

**Re: Case No. 25-1543-PET**

Dear Commissioners,

I am submitting this public comment to express my opposition to the proposed cell tower at 2264 U.S. Route 2 in Marshfield.

I've been a Vermont resident since 2007 and a Marshfield resident since 2018. I'm overwhelmed with gratitude every single day to look out across an incredibly beautiful, wild and rural landscape that could only be Vermont. Knowing my family chose to make our home here amongst the quiet and pristine rural landscape of Marshfield makes me feel so fortunate.

And while I recognize the importance of modern telecommunications, the proposed location and design of this project raises multiple concerns that directly conflict with our community's values, and Marshfield's Town Plan and Telecommunications Bylaws.

The proposed site is extremely close to Marshfield village and the Old School House Common—where residents gather, children play, and seasonal community events take place. Placing a tall industrial structure here would permanently damage the village's character, diminishing the very spaces that define our town's identity. Views from parks and of natural scenic vistas both have protections in our bylaws. **[fig 1]**

The proposed design site falls well inside the 140-foot setbacks required by the Marshfield Telecommunications Bylaw to both a stream to the south and a wetland to the north. These protections exist to safeguard sensitive ecosystems, and the proposed tower would compromise water quality, local habitat and flood resilience. **[fig 2]**

Additionally, the tower's planned height extends 63 ft. above designated average tree height - exceeding the restricted height limit set forth in our bylaws by 43 feet. The proposed design would be visually dominant from multiple vantage points further undermining the rural aesthetic of our village and surrounding hills. **[fig 3]**

Furthermore, the tower falls within a zone designated "protected viewshed" by our Town Plan. Approving a 140 foot tall industrial structure in a protected viewshed would not comply with our town plan, which is the community's long-standing vision for its landscape. **[fig 4]**

And finally, available propagation plots prove that the tower would provide only limited cell coverage, nearly 50% of which is already covered by the Plainfield tower. The aesthetic intrusion, ecological risk, and town plan violations far outweigh the modest gains in connectivity, particularly as fiber is now available and mobile-to-satellite options are now available in our region. This proposed exchange simply would not be a good deal for any Marshfield resident, whether in favor of, opposed to, or neutral about cell coverage here.

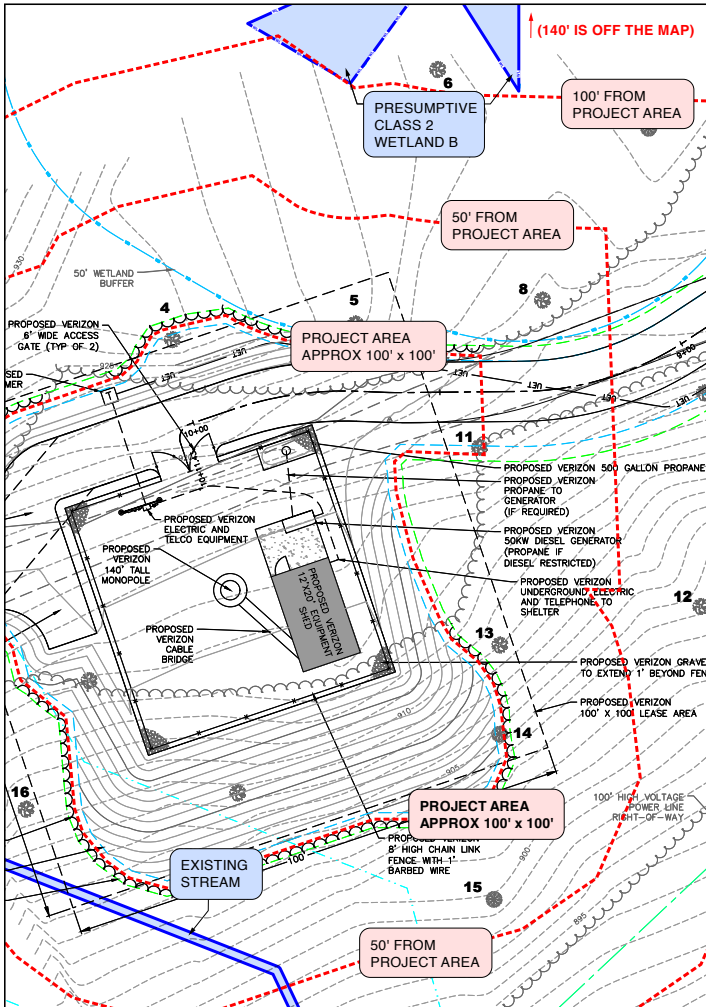
For these many reasons, I urge the Commission to deny the Certificate of Public Good for this project. Approving this tower in its current location would sacrifice the character, scenic beauty, and regulatory protections of Marshfield for marginal technical benefit.

