



Holland Township, NJ Proposed Cell Tower Along Delaware River LDWSR Comments Read Into the Record by Lower Delaware Steering Committee Member Zoning Board of Adjustment Virtual Hearing, Nov. 18, 2020

My name is Dr. Marion M. Kyde and I live in Ottsville, PA. I represent the Lower Delaware Wild and Scenic River Management Council and serve as Vice Chair.

The Lower Delaware was designated as a federal Wild and Scenic River twenty years ago. It has a formal management plan, written and approved by the New Jersey and Pennsylvania communities it borders, designed to protect the qualities for which it was designated. More information on the activities of our Council and the Wild and Scenic river can be found at www.lowerdelawarewildandscenic.org.

The six goals for the plan include those of protecting open space and natural resources. Scenic vistas and scenic views are included in natural resources.

The Management Council has several reservations and comments about this project:

- 1) The materials provided do not mention how much of a height variance is being sought. Since cell towers are usually, if not always, many feet above the surrounding structures, this will absolutely be at odds with the visual experience from the river. We oppose this variance.
- 2) The applicant claims, quote, "no detriment to the public good". We feel the viewscape from the river will absolutely be compromised for the thousands of citizens recreating on and near the river and for those viewing the tower from the Pennsylvania side of the Delaware.
- 3) The applicant seeks variances to avoid showing existing features and elevations. We feel that these details are important when considering the effect of the cell tower on the surrounding area. We hope that the applicant will provide them.
- 4) No flood plain boundaries are noted in the drawings. We are strongly opposed to this plan if the tower, the base and/or the fencing are located in or close to the flood plain.
- 5) The applicant seeks a waiver from any landscaping. At the very least, the fencing at the base of the tower should be buffered by greenery sufficient to hide it. In other words, the plantings should be situated to ameliorate this impact.
- 6) We strongly suggest that sightings from points along the river be examined to see how badly the tower will impact the visual qualities of our scenic river and that these details be required for this application.
- 7) If you choose to move ahead with an approval for this cell tower, please require a design to fit into the landscape so does not take away from the viewscape.

Thank you for your consideration.