IN RE: PETITIONS FOR SPECIAL HEARING

AND VARIANCE

E side of Old Court Road; 215 feet N of

Liberty Road

2<sup>nd</sup> Election District

4<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District

(8514 Liberty Road)

Liberty Crossing Land LLLP

Legal Owners

**Verizion Wireless** 

Contract Lessee

**BEFORE THE** 

\* DEPUTY ZONING

\* COMMISSIONER

\* FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

Case No. 2010-0147-SPHA

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

This matter comes before this Deputy Zoning Commissioner for consideration of Petitions for Special Hearing and Variance filed by Kenneth L. Hankin on behalf of the legal owners of the subject property, Liberty Crossing Land LLLP, and Brian Stover on behalf of the contract lessee, Verizon Wireless. Special Hearing relief is requested in accordance with Section 500.7 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations ("B.C.Z.R.") to confirm that the proposed wireless telecommunications tower will not be located 200 feet or less from any other owner's residential property line and that a variance from Section 426.6.A.1 of the B.C.Z.R. is not required, and to amend the site plan approved in Case No. 97-587-X. In the alternative, Petitioner is requesting Variance relief from Section 426.6.A.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to allow a wireless telecommunications tower to be set back 70 feet from another owner's residential property line in lieu of the required 200 feet. The subject property and requested relief are more fully described on the two-page site plan that was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 1A and 1B.

Appearing at the requisite public hearing in support of the requested relief on behalf of Petitioner Verizon Wireless was Stephanie Petway with Network Building & Consulting, LLC



("NBC, LLC"), Petitioner's wireless site development consultant. Arnold Jablon, Esquire and David Karceski, Esquire appeared as attorneys for Petitioner. Also appearing in support of the requested relief were Sherri Linton, a radio frequency engineer with Verizon Wireless for the northeast region, and Michael McGarity, a professional engineer specializing in wireless communications projects, and Mitch Kellman, Petitioner's zoning consultant, both with Daft – McCune – Walker, Inc., the firm that prepared the site plan. There were no Protestants or other interested persons in attendance at the hearing.

Testimony and evidence proceeded by way of a proffer from Mr. Karceski and revealed that the subject property is an irregular-shaped property containing approximately 11.71 acres, more or less, zoned B.R. (Business, Roadside). The property is located on the northeast side of the intersection of Liberty Road and Old Court Road in the Randallstown area of Baltimore County. The property is improved with a large existing commercial building that contains a self-storage facility and a number of other retail uses including a grocery store. The property is situated in a commercial corridor of Liberty Road, with a number of commercial and institutional uses nearby. Immediately to the west and north is a church and cemetery, to the east is another church and cemetery. To the north is an elderly housing complex with two 74 unit, two-story elderly housing facilities, known as "Randallstown Nonprofit Housing Corporation" and "Randallstown II Nonprofit Housing Corporation," respectively. As shown on the aerial photographs that were marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 4A and 4B, these properties surround the subject property and the adjacent zoning is D.R.5.5. Further to the north and east are residential neighborhoods.

Mr. Karceski described the property and the requested zoning relief and proffered the testimony of Petitioner's land use, planning, and zoning experts, Messrs. McGarity and Kellman with Daft – McCune – Walker, Inc. ("DMW"). Mr. McGarity is a civil engineer and Director of

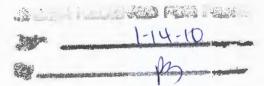
Wireless Services for DMW. He has been with DMW since 1997 and has over 10 years of experience managing wireless telecommunications projects for numerous wireless carriers and has a detailed knowledge of site design and implementation as it relates to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations and specifically the telecommunications tower Regulations. He has testified numerous times before this Commission as an expert and was offered and accepted as such in this case. Mr. Kellman is the Director of Zoning Services for DMW. He has been with DMW since 2000 and has over 11 years of experience working in zoning administration and subdivision regulation for the public sector. He was previously employed with the Baltimore County Zoning Review Office where he reviewed zoning petitions and development plans and made determinations regarding compliance with County regulations. He has testified extensively as an expert before this Commission and was offered and accepted as an expert in zoning and the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations. Mr. McGarity and Mr. Kellman's resumes were marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 2 and 3, respectively.

Mr. Karceski indicated in his opening remarks that his client, Petitioner Verizon Wireless, desires to provide enhanced wireless services to its customers. They have identified a coverage gap in the area and desire to erect a 90 foot tapered steel monopole with exterior antennae at the rear of the property, behind the existing building, as shown on the site plan. Initially, Petitioner prepared a search ring in order to find suitable locations to alleviate the coverage gap. After investigating possible sites, the subject property was identified as the most ideal location. Specifically, its location and height would meet the coverage needs, while also meeting the requirements of Baltimore County that any new tower be constructed to accommodate at least three wireless providers, erected in a medium or high density commercial zone when available, and located and designed to minimize its visibility from residential and transition zones. As noted previously, the subject property is surrounded to the north, east, and west by property zoned

D.R.5.5, with a church and cemetery and elderly residential housing buildings located behind the subject property -- the closest property lines to where the proposed telecommunications tower would be located. As a result of the above, Petitioner is seeking special hearing relief to confirm that the proposed tower on the subject property would not be located 200 feet or less from an other owner's residential property line. In the alternative, Petitioner is seeking a variance to allow the tower to be set back 70 feet from another owner's residential property line.

In support of the special hearing request, Mr. Karceski asserted that there is a distinction in Section 426.6.A of the B.C.Z.R. between the phrases "other owner's residential property line" contained in Section 426.6.A.1, which refers to the tower's minimum 200 foot setback requirement, and "any other owner's property or zoning line" contained in Section 426.6.A.2, which refers to the structure housing the equipment for the tower meeting the minimum setback requirements. Mr. Karceski argued that the proposed tower in the instant matter would be at least 470 feet from the closest residential property line on nearby Valley Hill Court, and would also be more than 200 feet from the Randallstown and Randallstown II elderly housing facilities. Moreover, in his view, the two phrases referenced above indicate that the 200 foot setback should not be looked at in terms of the residential zone (i.e. – the adjacent D.R. Zone), but rather in terms of the residential property line, which are the residential properties on Valley Hill Court. Therefore, it could be argued that a variance from Section 426.6.A.1 of the B.C.Z.R. is not necessary.

