

West Tisbury
ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS
PO Box 278, West Tisbury, MA 02575
508-696-0107 ♦ 508-696-0103 (FAX)
zba@westtisbury-ma.gov

October 16, 2012

Martha's Vineyard Commission
P.O. Box 1447
Oak Bluffs, MA 02557

Commission Members; DRI Director Paul Foley:

The West Tisbury Zoning Board of Appeals has determined that the enclosed application must be referred to you as a Development of Regional Impact under the criteria of Item 8.1 of the MV Commission's Standards & Criteria Booklet.

Verizon Wireless is applying for a Special Permit from the Zoning Board under Section 8.8 of the West Tisbury Zoning Bylaws to install, operate and maintain a wireless communication facility in the Rural District, with a 70' or 80' tower. Section 8.8 is a comprehensive personal wireless service facility bylaw adopted by the Town in 2010 to replace the former PWSF bylaw adopted in 1999.

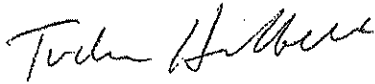
Without a formal decision, the ZBA members appear to be in favor of permitting this development due to the following merits:

1. It meets the general requirements of the bylaw
2. It exceeds the fall zone requirement from habitable structures. Under section 8.8-9A2 the fall zone for a tower must be 2x the height which in this case with an 80' tower would be 160'. The distance to the nearest neighbor is more than 7 times the height of the proposed tower.
3. The applicant has provided 3 choices on the property. Choice "A" being the preferred location of our board.
4. The applicant has provided 2 choices in tower design. The stealth tower and a Monopine. Esthetics is one criterion to consider and availability of co-location space is another. The advantage of the 80' Monopine is that it creates not only space for the applicants needs but also 2 co-locations. The stealth pole would only have room for 1 carrier. Co-location is important to the town so that there will be less of a need for multiple towers.

The West Tisbury Zoning Board respectfully suggests that you not require a public hearing for this application as we do not consider this development to have regional impact in need of your review and can be more than adequately reviewed at the Town level. If you choose to have a public hearing, the ZBA respectfully asks that some aspects of the facility be decided by the Board on behalf of the Town, most importantly the height and type of tower.

Carl Gehring of Gehring and Associates has been the Zoning Board's main contact for this application. Please do not hesitate to contact the ZBA office if we may be of assistance to you.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Tucker Hubbell", written in a cursive style.

Tucker Hubbell
Chairman
Jlk/TH

cc: Carl Gehring of Gehring Associates
David Maxson, Broadcast Signal Lab
West Tisbury Board of Selectmen
West Tisbury Planning Board