

January 11, 2013

County of Santa Barbara Supervisors  
105 East Anapamu  
Santa Barbara, CA 9310

RE: Crown Castle NG West appeal to overturn the decision of the Montecito Planning Commission to deny its application to upgrade its antenna system

Dear Supervisors:

Please uphold the Montecito Planning Commission's decision to deny Crown Castle NG West application to upgrade its antenna system. Deny the application to stop further degradation of the semi-rural aesthetic for the residents on Hot Springs Road and the commuters who use the road to access the Upper Village and Westmont College. Page 13 of Staff Report's Comprehensive Plan Consistency Land Use requirements states this project must protect the semi-rural quality of life, encourage excellence in architectural and landscape design, promote area-wide compatibility, and protect public views. This project does not comply. The document also states that development must preserve roads as important aesthetic elements that help to define the semi-rural character, and that all development along roads is designed in a manner upon the character of the roadway. This project does not comply.

The pole and T bars directly across the street and 60 feet from my house, is visible not only to our family but also to the neighborhood and commuters. It now has multiple boxes, cones, antenna, heavy wire junctions, circular wires, signs, and long gray conduits attached. Probably all from companies that had a right to place whatever on the pole, because no one questioned the compatibility to the neighborhood. It is an eyesore and more like something you would find in India or a third world nation than Montecito. The other locations described in this application are as visibly disturbing or worse.

In 2010, Next G Networks (now Crown Castle) received permission to place an antenna and box on a pole in the neighborhood. At that time, our family was bamboozled. The sign for the impending project was placed on a pole up the street, and we did not contest the placement. What a surprise when a crew came to install the antenna on the pole directly in front of our house. Their comment when we did oppose it was "we can put it on whatever pole we want." Now two years later, Crown Castle is requesting to put a larger antenna and box on the pole. Will they come back in 2014 for an even larger antenna? 2016? 2018? This company is doing its business in a residential neighborhood and on a roadway in a semi-rural area.

The Montecito Planning Commission finally stood up to these companies and said, "No more. Enough. This project is not compatible for our community." Cellular coverage is necessary for our community, but not in semi-rural neighborhood and roadway.

Please follow Montecito Planning Commission's lead and deny Crown Castle's appeal application.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Karen Williams".

Karen Williams  
173 Hot Springs Road  
Montecito, CA 93108