Thank you for considering the concerns of our community. Upholding local plans and environmental safeguards is essential to preserving the integrity and identity of Vermont's rural villages.

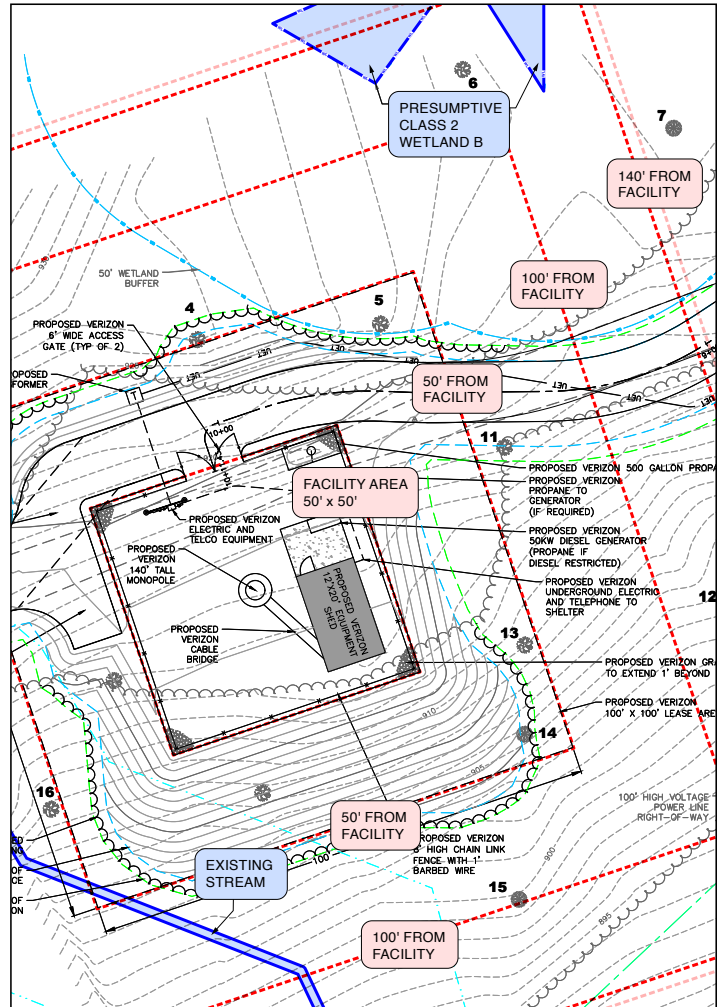
**Erik Van Hauer  
620 Johnson Road  
Marshfield VT**



