
Attention: Town Board and Conservation Board:

I am writing to oppose the construction of a cell tower at 62 Granite Springs Road. **Please forward my letter in opposition to both the Town Board and the Conservation Board. Please also confirm receipt of my letter by emailing me back.**

There are many reasons why I oppose the construction of the cell tower at 62 Granite Springs Road but in this letter, I will focus on those reasons of most relevance to the Conservation Board.

The proposed plan calls for disturbing over 28,000 square feet of land, including 15,627 square feet of wetlands buffer that may be home to the bog turtle, the monarch butterfly, the Indiana bat and other endangered species. The construction and alteration of land within regulated wetlands should always be avoided, but particularly in this case.

This particular parcel of land is of great importance- not just to the residents of our town, but also to anyone who relies on the NYC watershed.

This parcel of land is not only part of the Croton watershed, but it also drains directly into Sparkle Lake- a place where people swim and fish.

The proposed plan calls for the removal of over 80 mature trees that are integral to the area's stormwater management.

I am concerned that the land disturbance, as well as the removal of over 80 mature trees, will negatively affect the water quality in Sparkle Lake and that of the Croton watershed. Will this put the millions of dollars our town was granted by the East of Hudson WaterQuality Fund in jeopardy?

It is my understanding the delineation of the marsh lands was not done at the optimal time of the year and it should be revisited.

I have concerns about any hazardous material that may be stored on the site that poses safety, chemical and environmental hazards if damaged or improperly maintained. The hazardous substances could cause fires, explosions and release toxic air contaminants.

I am concerned the tower can catch on fire or fall.

I urge the Town Board and Conservation Board to consider the effects that the construction, and operation, of this cell tower would have on the habitats, animals, environment and residents of this town.

To fully appreciate how important this parcel of property is, I urge the Conservation Board to visit the proposed site during the warmer months when there is vegetation growing in the wetlands.

I also urge the Town Board and Conservation Board to direct that the developer pay for an independent wildlife study done by someone the Conservation Board chooses.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Monica Cole