

Hello,

I am writing additionally to oppose the construction of a cell tower at 62 Granite Springs Road. **Please forward my letter in opposition to the Conservation Board in advance of tonight's meeting.**

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 permit application calls for over 28,000 square feet of land disturbance including over 15,000 square feet within the wetlands buffer. Meanwhile, Town Code section 178-10 A.(3)(b) for administrative permits states: (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, the following activities shall not be permitted with any administrative permit: [1] Any activities proposed for areas designated wetlands or wetland buffer on the most recent New York State Freshwater Wetlands Map; ... [5] Grading or land disturbance of greater than 10,000 square feet in spatial extent within the wetland or one-hundred-foot wetland buffer whether or not associated with building construction. It would seem that there should therefore be an automatic denial for an administrative permit.

With regard to a non-administrative permit, Town Code section 178-12 A.(4) provides the following be considered: (4) All relevant facts and not circumstances including but not limited to the following be considered: ... (e) The suitability or unsuitability of such activity to the area for which it is proposed; and (f) The effect of the proposed activity with reference to the protection or enhancement functions of wetlands and the benefits they provide which are set forth in § 178-3 of this chapter and in § 24-0103 of the Environmental Conservation Law Your website does an excellent job of explaining wetland buffers and most importantly, notes that it is best for at most “passive recreation” up to possibly “turf but preferably native shrubs and trees which are more effective at removing pollutants or heat from stormwater runoff.” There is no indication at all that this type of land is suitable for any type of vehicular traffic, or any type of

roadway (pervious or impervious), and certainly not for a route for construction or ongoing regular maintenance

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. The area as is has roadway ponding and past history of flooding the homes near by as is without the disturbance.

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?

I urge the 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 wetland as well as the rainy months where the water is abundant.

I also urge the 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,
Yorktown Resident - Corrine Simione