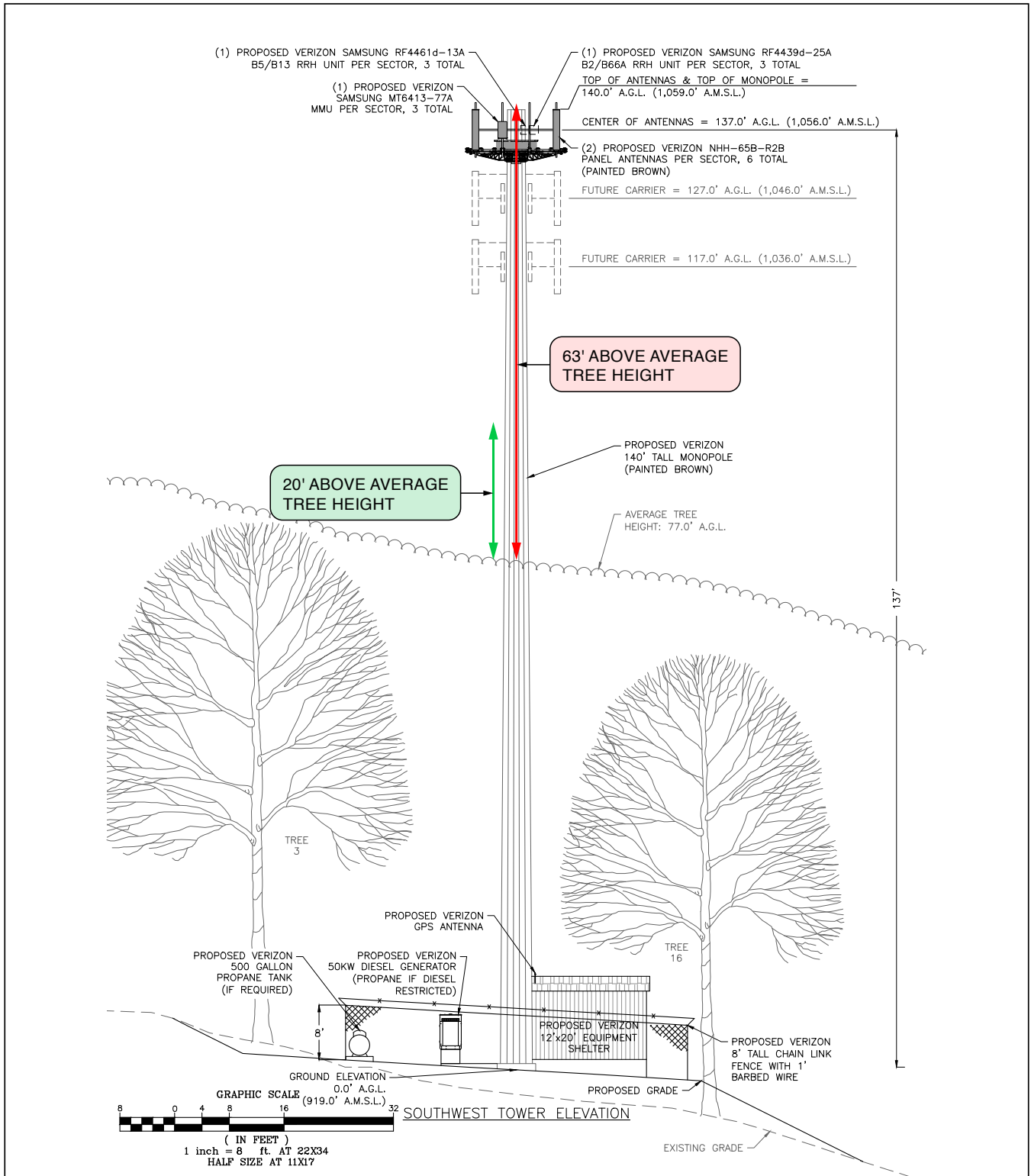
**Figure 1** - Simulation view from Old Schoolhouse Common playground looking southwest



**Figure 2a** - 50' radii based from "project area" which includes earthworks, tree clearing, built roadways, and ancillary installments (transformer, conduits, etc.)