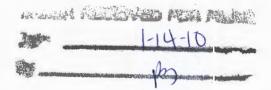
In the alternative, Mr. Karceski discussed the unusual features of the property and the legal threshold that must be met for variance relief to be granted. Specifically, Mr. Karceski pointed to the irregular shape of the property and its topography. As shown on the site plan, the property has a narrow strip of land that provides access to the site from Old Court Road, and also has two separate access points from Liberty Road. The subject property also surrounds a much smaller



property with a building pad site that is home to a video rental store. As to the topography, the dotted lines on the site plan show that the subject property is elevated from its Liberty Road and Old Court Road frontage, and sits above the other properties nearby. This is also illustrated in the photographs of the site that were collectively marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 5. In addition, at the rear of the site near the location of the proposed tower, the elevation increases significantly to the residentially zoned property. As to practical difficulty, Mr. Karceski explained that the site is already a built-out commercial shopping center known as "Liberty Crossroads" and the building and parking improvements are existing. The site itself, and the placement of the tower on the site, is an ideal location for the telecommunications tower. As the photo-simulations that were marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibits 6A through 6C indicate, there would be very little visual or other impacts associated with the presence of the tower (in fact, it resembles the existing light towers on the site). In Petitioner's view, it would be inopportune to allow such an obviously well suited site not to be utilized, given the coverage needs and the location's compliance with Baltimore County's mandates with regard to the erection of new towers.

Finally, Mr. Karceski noted that the instant proposal was considered by the Baltimore County Tower Review Committee ("TRC") on October 27, 2009 and recommended for approval by the TRC in its Memorandum dated December 17, 2009, which was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 7. In the conclusion of its advisory comments, the TRC stated that:

a new 90-foot tower in the proposed location would serve to fill in Verizon's coverage gap in the area and help them toward their goal of seamless connectivity. It would meet all of the requirements of Section 426 [of the B.C.Z.R.], while allowing for needed emergency and non-emergency communications for customers in the area.



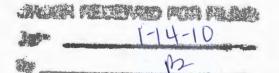
Near the conclusion of the hearing, the undersigned conveyed concerns over the design of the proposed tower and inquired as to how the tower would be constructed and what would be the "fall zone" of the proposed tower. In response, Ms. Petway indicated that the tower would be designed specifically so that it would not have a broad fall zone. Ms. Petway also referenced a report prepared by Petitioner's tapered steel pole supplier, ROHN Products, LLC, which discusses in great detail the characteristics of the tower. A copy of the cover letter to that report, which summarized the findings, was marked and accepted into evidence as Petitioner's Exhibit 8. In short, the proposed tower would be designed and engineered not to fail in virtually any circumstances, but in the event that it did, the tower would not simply "fall over" with a fall zone of at least 90 feet -- the height of the tower. Rather, the tower would be designed so that stronger sections are provided in the lower portion of the pole (approximately the first 50 feet of the pole). The design would enable the pole to fail through a combination of bending and buckling in the upper portion of the pole should a catastrophic wind loading occur. Failure in this scenario would result in the upper portion of the pole "folding over" the lower portion, resulting in no more than a 50 foot fall zone radius. The design would also make it highly unlikely that the pole would completely break or shear off and hit the ground, but would more likely be a local buckling failure.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC) comments were received and are made part of the record of this case. Comments were received from the Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management dated December 11, 2009 which indicates that development of the property must comply with the Forest Conservation Regulations. If this project does not qualify for any of the exemptions listed in Section 33-6-102 of the Baltimore County Code, then this site must comply with the Forest Conservation Law. Recent changes to the current regulations do not allow for forest conservation waivers. However, since the site was developed prior to the forest

conservation regulations, Petitioner may request a forest conservation variance to base the afforestation calculations on the limit of disturbance rather than the entire site coverage.

Turning first to the Petition for Special Hearing, wireless telecommunications towers and facilities are governed by Section 426 of the B.C.Z.R. Section 426.5 of the B.C.Z.R. provides that wireless telecommunication towers are permitted in the B.R. Zone as a matter of right. In addition, however, a petitioner must also meet mandatory setback requirements for these towers. In the event these setbacks cannot be met, variances from the wireless telecommunications facility requirements are authorized, pursuant to Section 426.11 of the B.C.Z.R. and governed by Section 307 thereof. Section 426.6.A.1 of the B.C.Z.R. states that "[a] tower shall be set back at least 200 feet from any other owner's residential property line." In the instant matter, Petitioner, through its attorneys, contends that a variance in this case is not necessary. They assert that the phraseology of Section 426.6.A.1, wherein the tower shall be setback at least 200 feet from any other owner's residential property line (emphasis added), explicitly does not mention "zoning line." Petitioner believes it meets this requirement because the nearest residential property lines are the residential properties at Valley Hill Court, over 470 feet away.

In this case, I disagree with Petitioner's analysis on the necessity of the variance and believe a variance is required in this case. As shown on the site plan, the property line to the rear at the northeast side of the subject property is the boundary that is potentially implicated by the 200 foot setback requirement of Section 426.6.A.1 of the B.C.Z.R. The properties adjacent to this boundary that are owned by Mount Olive United Methodist Church and Randallstown II Nonprofit Housing Corporation, respectively, are zoned D.R.5.5 and these nearest property lines are approximately 70 feet from the proposed location of the telecommunications tower. Section 426.5.D designates "Residential Zones" and includes the D.R. Zone. In my view, this is a strong factor in the determination here that the boundary lines of the adjacent properties are "residential



property lines" as referenced in Section 426.6.A.1 of the B.C.Z.R. In addition, there is a property line that bisects the two adjacent properties and runs perpendicular to the subject property, as also shown on the site plan in proximity to the proposed location of the tower. This property line also constitutes a "residential property line" and is certainly less than 200 feet from the proposed tower location. Hence, in my judgment a variance request is required.

