

Asha Carroll and Andy McCullough
Mountain View Road
Tinmouth, Vermont

July 18, 2025

RE: Case Number 25-0316-AN Submitted Electronically

To the Vermont Public Utility Commission,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed telecommunications tower in Tinmouth.

We're writing today not to debate whether improved connectivity is needed: it is. We're writing to question how and where this project is being carried out, and to urge the Commission to weigh process, placement, and local impact far more seriously before approving the Certificate of Public Good.

At the June 19 meeting, Industrial Tower and Wireless, LLC (ITW) representatives repeatedly described their business case for the tower. But what is the business case for Tinmouth? As a community, what do we stand to gain, and how are those benefits being guaranteed, measured, or negotiated?

We remain unconvinced that we are more than an afterthought in this process. That's not just frustrating; it's a strategic error. It is risky, in a community like ours, to proceed without community support. And it is not a foregone conclusion. Towns like ours have successfully fought proposals like this.

The tower as proposed will cut straight across the front-facing, postcard view of our town. That image is our identity and has long shaped our tourism, property values, and sense of place. There are other sites that could deliver coverage with less community backlash, but none were seriously pursued.

Equally concerning is the approach ITW has taken with our town: a single, performative meeting where residents are told how to feel and offered no real role in shaping the outcome. That's not public engagement; it's box-checking. It might meet the letter of the law, but it undermines the spirit of partnership that a Certificate of Public Good implies.

If the goal is to bring connectivity to our region, let's do it right. That means designing with communities, not around them, and taking seriously the trade-offs they name. In Tinmouth, this means listening to the concerns of all residents, not just about health—but about process, power, and place.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Asha Carroll and Andy McCullough