

Adam Turner

From: Vivian Spiro <vkspiro@aol.com>
Sent: Thursday, October 26, 2017 8:59 PM
To: Adam Turner
Subject: Fwd: Proposed AT&T Cellphone Tower

Dear Mr. Turner:

It was my understanding that the planning board was going to forward my letter of opposition to this project (along with those of many other residents) to you; but having just been told that I was misinformed, I am now sending it on to you, in the hope that it will help to arrest the progress of this initiative. This is a project that will only serve the needs of a highly vocal minority, which is counter to the way democracy is supposed to work, especially on a small island.

Many thanks for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Vivian k. Spiro

21 Old Pocha Road, Edgartown

-----Original Message-----

From: vkspiro <vkspiro@aol.com>
To: planningboard <planningboard@edgartown-MA.US>
Sent: Sat, Jul 8, 2017 4:37 pm
Subject: Proposed AT&T Cellphone Tower

To The Members of the Planning Board:

I would like to respectfully and briefly weigh in on this issue. I am strongly opposed to allowing AT&T to construct a new cell tower on Chappaquiddick for the following reasons:

1. The AT&T proposal, as currently written, is misleading. The ambiguity of its language leaves the proposal open to "re-interpretation," enabling the company to independently increase the height, range and intensity of radiation emitted by the tower **as it sees fit** in the future.
2. The proposal does not address the issue of the infrastructure that would be needed to support a new cellphone tower. Generators, storage facilities, larger and more secure footings, and monitoring instruments are just a few of the items that would be needed to make a new tower fully operational. This would greatly increase the physical "footprint" of this facility in the neighborhood where AT&T proposes to build the tower, in addition to increasing ambient noise, road traffic, and fire hazards in what is now a quiet residential area.
3. There have been numerous scientific and medical studies done which demonstrate an undeniable, positive correlation between exposure to microwave radiation and many chronic conditions, including neurologic damage and cancer. Siting this tower near people's homes shows as callous a disregard for the welfare for citizens as not closing beaches when conditions make swimming hazardous.

4. Those who have unwittingly purchased houses near this proposed project will not only have their health, privacy and "peace and quiet" compromised; they will also face significant devaluation of their properties. For those struggling to pay mortgages, who have no ability to move elsewhere, this is an injustice.

5. Technology is changing at warp speed. Today's cellphone towers may well be tomorrow's smoke signals. In view of this, Edgartown would do well to make whatever small changes are necessary to ensure the continued reliability of its residents' communications systems, but not be conned into endorsing large scale projects that are expensive, intrusive, of questionable safety, obsolescent and of value to only a few.

6. Allowing AT&T to pursue its proposed course of action will set an unfortunate precedent. If other corporations see that the town poses little if any opposition to projects that disregard the welfare of ***all its citizens***, how long will it be before we are besieged with proposals to alter the landscape in other ways, with profitable ventures deemed "necessities" that, in fact, are not?

Many thanks to all of you for your consideration of this letter, and for your service to the community.

Sincerely,

Vivian Spiro

21 Old Pocha Road, Edgartown 02539