In this case, Petitioner did in fact request the variance from Section 426.6.A.1 of the B.C.Z.R. as an alternative in order to permit the proposed tower location to be set back 70 feet from another owner's residential property line in lieu of the required 200 feet. After considering the testimony and evidence presented in support of the request, I am persuaded to grant the relief. I find special circumstances or conditions exist that are peculiar to the land or structure which is the subject of the variance request. Certainly, the subject property is unlike other properties in the area in shape and topography. I also find that strict compliance with the Zoning Regulations would result in practical difficulty or unreasonable hardship upon Petitioner. Petitioner has identified a coverage gap in its wireless service and is required by the Federal Communications Commission to ensure that its network is adequate to serve its customers and meet its licensing requirements. This need is also supported by the Baltimore County Tower Review Committee. The subject property is located in a commercial corridor with similar commercial and institutional uses along Liberty Road and, after an investigation into potential sites, is viewed as a suitable location for the proposed tower, with minimal impact. Finally, I find that the variance request can be granted in strict harmony with the spirit and intent of said regulations, and in such manner as to grant relief without injury to the public health, safety and general welfare. In viewing the surrounding area on the whole, the proposed location of the tower on the subject property is an ideal location. It is located well within the search ring prepared by Petitioner and would likely have very little impact, especially visually, on the community. The 90 foot tower would be buffered by the self storage building located in front of it, and would be approximately 545 feet from Liberty Road. It would also be buffered from the properties to the rear by the elevation of those properties over 10 feet about the surface location of the tower, plus the tall line of mature trees that runs along the property line. In my view, the visual appearance of the tower would not be unlike the appearance of the light poles on the property that light up the parking lot and rear alley.

Pursuant to the advertisement, posting of the property and public hearing held, and after considering the testimony and evidence offered, I find that Petitioner's special hearing should be denied in part and granted in part, and the variance request should be granted.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Petitioner's Special Hearing request to amend the site plan approved in Case No. 97-587-X be and is hereby **GRANTED**; and

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that Petitioner's Variance request from Section 426.6.A.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to allow a wireless telecommunications tower to be set back 70 feet from another owner's residential property line in lieu of the required 200 feet, be and is hereby **GRANTED**.

The relief granted herein is subject to the following conditions:

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- 1. Petitioner is advised that it may apply for any required building permits and be granted same upon receipt of this Order; however, Petitioner is hereby made aware that proceeding at this time is at its own risk until the 30-day appeal period from the date of this Order has expired. If for whatever reason, this Order is reversed, Petitioner would be required to return, and be responsible for returning, said property to its original condition.
- 2. Development of this property must comply with the Forest Conservation Regulations (Sections 33-6-101 through 33-6-122 of the Baltimore County Code). If this project does not qualify for any of the exemptions listed in Section 33-6-102 of the Baltimore County Code, then this site must comply with the Forest Conservation Law. Recent changes to the current regulations do not allow for forest conservation waivers. However, since the site was developed prior to the forest conservation regulations, Petitioner may request a forest conservation variance to base the afforestation calculations on the limit of disturbance rather than the entire site coverage.

Any appeal of this decision must be made within thirty (30) days of the date of this Order.

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK
Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:pz



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

January 14, 2010

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK Deputy Zoning Commissioner

ARNOLD JABLON, ESQUIRE DAVID KARCESKI, ESQUIRE VENABELE LLC 210 WEST PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE TOWSON MD 21204

> Re: Petition for Special Hearing and Variance Case No. 2010-0147-SPHA Property: 8514 Liberty Road

Dear Messrs. Jablon and Karceski:

Enclosed please find the decision rendered in the above-captioned case.

In the event the decision rendered is unfavorable to any party, please be advised that any party may file an appeal within thirty (30) days from the date of the Order to the Department of Permits and Development Management. If you require additional information concerning filing an appeal, please feel free to contact our appeals clerk at 410-887-3391.

Very truly yours,

THOMAS H. BOSTWICK Deputy Zoning Commissioner

for Baltimore County

THB:pz

Enclosure

c: Mitch Kellman and Michael McGarity, DMW-Draft Mccune Walker Inc., 200 East Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson MD 21286 Stephanie Petway and Charles Solomon, Network Building & Consulting, LLC 7380 Coca Cola Drive, Hanover MD 21076 Sherri Linton, Verizon Wireless, 9000 Junction Drive, Annapolis Junction MD 20701



# **Petition for Special Hearing**

for the property located at 8514 Liberty Road

which is presently zoned BR

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County

( This petition must be me	eu iii perso	on, in th <del>o</del> 2011	ing onice, in inplicate,	with Original Si	griatures.)
This Petition shall be filed with owner(s) of the property situate in and made a part hereof, hereby percounty, to determine whether or near this box to be completed by playing the property of the property	Baltimore etition for a south	County and whi Special Hearing	ich is described in the des under Section 500.7 of the	cription and plat	attached hereto
SEE ATTACHED SHEET 1					
Property is to be posted and adver l, or we, agree to pay expenses ob bounded by the zoning regulations County.	tised as pre of above Sp s and restric	escribed by the a secial Hearing, a ctions of Baltimo	coning regulations. dvertising, posting, etc. ar are County adopted pursual	nd further agree to the to the zoning l	to and are to be aw for Baltimore
		penalt	do solemnly declare and at ies of perjury, that I/we are s) of the property which is t tition.	the legal	
Contract Purchaser/Lessee:			Legal Owner(s):		
SEE ATTACHED SHE	ET 2		SEE ATTACHED SHEET 3		
Name - Type or Print			Name - Type or Print		
Signature			Signature		
Address	T	elephone No.	Name - Type or Print		
City	ate	Zip Code	Signature		
Attorney For Petitioner:			Address		Telephone No.
David H Karceski			Addices		releptions its.
Name - Type or Print			City	State	Zip Code
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Venable LLP			David H. Karc	eski	1.
Company			Name		
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#### Petition for Special Hearing Attached Sheet 1 8514 Liberty Road

- 1. Special Hearing to confirm that the proposed wireless telecommunications tower will not be located 200 feet or less from any other owner's residential property line and that a variance from Section 426.6.A.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations is not required.
- 2. Special Hearing to amend the site plan approved in Case No. 97-587-X.

