
I am writing to oppose the construction of a cell tower at 62 Granite Springs Road.

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 Indiana bat, and the monarch butterfly. My garden, which is less than a thousand feet from the proposed site, is one of only two certified Monarch waystations in this town (the other being Hilltop Hanover Farm). The construction of this cell tower will surely disrupt monarch populations locally.

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 town residents swim and fish.

The proposed plan also calls for the removal of over 80 mature trees that are integral to the area's stormwater management. This is especially significant in our town where many residents experience flooding and have to deal with water table issues.

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 the Croton watershed. Our town was given millions of dollars in grants from the East of Hudson Water Quality Fund to improve the water quality associated with this parcel of land. I urge the Town Board to confirm that the proposed plan would not violate any conditions of that grant.

I also 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, the Conservation Board should 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.
Justin Waytowich