

To: The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors
From: Hal Saunders and additional signees listed below
Re: The Goolsby appeal of the Verizon Telecom Project

713 102 47 11 20 10
COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA
OFFICE OF THE CLERK
1000 ANTELOPE DRIVE
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

Honorable Members,

It has come to our attention that Verizon Wireless is exploring the possibility of using the triangle at the intersection of Olive Mill and Hot Springs Roads as a site for a large telecom facility. As we understand the situation, this site is only being considered as an alternative to the current one on Santa Angela Lane, which is the subject of the Goolsby appeal. Given that you are scheduled to hear this appeal, we would like to express our opinions on this matter.

We would like the board to know that, as residents of Montecito who live in the vicinity of the Olive Mill/Hot Springs triangle, we would strongly object to any such facility at that intersection. Even if it were housed in the proposed 75-foot tall "faux tree", this macro antenna installation would be totally out of character with the residential nature of that area. Furthermore, it would create a visual blight on a main thoroughfare that serves as a gateway to Montecito. Finally, it could very well open the door to additional facilities in that location, and the resulting "industrial" appearance would seriously affect our property values.

At its March 4th meeting, the Montecito Board of Architectural Review voted unanimously to reject the concept of the Verizon facility at Olive Mill/Hot Springs, further reaffirming our position. However, the MBAR did show support for a faux tree installation behind the existing building at the Santa Angela site as an option that would be preferable to placing the antennas on the building. If it comes down to a choice between the revised Santa Angela plan and the Olive Mill/Hot Springs location, we would contend that Santa Angela is far more appropriate given that the facility would be hidden behind the building and would not be out of character with the mixed-use nature of that area.

In summary, we implore the Board to take whatever action ensures that the Olive Mill/Hot Springs triangle is not considered to be a viable option for this type of telecom installation either now or in the future.

Thank you very much for your consideration,

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