### Petition for Special Hearing Attached Sheet 2 8514 Liberty Road

Contract Lessee: Verizon Wireless

By:

Brian Stover, Manager Real Estate/Zoning Verizon Wireless - Annapolis Junction Office 9000 Annapolis Junction Drive Annapolis, Maryland 20701

(301) 512-2000

#### Petition for Special Hearing Attached Sheet 3 8514 Liberty Road

Legal Owner:
Liberty Crossing Land LLLP
BY: LIBERTY CROSSING CENTER LLLP, general partner
BY: SIENT CORPORATION, general partner

By: Courle ( Harl
Name/Title: KENNETH L HANKA) CEV
Address: 8224 SNOWDEN RIVER PARKWAY

COLUMBIA MARYLAND 21045

Telephone: 443-539-3006



## **Petition for Variance**

to the Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County for the property located at 8514 Liberty Road

which is presently zoned BR

Deed Reference: 13371 / 345 Tax Account # 2300003538

This Petition shall be filed with the Department of Permits and Development Management. The undersigned, legal owner(s) of the property situate in Baltimore County and which is described in the description and plat attached hereto and made a part hereof, hereby petition for a Variance from Section(s)

SEE ATTACHED SHEET 1

of the zoning regulations of Baltimore County, to the zoning law of Baltimore County, for the following reasons: (indicate hardship or practical difficulty.)

Property is to be posted and advertised as prescribed by the zoning regulations.

I, or we, agree to pay expenses of above Variance, advertising, posting, etc. and further agree to and are to be bounded by the zoning regulations and restrictions of Baltimore County adopted pursuant to the zoning law for Baltimore County.

I/We do solemnly declare and affirm, under the penalties of

			is the subject of this Pe	etition.	e property writer		
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Signature	.,,,		Signature				
Address		Telephone No.	Name - Type or Print				
City	State	Zip Code	Signature				
Attorney For Petition			Address		Telephone No.		
David H. Karces	ski						
Name - Type or Frint			City	State	Zip Code		
M			Representative to	be Contacted:			
Signature Venable LLP			David H. Karces	ski			
Company			Name				
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Address		Telephone No.	Address		Telephone No.		
Towson	MD	21204	Towson	MD	21204		
City	State	Zip Code	City	State	Zip Code		
Case No. 2010	0147 51	HA	Office Use Only	705			
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### Petition for Variance Attached Sheet 1 8514 Liberty Road

Variance from section 426.6.A.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to allow a wireless telecommunications tower to be set back 70 feet from another owner's residential property line in lieu of the required 200 feet, if necessary.

Petition for Variance Attached Sheet 2 8514 Liberty Road

Contract Lessee: Verizon Wireless

Brian Stover, Manager Real Estate/Zoning

Verizon Wireless - Annapolis Junction Office

9000 Annapolis Junction Drive Annapolis, Maryland 20701

(301) 512-2000

Petition for Variance Attached Sheet 3 8514 Liberty Road

Legal Owner:

Liberty Crossing Land LLLP

BY: LIBERTY CROSSING CENTER LLLP general partner BY: SIENA CORPORATION, general partner

By: leureker ( Henl

Name/Title: KENNETH L HANKIN CEO

Address: 8221 SNOWPEN RIVER PARKWAY

COLUMBIA MD 21045

Telephone: 443-539-3006



0147

Description

To Accompany Petition

For a Variance

and Special Hearing

8514 Liberty Road

Baltimore County, Maryland

Beginning for the same at the end of the second of the two following courses and distances measured from the point formed by the intersection of the centerline of Old Court Road (70 feet wide) and the centerline of Liberty Road (variable width right-of-way), Northeasterly 215 feet, more or less, thence Southeasterly 35 feet, more or less, to the point of beginning, thence leaving said point of beginning and running with and binding on a portion of said Old Court Road, referring all courses of this description to the Maryland Coordinate System (NAD 83/1991): (1) North 25 degrees 22 minutes 16 seconds East 72.31 feet, thence leaving said right of way, (2) South 59 degrees 20 minutes 45 seconds East 325.05 feet, thence (3) North 32 degrees 57 minutes 30 seconds East 440.91 feet, thence (4) South 58 degrees 55 minutes 12 seconds East 796.23 feet, thence (5) South 59 degrees 40 minutes 55 seconds East 128.42 feet, thence (6) South 41 degrees 09 minutes 45 seconds West 412.50 feet, thence (7) South 38 degrees 06 minutes 55 seconds West 173.29 feet, thence (8) North 64 degrees 22 minutes 35 seconds West 352.16 feet, thence (9) North 38 degrees 52 minutes 45 seconds West 23.23 feet, thence (10) North 58 degrees 40 minutes 05 seconds West 50.26 feet, thence (11) North 63 degrees 13

minutes 45 seconds West 150.05 feet, thence (12) North 31 degrees 30 minutes 42 seconds East 232.61 feet, thence (13) North 58 degrees 55 minutes 07 seconds West 198.01 feet, thence (14) South 31 degrees 03 minutes 02 seconds West 116.78 feet, thence (15) Southwesterly by a line curving to the left, having a radius of 66.00 feet, for a distance of 66.27 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing South 02 degrees 17 minutes 13 seconds West 63.52 feet), thence (16) Southwesterly by a line curving to the right, having a radius of 90.30 feet, for a distance of 86.88 feet (the arc of said curve being subtended by a chord bearing South 01 degree 05 minutes 12 seconds West 83.57 feet), thence (17) North 65 degrees 31 minutes 15 seconds West 120.45 feet, thence (18) North 25 degrees 37 minutes 27 seconds East 148.76 feet, thence (19) North 58 degrees 54 minutes 33 seconds West 139.10 feet, thence (20) South 25 degrees 37 minutes 25 seconds West 27.13 feet, thence (21) North 58 degrees 04 minutes 55 seconds West 198.03 feet to the point of beginning; containing 510,303 square feet or 11.715 acres of land, more or less, as now surveyed by Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc., in May

October 30, 2009

2009.

