

**STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION**

Case No. 25-_____-PET

De Minimis Application of Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems,)
LLC d/b/a Verizon Wireless, for a Certificate of Public Good,)
pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a, authorizing the modification)
of telecommunications equipment on an existing facility)
in Sheldon, Vermont)

PREFILED DIRECT TESTIMONY OF MARIA MONTROSE

**ON BEHALF OF BELL ATLANTIC MOBILE SYSTEMS, LLC,
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS**

December 5, 2025

Summary:

Ms. Montrose's testimony will address the proposed installation and how the Project will promote the general good of the State of Vermont.

Q1. Please state your name, employer and current position.

A1. My name is Maria Montrose, I am the Principal Radio Frequency ("RF") Engineer currently working for Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems, LLC d/b/a Verizon Wireless ("Verizon").

Q2. Please state briefly your educational and professional background.

A2. I have worked as an RF engineer for Verizon since September 1995. My credentials as an RF engineer include the following:

- Responsible for the design and implementation of cellular, AWS, PCS and LTE base stations in Connecticut and Vermont. This entails site selection, antenna selection, propagation analysis, cell site layout/design, frequency planning, and coordination with neighbors and carriers in Canada for sites near the international border.
- Responsible for filings with the Federal Aviation Administration and the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC").
- Responsible for RF exposure and safety compliance checks and overall system optimization.
- Responsible to provide engineering support for the deployment of all services offered by Verizon including voice, high speed data, E-911, SMS (text messaging) and mobile instant messaging.

In addition, I am a certified instructor/training facilitator for OSHA RF safety and compliance.

Q3. Have you ever testified before the Public Service Board or Public Utility Commission?

A3. Yes. I have submitted prefiled testimony in Case No. 19-0248-PET (Burlington) among

1 others. In addition, I have testified before Act 250 District Commissions and Vermont
2 Zoning and Development Review Boards when those Commissions and Boards were
3 processing Verizon's applications. I have testified on many occasions before the
4 Connecticut Siting Council, which has jurisdiction over telecommunications facilities.

5 **Q4. Please identify the location of the Project that is the subject to this § 248a filing.**

6 A4. Verizon proposes to modify an existing wireless telecommunication facility located an
7 approximately 140.01' above ground level ("AGL") monopole tower ("Tower") located at
8 567 E. Sheldon Road in the Town of Sheldon. Verizon refers to the Project as "Sheldon
9 VT-A". The coordinates of the Project are latitude 44.89549 North and longitude
10 72.925042 West. The location of the Project is shown on Exhibit PB-1 Permit Plans. The
11 property owner has given Verizon permission to proceed with this application.

12 On December 11, 2018, Land Use Permit #6F0604-1A issued to Bell Atlantic Mobile
13 Systems of Allentown, Inc. d/b/a Verizon Wireless authorized the installation of Verizon's
14 equipment on the existing telecommunications facility located at this site. This project
15 consists of modifications to the equipment installed on the Tower pursuant to the
16 aforementioned permit.

17 **Q5. From a Radio Frequency Engineer's prospective, please describe what site**
18 **improvements will be necessary for the proposed Project.**

19 A5. Verizon currently has six (6) panel antennas, three (3) remote radio heads ("RRH"), and
20 one (1) OVP distribution box installed on the Tower.

21 Verizon now proposes to add the following: three (3) antennas, which each measure 3.17
22 sq., three (3) diplexers, which each measure 0.46 sq. ft., and three (3) RRHs, which each
23 measure 1.56 sq. ft. See Permit Plans at Sheet C-202 and C-401. The diplexers and RRHs

1 will be mounted behind the antennas, and hence are considered to have no visible facial
2 surface area. The Antennas will be mounted at a centerline of 110' AGL, the same as the
3 existing equipment. The topmost height of the proposed Antennas will extend to
4 approximately 111.17' AGL, which is below 140.01' AGL the top of the existing tower.

5 The aggregate visible surface area of the existing equipment on the Tower is 41.40 square
6 feet. Following the proposed modification, the aggregate visible facial surface area will be
7 50.91 square feet. Full and accurate specifications of the proposed Antennas, RRH, and
8 Diplexers are detailed in Exhibit MM-1.¹

9 The Prefiled Testimony of Patrick Barry, P.E. discusses the location of the other equipment
10 at the Site.

11 **Q6. Please address the level of radiation associated with the proposed equipment.**

12 A6. Under federal law, Verizon is required to comply with the radiofrequency ("RF") emission
13 levels established by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC"). Calculations
14 using the most extreme assumptions, which could not possibly be duplicated at the site,
15 demonstrate that RF emission levels for each site will still be well below the Maximum
16 Permissible Exposure limits established by the FCC.

17 **Q7. Does this conclude your Prefiled Direct Testimony?**

18 A7. Yes.

¹ From time to time, equipment manufacturers may slightly alter their products or Verizon Wireless may purchase from different suppliers. Therefore, there is a possibility that the actual antennas may differ slightly from what is described in the attached specifications.

Exhibits to Prefiled Testimony of Maria Montrose

Exhibit MM-1

Antenna, RRH, and Diplexer Specifications