**Figure 2b** - 50' radii based from tower facility only



**Figure 3 - Height of proposed tower above locally average tree height.**

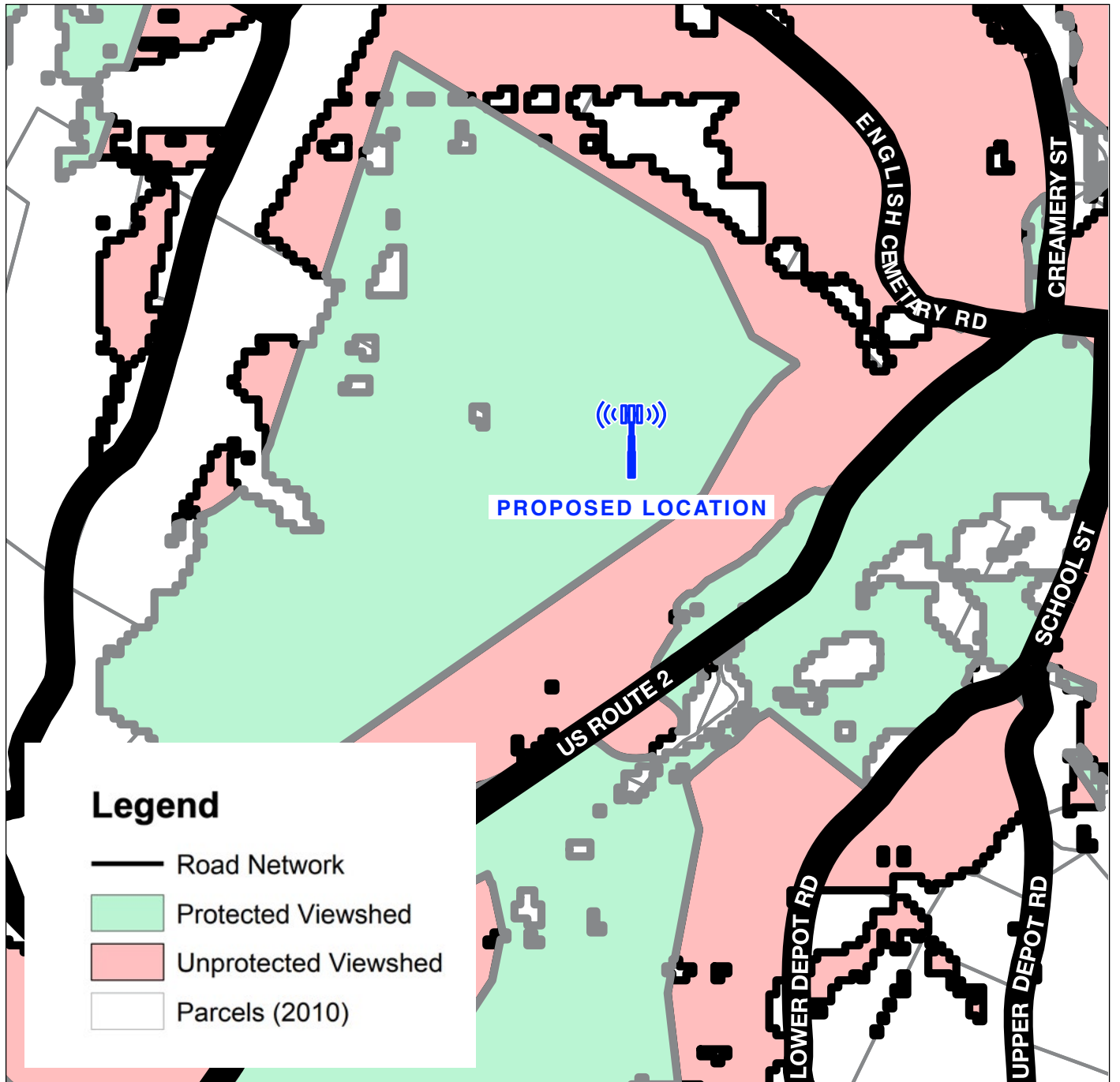


Figure 4 - Protected Viewshed map found on Town Plan pg 88.