Project No. 08049.D (L08049.D)

# EPARTMENT OF PERMITS AND DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT

## **ZONING REVIEW**

# ADVERTISING REQUIREMENTS AND PROCEDURES FOR ZONING HEARINGS

The <u>Baltimore County</u> Zoning <u>Regulations</u> (BCZR) require that notice be given to the general public/neighboring property owners relative to property which is the subject of an upcoming zoning hearing. For those petitions which require a public hearing, this notice is accomplished by posting a sign on the property (responsibility of the petitioner) and placement of a notice in a newspaper of general circulation in the County, both at least fifteen (15) days before the hearing

Zoning Review will ensure that the legal requirements for advertising are satisfied. However, the petitioner is responsible for the costs associated with these requirements. The newspaper will bill the person listed below for the advertising. This advertising is due upon receipt and should be remitted directly to the newspaper.

OPINIONS MAY NOT BE ISSUED UNTIL ALL ADVERTISING COSTS ARE PAID.

For Newspaper Advertising:
Item Number or Case Number 2010 -0147-SPHA
Petitioner: Libert Crossin Land LLLP
Address or Location: 8514 Liberty Rood, Randal Stamper 21133
PLEASE FORWARD ADVERTISING BILL TC
Name: Kedrick Whitmore
Address 210 W. Pennsylvania Ave.
Towson, MD/21204
Telephone Number: 410 -494 -6204

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#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

Case: # 2010-0147-SPHA

8514 Liberty Road

E/side of Old Court, 215 feet north of Liberty Road

2nd Election District — 4th Councilmanic District

E/side of Old Court, 215 feet north of Liberty Road 2nd Election District — 4th Councilmanic District Legal Owner(s): Liberty Crossing Land, LLLP Contract Purchaser: Verizon Wireless

Special Hearing: to confirm that the proposed wireless telecommunications tower will not be located 200 feet or less from anyother owner's residential property line and that a variange from Section 426.6.A.1 of the Baltimore County Zonling Regulations is not required; to amend the site plan approved in case no. 97-587-X. Variance: to allow a wireless telecommunications tower to be setback 70 feet from another owner's residential property line in lieu of the required 200 feet, if necessary Hearing: Monday, January 11, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. In Room 104, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204.

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN, III

WILLAM J. WISEMAN, III
Zonling Commissioner for Baltimore County
NOTES: (1) Hearings are Handicapped Accessible; for special accommodations Please Contact the Zonling Commissioner's Office at (410) 887-4386.
(2) For Information concerning the File and/or Hearing, Contact the Zonling Review Office at (410) 887-3391.
JT 12/853 December 22 224683

## CERTIFICATE OF PUBLICATION

12/24,2009
THIS IS TO CERTIFY, that the annexed advertisement was published
in the following weekly newspaper published in Baltimore County, Md.,
once in each ofsuccessive weeks, the first publication appearing
on 12/22,2009.
The Jeffersonian
☐ Arbutus Times
☐ Catonsville Times
☐ Towson Times
Owings Mills Times
☐ NE Booster/Reporter
☐ North County News
S. Wilkingon
LEGAL ADVERTISING

## **CERTIFICATE OF POSTING**

	RE: Case No.:
	Petitioner/Developer:
•	Verizon Wire
	January 11, 2 Date of Hearing/Closing:
Baltimore County Department of Permits and Development Management	
County Office Building, Room 111 111 West Chesapeake Avenue Towson, Maryland 21204	
Attn: Kristin Matthews	
Ladies and Gentlemen:	
This letter is to certify under the penalties of p posted conspicuously on the property located a 8514 Liberty Road	erjury that the necessary sign(s) required by law wat:
The sign(s) were posted on	December 26 2009
	(Month, Day, Year)
	Sincerely,
	Robert Bluck Dec 29 200
	(Signature of Sign Poster) (D
	SSG Robert Black
	(Print Name)
	1508 Leslie Road
	(Address)
	Dundalk, Maryland 21222
	(City, State, Zip Code)
	(410) 282-7940
	(Talanhana Numbar)





JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director
Department of Permits and
November 25.009

#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

CASE NUMBER: 2010-0147-SPHA

8514 Liberty Road

E/side of Old Court, 215 feet north of Liberty Road 2<sup>nd</sup> Election District – 4<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic District Legal Owners: Liberty Crossing Land, LLLP

Contract Purchaser: Verizon Wireless

<u>Special Hearing</u> to confirm that the proposed wireless telecommunications tower will not be located 200 feet or less from any other owner's residential property line and that a variance from Section 426.6.A.1 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations is not required; to amend the site plan approved in case no. 97-587-X. <u>Variance</u> to allow a wireless telecommunications tower to be setback 70 feet from another owner's residential property line in lieu of the required 200 feet, if necessary.

Hearing: Monday, January 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 104, Jefferson Building, 105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

Timothy Kotroco Director

TK:klm

C: David Karceski, 210 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Towson 21204
Brian Stover, Verizon Wireless, 9000 Annapolis Junction Dr., Annapolis 20701
Kenneth Hanken, Liberty Crossing Land, LLLP, 8221 Snowden River Pkwy., Columbia 21045

NOTES: (1) THE PETITIONER MUST HAVE THE ZONING NOTICE SIGN POSTED BY AN APPROVED POSTER ON THE PROPERTY BY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26, 2010.

