

Chipman Hill Communication Tower Concerns

User Group Meeting 10-4-18

Tower Site

Fence. There is currently a security breach in the fencing: the cable chase way runs over a knoll to the top of the chain link fence, resulting in easy access to the tower area for trespassers. Either the chase way must be relocated to run under the fence or additional fencing and barbed wire must be added to the existing fence on top of the chase way.

Brush Trimming & General Clean-up. The site is in need of a general clean-up: Brush needs to be trimmed and refuse from the installation of the new tower should be cleaned-up.

Equipment Building

Groundwater Entering the Building. It appears that groundwater is entering the equipment building, and water and moisture are accumulating in the equipment room, jeopardizing expensive equipment and crucial public safety communications. Additional site drainage may be needed and/or the existing drainage system (if any) may need to be cleaned out.

Heating System. Is the heating system in good repair for winter? Is it inspected annually? If so, what is the name of the inspection service or other contact in case of emergency?

Back-up Generator. Is the generator operating properly? Is it adequately fueled? Is it inspected annually? If so, what is the name of the inspection service or other contact in case of emergency?

Road Repair & Maintenance

Road Repair Needed. The access road to the facility is in rough shape and should be repaired before winter.

Winter Road Maintenance. In case of emergency, please provide the contact information for the winter road maintenance contractor and/or other emergency contact information.

Old Cell Tower

Old Tower is Impacting Public Safety Communications. Although we understand that AT & T equipment must be relocated to the new tower before the old tower is removed, the old tower is obstructing radio communications to the south of the tower, a major concern for public safety, so the sooner the old tower is removed, the better.

New Cell Tower

Vermont Electric Power Company's Request to Public Utilities Commission to modify telecommunications antennas and equipment. Will Verizon request an interference study and structural analysis of the suitability of this larger equipment for the tower? If not, should the Town of Middlebury request these studies?

Vermont Public Radio. We believe Vermont Public Radio antennae may still be on the old tower and, if so, the equipment should be relocated to its permitted spot on the new tower, before the old tower is removed.