the tower will interfere with this use. The sidewalk will not be affected, and there will still be several available parking spaces in the parking lot.

Finally, you indicated that the stone in the old school was quarried locally and laid by Italian immigrant stone masons in the early 1900's and that the building should be classified as a historical landmark and preserved. Please rest assured that the building will not be impacted. The building is part of the Lynch Historic District and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. As required by the Federal Communications Commission (the "FCC"), we have been working diligently with the Kentucky Heritage Council through the Kentucky State Historic Preservation Officer (the "SHPO") to take into account any effect the tower may have on historic properties. We are attempting to finalize an agreement with the SHPO and the FCC to adopt adequate mitigation efforts.

We hope that this information demonstrates that we have carefully considered all the alternatives and selected the only feasible option that allows us to bring reliable cellular service to the community for the convenience and safety of all citizens.

If you should need anything further, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Very truly yours,



Cindy D. McCarty, Staff Attorney
East Kentucky Network, LLC d/b/a Appalachian Wireless

cc: Public Service Commission