(2) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS PLEASE CALL THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(3) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.

TO: PATUXENT PUBLISHING COMPANY

Tuesday, December 22, 2009 Issue - Jeffersonian

Please forward billing to:

Kedrick Whitmore Venable, LLP 210 W. Pennsylvania Ave Towson, MD 21204 410-494-6204

#### NOTICE OF ZONING HEARING

The Zoning Commissioner of Baltimore County, by authority of the Zoning Act and Regulations of Baltimore County, will hold a public hearing in Towson, Maryland on the property identified herein as follows:

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Hearing: Monday, January 11, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. in Room 104, Jefferson Building,

105 West Chesapeake Avenue, Towson 21204

WILLIAM J. WISEMAN III
ZONING COMMISSIONER FOR BALTIMORE COUNTY

NOTES: (1) HEARINGS ARE HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE; FOR SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS, PLEASE CONTACT THE ZONING COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE AT 410-887-4386.

(2) FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE FILE AND/OR HEARING, CONTACT THE ZONING REVIEW OFFICE AT 410-887-3391.



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

TIMOTHY M. KOTROCO, Director Department of Permits and Development Management

January 6, 2010

David Karceski 210 W Pennsylvania Ave. Towson, MD 21204

Dear: David Karceski

RE: Case Number 2010-0147-SPHA, 8514 Liberty Rd.

The above referenced petition was accepted for processing **ONLY** by the Bureau of Zoning Review, Department of Permits and Development Management (PDM) on November 03, 2009. This letter is not an approval, but only a **NOTIFICATION**.

The Zoning Advisory Committee (ZAC), which consists of representatives from several approval agencies, has reviewed the plans that were submitted with your petition. All comments submitted thus far from the members of the ZAC are attached. These comments are not intended to indicate the appropriateness of the zoning action requested, but to ensure that all parties (zoning commissioner, attorney, petitioner, etc.) are made aware of plans or problems with regard to the proposed improvements that may have a bearing on this case. All comments will be placed in the permanent case file.

If you need further information or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the commenting agency.

W. Cal Rich

W. Carl Richards, Jr.

W. Carl Richards, Jr. Supervisor, Zoning Review

WCR:lnw

Enclosures

c: People's Counsel Brian Stover: Verizon Wireless; 9000 Annapolis Junction Dr.; Annapolis, MD 20701 Kenneth Hanken: Liberty Crossing Land, LLP; 8221 Snowden River Pkwy; Columbia, MD 21045



JAMES T. SMITH, JR. County Executive

JOHN J. HOHMAN, Chief Fire Department

County Office Building, Room 111
Mail Stop #1105
111 West Chesapeake Avenue
Towson, Maryland 21204

November 18, 2009

ATTENTION: Zoning Review Planners

Distribution Meeting Of: November 9, 2006

Item Numbers: 0139,0140,0141,0142,0143,0144,0145,0146,0147

Pursuant to your request, the referenced plan(s) have been reviewed by this Bureau and the comments below are applicable and required to be corrected or incorporated into the final plans for the property.

1. The Fire Marshal's Office has no comments at this time.

Lieutenant Roland P Bosley Jr. Fire Marshal's Office 410-887-4881 (C)443-829-2946 MS-1102F

cc: File

#### **BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND**

#### INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

DATE: November 17, 2009

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits &

**Development Management** 

FROM:

Dennis A. Kennedy, Supervisor

Bureau of Development Plans

Review

SUBJECT:

**Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting** 

For November 23, 2009

Item Nos. 2010-116, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 146 and 147

The Bureau of Development Plans Review has reviewed the subjectzoning items, and we have no comments.

DAK:CEN:cab

G:\DevPlanRev\ZAC -No Comments\ZAC-11232009 -NO COMMENTS.doc



Martin O'Malley, Governor Anthony G. Brown, Lt. Governor

MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Beverley K. Swaim-Staley, Secretary Neil J. Pedersen, Administrator

Date: Nov. 17, 2009

Ms. Kristen Matthews.
Baltimore County Office of
Permits and Development Management
County Office Building, Room 109
Towson, Maryland 21204

RE: Baltimore County

Item No. 2010-0147-59HA

MD 126

8514 LIBERTY RD

LIBERTY CROSSING LAND LLP

VARIANCE SPECIAL HEARING

Dear Ms. Matthews:

We have reviewed the site plan to accompany petition for variance on the subject of the above captioned, which was received on 11-29-29. A field inspection and internal review reveals that an entrance onto 10 26 consistent with current State Highway Administration guidelines is not required. Therefore, SHA has no objection to approval for 1887 (2059MG), Case Number 2010-0147-SPHA.

Should you have any questions regarding this matter feel free to contact Michael Bailey at 410-545-5593 or 1-800-876-4742 extension 5593. Also, you may email him at (mbailey@sha.state.md.us). Thank you for your attention.

Very truly yours,

Steven D. Foster, Chief
Engineering Access Permits
Division

SDF/MB

Cc: Mr. David Malkowski, District Engineer, SHA

Mr. Michael Pasquariello, Utility Engineer, SHA

TB /11 9AM

## BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

#### INTER-OFFICE CORRESPONDENCE

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco, Director

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

Arnold F. 'Pat' Keller, III

Director, Office of Planning

SUBJECT: Zoning Advisory Petition(s): Case(s) 10-147- Variance and Special Hearing

The Office of Planning has reviewed the above referenced case(s) and has no comments to offer.

For further questions or additional information concerning the matters stated herein, please contact Dave Green in the Office of Planning at 410-887-3480.

