



TELUS Network
Operations
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Darren.Hird@telus.com

November 24, 2010

Dear Land Owner/Occupant:

**Subject: Proposed TELUS Radiocommunications Facility Default Industry Canada
Public Notification**

Site Address: 4537 Rocky Point Road, Metchosin, BC
Co-ordinates: 48-22-41.3 North 123-32-27.1 West

Thank you for your letter pertaining to the above referenced proposed TELUS installation. The purpose of this letter is to address the most common and relevant questions and concerns that have been raised, as well as provide further reference information relating to the installation and technology.

For your information, we have summarized the concerns raised into the following three themes:

1. Location
2. Health
3. Default Industry Canada consultation package details

If you feel there are additional issues not included in these categories and/or the links below to further detailed information are not sufficient, please convey your concerns to me within 21 days of receiving this information.

1. LOCATION:

TELUS continually strives to provide the best wireless services across Canada. Our proposed site on Rocky Point Road represents an important new location that will improve our wireless services to the area for local residents, businesses, first responders, the travelling public, and others.

Although all efforts are taken by TELUS to minimize the placement of towers near residential areas, this is not always possible. Some of the considerations taken into account when wireless coverage is required are the usage patterns that occur within an area, an assessment of the local terrain and building types, interaction with existing cell sites, line of site, opportunities to use existing structures, and the availability of a willing landlord.

It is also important to realise that as people and businesses become increasingly more reliant on wireless communications, the frequency and proximity of cell sites must increase. The ability of an individual cell site to process calls and data transactions, and the number that can be processed simultaneously, is limited by distance. Therefore, as demand increases, more cells sites are required. This growth is posing significant demands on the network to the point where an additional site is now required.

TELUS has been exploring potential coverage solutions in Metchosin since 2007. Prior to the above referenced location being chosen, several other potential sites were explored. Some options considered were; the Fire Hall, the old school near City Hall and the Olympic Golf Course. TELUS presented to Council and the public twice hoping to secure one of these locations. The first being September 2007 and the second December 2007. Unfortunately Council rejected the first two locations and the Golf Course rejected our installation due to re-development plans. The Rocky Point road location was identified early in 2010 by District officials. It was subsequently investigated and a real estate agreement secured. It satisfies all of TELUS 'coverage requirements as well as meeting all the required considerations mentioned above.

2. HEALTH:

The Government of Canada has the exclusive jurisdiction for radiocommunications in Canada. Industry Canada is the Federal Department that is responsible to regulate wireless telecommunications, including spectrum management and radio equipment in Canada. Industry Canada establishes standards for equipment certification and, as part of these standards, developed RSS-102, which specifies permissible radiofrequency ("RF") levels.

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For this purpose, Industry Canada has adopted the limits outlined in Health Canada's Safety-Code 6, which is a guideline document for limiting RF exposure.

Health Canada's role is to protect the health of Canadians and the Department is responsible to research and investigate any possible health effects associated with exposure to RF, including cell phones and base stations.

Health Canada's Safety Code 6, has guidelines for safe human exposure to RF. The safety limits in this code are based on the ongoing review of published scientific studies, including both internal and external authoritative reviews of the scientific literature, as well as Health Canada's own research. This code is periodically revised to reflect new knowledge in the scientific literature. The current version of this code reflects the scientific literature published up to August 2009.

Canada has some of the most stringent guidelines in the world for radiocommunications facilities to provide protection for all age groups, including children and the elderly. These exposure limits are consistent with, if not slightly more stringent than, the science-based standards used in most countries (e.g. the USA, EU, Australia, New Zealand and Japan).

TELUS maintains a rigorous program to ensure every installation complies with Safety Code 6.

The documents mentioned above, along with additional information relating to health and other issues can be found at Health Canada and Industry Canada's web links listed below:

Health Canada:

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/hl-vs/iyh-vsv/prod/cell-eng.php>

<http://www.hc-sc.gc.ca/ewh-semt/radiation/cons/stations/index-eng.php>

Industry Canada:

<http://www.ic.gc.ca/eic/site/smt-gst.nsf/eng/sf08792.html>

<http://www.rfcom.ca/primer/bases.shtml>

<http://www.cwta.ca/CWTASite/english/index.html>

McLaughlin Centre for Population Health Risk Assessment, University of Ottawa

<http://www.rfcom.ca>

3. DEFAULT INDUSTRY CANADA CONSULTATION DETAILS:

There have been concerns expressed regarding the information provided in the Industry Canada Default Consultation package. The main concerns expressed are listed as well as an explanation:

1	Issue:	That TELUS did not explain the reasons why existing antenna systems or other infrastructure cannot be used, a list of other structures that were considered unsuitable and future sharing possibilities.
	Response:	There are no existing antenna systems or infrastructure that could have been used. Alternate locations explored are listed above in section 1.

2	Issue:	That Thompson Nicola Regional District was listed on the comment sheet.
	Response	This was supposed to be the District of Metchosin. The comment sheet is not an official or mandatory part of the consultation package, but simply a tool to assist in documenting public responses. TELUS apologizes for any confusion this may have caused.

3	Issue	That the closing date was September 30 th for comments and since the notice was dated September 1 st , the 30 th is only 29 days not the required 30.
	Response	TELUS has never refused or rejected comments and questions from a notice that have come in after the 30 day time frame. TELUS continues to receive and document comments several weeks after that submission date and did so close to the end of October 2010 for this notice. There have been no further comments received since early October. There are always circumstances such as delays in mail, vacationing residents and other situations that make an exact 30 day cutoff an unrealistic deadline for receiving letters, phone calls and e-mails. The 30 day response deadline is used by the industry mainly to ensure a timely response.

TELUS continues to explore potential alternate locations to 4535 Rocky Point Road due to the opposition received to date from the public and Council. It is TELUS' desire that should alternatives be presented to Council and the public that eventually one of the locations will be acceptable and the coverage issue finally resolved. However, in the event that this is not possible, it may be necessary to have a final decision from Industry Canada,

It is important to understand that as the demand for wireless technology increases additional locations within Metchosin will be required - not only for TELUS but for other service providers as well.

TELUS looks forward to improving the wireless services in Metchosin in the near future.

Should you have any further questions, please be advised that Industry Canada rules require that they be provided to TELUS by no later than 21 days after receiving this letter. As such, we request that you provide any comments to us as close to December 21st, 2010 as possible.

Please feel free to contact me if you have additional questions and or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darren Hird", written in a cursive style.

Darren Hird
Sr. Real Estate & Government Affairs Manager
Darren.Hird@telus.com
1 866 918 3587

Cc: Industry Canada – Jim Laursen
District of Metchosin – Joe Martignago