Prepared By:

**Division Chief:** 

CM/LL

RECEIVED

**DATE:** November 16, 2009

NOV 17 2009

ZONING CUMISSIONER

#### BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

#### **Inter-Office Correspondence**



RECEIVED

DEC 1 1 2009

**ZONING COMMISSIONER** 

TO:

Timothy M. Kotroco

FROM:

Dave Lykens, DEPRM - Development Coordination

DATE:

December 11, 2009

SUBJECT:

Zoning Item # 10-147-SPHA

Address

8514 Liberty Road

(Liberty Crossing Land LLLP)

Zoning Advisory Committee Meeting of November 9, 2009

X The Department of Environmental Protection and Resource Management offers the following comments on the above-referenced zoning item:

X Development of this property must comply with the Forest Conservation Regulations (Sections 33-6-101 through 33-6-122 of the Baltimore County Code).

#### Additional Comments:

1. If this project does not qualify for any of the exemptions listed in Section 33-6-102 of the Baltimore County Code, than this site must comply with the Forest Conservation Law. Please be advised that recent changes to the current regulations do not allow for forest conservation waivers. However, since the site was developed prior to the forest conservation regulations, the applicant may request a forest conservation variance to base the afforestation calculations on the limit of disturbance rather than the entire site acreage.

Reviewer:

J. Russo

Date: 11/25/09

RE: PETITION FOR SPECIAL HEARING AND VARIANCE 8514 Liberty Road; E/S Old Court Road, 215' N Liberty Road 2<sup>nd</sup> Election & 4<sup>th</sup> Councilmanic Districts Legal Owner(s): Liberty Crossing Land, LLLP

Contract Purchaser(s): Verizon Wireless Petitioner(s) BEFORE THE

ZONING COMMISSIONER

FOR

**BALTIMORE COUNTY** 

10-147-SPHA

#### ENTRY OF APPEARANCE

Pursuant to Baltimore County Charter § 524.1, please enter the appearance of People's Counsel for Baltimore County as an interested party in the above-captioned matter. Notice should be sent of any hearing dates or other proceedings in this matter and the passage of any preliminary or final Order. All parties should copy People's Counsel on all correspondence sent and all documentation filed in the case.

RECEIVED

NOV 2 3 2009

Petan Max Zummerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN

People's Counsel for Baltimore County

Cank S Vembro

CAROLE S. DEMILIO

Deputy People's Counsel Jefferson Building, Room 204 105 West Chesapeake Avenue

Towson, MD 21204

(410) 887-2188

#### CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I HEREBY CERTIFY that on this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of November, 2009, a copy of the foregoing Entry of Appearance was mailed to David Karceski, Esquire, Venable, LLP, 210 Allegheny Avenue, Suite 500, Towson, MD 21204, Attorney for Petitioner(s).

Pot Max Zummerman

PETER MAX ZIMMERMAN People's Counsel for Baltimore County

## PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

CASE NAME_	8514 Liberty Rl
CASE NUMBER	2010-0147-SHA
DATE \/	11/16

## PETITIONER'S SIGN-IN SHEET

NAME	ADDRESS	CITY, STATE, ZIP	E- MAIL	
ARNOS JABLON V	210 W Pa AUL			
DAVID KAKERKIV	//			
Stephanie Petruay V	7380 Cocalola Dr.	Hanover, MD 21076	Spetway @ Abelle com	
Sherri Linton	9000 Junction Dr.	Annapolis Junetrum, MD	sherrilintona veriroucin 55-	
Charles Salamon V,	7380 Coca Cola Drive	Hanara MD 21076	bsclamene PABCHE. com	
MICHAEL MCGARLY	BOD E. PENNSYLVANIA AVE	TOWSON, MD 21286.	mmegarity@dmw.com	
Mitch Kellman V	" "	" "	mkellman elmw.com	
-	·		•	









































Case No.: 2010-0147-5PHA

## **Exhibit Sheet**

# Petitioner/Developer

# Protestant

No. 1	Site Plan
No. 2	Mike Mc Garity resume
No. 3	Mitch Kellman resume
No. 4 A+B	aerial photographs
No. 5	Photographes of property and meanly area
No. 6 A-C	Photo simulations
No. 7	12-12-09 Tower Review Committee Report
No. 8	consultant RE: Town design
No. 9	
No. 10	
No. 11	
No. 12	



# MICHAEL D. McGARITY Director of Wireless Services

Education

University of Maryland College Park, B.S., Civil Engineering

Professional Summary

Mr. McGarity has ten years experience in managing wireless telecommunications projects for numerous carriers, including AT&T Wireless Services, Sprint PCS, Nextel Communications, Cingular Wireless, and T-Mobile USA. Mr. McGarity implements an innovative and practical approach to providing site planning, zoning, engineering, surveying and permitting services for wireless carriers throughout Maryland. Mr. McGarity provides a close and personal link with his clients, providing expertise from site inception to completion in the field. Mr. McGarity is proficient with Microstation and mentors his staff with providing detailed plans that are compliant with local jurisdictional standards. Mr. McGarity is actively involved with other development projects within DMW to gain additional engineering experience as he works toward acquiring his Professional Engineering License.

### Partial List of Projects

AT&T Wireless expansions throughout the Maryland area
Cellular One network expansions throughout the Maryland area
Cingular Wireless network expansions throughout the Maryland area
Nextel Communications network expansions throughout the Maryland area
Sprint PCS network expansions throughout the Maryland area
T-Mobile USA network expansions throughout the Maryland area
Verizon Wireless network expansions throughout the Maryland area

Memberships and Awards

American Society of Civil Engineers (Student Chapter 1994-1996)

Professional Experience

Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc., Towson, Maryland, 1997 - Present Pavex, Inc., Cockeysville, MD, 1996-1997

PETITIONER'S



# MITCHELL J. KELLMAN DIRECTOR OF ZONING SERVICES

#### Education

Towson University, BA, Geography and Environmental Planning, Urban Planning Towson University, Masters, Geography and Environmental Planning, Urban Planning

#### Professional Summary

Mr. Kellman has over 11 years of experience working in zoning administration and subdivision regulation for the public sector, 9 of those years were with the Baltimore County Office of Planning and Zoning. His responsibilities included review, approval and signatory powers on behalf of the Director of Final Development Plans and Record Plats. He represented the Zoning Office on the County Development Review Committee, a body reviewing the procedural compliance of all development submissions. Review of petitions and site plans filed for zoning hearing approvals were within his authority. Additionally, he supervised county review staff, met with professionals and public on development project matters, and made determinations regarding developments and their compliance with county regulations. In working for DMW, he has extensive experience in testifying before the Baltimore County Zoning Commissioner, Hearing Officer, and Board of Appeals. He also regularly represents the company at the Baltimore County Development Review Committee meetings.

Partial List of Projects
Charlestown Retirement Community, Baltimore County, MD
GBMC, Baltimore County, MD
Goucher College, Baltimore County, MD
Hopewell Point, Baltimore County, MD
Notre Dame Preparatory School, Baltimore County, MD
Oakcrest Village Retirement Community, Baltimore County, MD
Sheppard and Enoch Pratt Hospital, Baltimore County, MD
Waterview, Baltimore County, MD

Professional Experience

Daft-McCune-Walker, Inc., Towson, MD: 2000-Present
Baltimore County Office of Permits and Development Management - Development Control,
1988-2000

PETITIONER'S



EXHIBIT NO.

4A



PETITIONER'S

exhibit no. 4B





EXHIBIT NO.

6B



EXHIBIT NO.

6C

## BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND

## **Interoffice Correspondence**

DATE:

December 17, 2009

TO:

Colleen Kelley, Development Manager

Department of Permits and Development Management

FROM:

**Tower Review Committee** 

SUBJECT:

New Tower - Verizon - 8514 Liberty Road

The Tower Review Committee met on October 27, 2009 to discuss the application made by Verizon on October 6, 2009. The committee is making the following advisory comments to the Development Review Committee (DRC) in accordance with section 426.4 of the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations in reference to the proposed construction of a new 90-foot monopole. The structure is to be located on the property owned by Liberty Crossing Land, LLLP, located at 8514 Liberty Road, Randallstown, Maryland 21133, Council District #4.

Antennas should be placed on existing towers, buildings, and structures, including those of public utilities, where feasible.

<u>Findings:</u> We feel that Verizon has provided all requested information to the Tower Review Committee (TRC) to successfully demonstrate that no other co-location opportunities exists at or near this location that would suffice in providing Verizon's requested coverage of the intended area. The total height planned by Verizon for the new monopole tower structure is 90-feet, including all appurtenances.

> If a tower must be built, the tower should be: Constructed to accommodate at least three providers.

<u>Findings:</u> Verizon has shown, in supplemental drawings submitted to the TRC along with their application, that the stated antenna structure will be constructed to support a minimum of 2 other wireless service providers in addition to Verizon.

> Erected in a medium or high intensity commercial zone when available.

<u>Findings:</u> This site is located in a BR (Business Roadside) zoned area. Due to the tower's proposed location on the property, it will be positioned only 30-feet away from an existing fence to its rear, just inside of the residential property line, causing it not to meet the 200-feet setback rule. It should be noted, however, that the adjacent residential property immediately to the rear of the proposed site is a cemetery. A Special Exception Hearing will be required.

PETITIONER'S

Page 1 of 2

EXHIBIT NO.

7

Subject: New Verizon Tower 8514 Liberty Road

> Located and designed to minimize its visibility from residential and transitional zone.

<u>Findings:</u> Based on the site survey and information presented, we find that Verizon's choosing to locate their monopole designed tower in a commercial zone, along Liberty Road, will minimize its visual impact on the surrounding residential community.

### Conclusion

Based on the above findings, a new 90-foot tower in the proposed location would serve to fill in Verizon's coverage gap in the area and help them toward their goal of seamless connectivity. It would meet all of the requirements of Section 426, while allowing for needed emergency and non-emergency communications for their customers in the area.

Therefore, by a unanimous decision, the new 90-foot tower in the location as proposed by Verizon is recommended by the Tower Review Committee, whose request it is that the advisory comments provided herein be forwarded to the Development Review Committee for further processing.

## **Tower Review Committee**

Richard A. Bohn, Tower Coordinator Curtis Murray, Office of Planning Harry Wujek, Community Member TRC Richard Sterba, OIT Representative

CC: Donald Rascoe, Deputy Director, Permits and Development Management
David Karceski, Venable, LLC c/o Verizon
Sabrina Chase, Baltimore County Office of Law
Robert Stradling, Director, Baltimore County Office of Information Technology
celltower Administrator



6718 W. Plank Road Peoria, IL 61604 USA Phone 309-697-4400 FAX 309-697-5612 Toll Free 800-727-ROHN

December 16, 2009

Verizon Wireless 9000 Junction Drive Annapolis Junction, Maryland 20701

Attn: Mr. Joseph Joyce

Reference: 90' of 110' Tapered Steel Pole, Site: Old Court

Randallstown, Baltimore County, Maryland ROHN Engineering File No: 0606841

Dear Mr. Joyce:

The referenced 90' of 110' tapered pole is designed to meet the specified loading requirements in accordance with ANSI/TIA/222-G for a 90 MPH 3-second gust wind speed with no ice and 40 MPH 3-second gust wind speed with 0.75 inches radial ice; Structure Class II, Exposure Category C, Topographic Category 1.

It is our understanding that the design of the referenced pole requires consideration of a contained fall radius in the event a catastrophic wind speed were to result in a failure. Although the pole has not been designed to fail, stronger sections than required by analysis are provided in the lower portion of the pole. This design enables the pole to fail through a combination of bending and buckling in the upper portion of the pole should a catastrophic wind loading occur. Failure in this manner results in the upper portion of the pole folding over the lower portion, resulting in a 50 ft fall zone radius. The failure mode would theoretically be a local buckling failure involving a crippling of the pole wall on one side of the pole as opposed to the pole shearing off or completely breaking off and hitting the ground.

Please contact us at your convenience should you have any further questions concerning the safety of pole structures or other aspects of pole design.

Sincerely,

Habib Azouri, P.E. Engineering Manager ROHN PRODUCTS, LL

PETITIONER'S

