

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 25-1543-PET

Limited Size and Scope Application of Bell Atlantic Mobile Systems, LLC d/b/a Verizon Wireless and The Towers, LLC d/b/a Vertical Bridge, for a Certificate of Public Good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a, authorizing the construction of a telecommunications facility in Marshfield, Vermont	
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PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF ROBIN GOMEZ

On behalf of Intervenors Robert Buchanan, Weston Cate, Robin Gomez, Pam Quinn, and
Michael Xenakis

January 30, 2026

Summary: Robin Gomez presents testimony about compliance with the Marshfield Town Plan, Telecom Ordinance, the importance of natural environments for restorative benefits, the aesthetics of the area and whether the project would have an undue adverse aesthetic effect under the Quechee Analysis.

1 **Q.1 Please identify yourself by full legal name, occupation, and business address.**

2 A.2. My name is Robin Gomez. I am a resident of Marshfield, Vermont residing at 92 Gilman
3 Street, Marshfield, Vermont 05658.

4 **Q.2 What is the purpose of your testimony?**

5 A.2 The purpose of my testimony is to address issues associated with the aesthetics for the
6 proposed Bell Atlantic Tower in Marshfield, Vermont, its impact on the scenic beauty of
7 the area, and the Marshfield Town Plan and Telecommunications ordinance.

8 **Q.3 Explain how your background has informed your testimony.**

9 A.3 I have lived in the village of Marshfield since the early 1980s. My home is located next
10 to the Winooski River on Gilman Street. My neighbors and I on Gilman Street, School
11 Street and Depot Street, have a clear view of where the proposed cell tower would be. I
12 would be able to see the sun set behind the tower from my back deck. The tower will be
13 above the ridgeline and not within compliance with our Marshfield Town Plan, adopted
14 8/21/2018. The tower would be the first thing you would see entering the village of
15 Marshfield, Vermont and it would ruin the aesthetics of our beautiful village.

16 **Q.4 Have you previously provided testimony to the Vermont Public Utility Commission?**

17 A.4 No.

18 **Q.5 When did you first learn about this proposal to construct a lattice tower for a radio
19 antenna in Marshfield?**

20 A.5 I was forwarded a copy of Front Porch Forum that a citizen posted of the proposed cell
21 tower on or around 11/7/2024. I also received an informational pamphlet in the mail that

1 was created by the same concerned citizen that showed the proposed cell tower location
2 and what it would look like.

3 **Q.6 What information have you reviewed to prepare your testimony?**

4 A.6 I have reviewed the Petition for a CPG in Case No. 25-1543-PET filed with the PUC,
5 direct pre-filed testimony of Petitioner, public comments, discovery responses, the
6 Marshfield Town Plan, and the Telecommunications Ordinance. I have personal and
7 detailed knowledge of the area surrounding the proposed tower.

8 **Q.7 Please describe the area where the tower is proposed.**

9 A.7 The tower would be the first thing that you would see greeting you as you drive into our
10 village of Marshfield. The cell tower would be fully visible form the Old School
11 Common where our town/village offices are located, along with the Jaquith Public
12 Library, other private offices, Onion River Food shelf, Marshfield Resilience Hub,
13 Water/Sewer plan, playground, basketball court, ball field, Summer Concerts in the
14 bandstand, community garden, farmer's market and harvest festival. The old school
15 common is where educational programs, family services and town/village business is
16 happening.

17 **Q.8 Please describe your experience of the balloon test.**

18 A.8 The balloon was small and deceiving. It did NOT provide an accurate view of the height
19 of the proposed cell tower.

20 **Q.9 Is the tower visible from your property?**

21 A.9 Yes.

1 **Q.10 Describe how the tower will be visible from your property, including the vantage**
2 **point from which you will be able to view it.**

3 A.10 The proposed cell tower would be in fully view of my home and others on Gilman, Depot
4 and School Streets and will be seen on the horizon. My view would be where the sun
5 sets in the west and sun will go down behind the cell tower.

6 **Q.11 Explain how the tower's visibility affects your use and enjoyment of your property.**

7 A.11 I sit on y back deck in the summer and sometimes in the winter, I also entertain my famly
8 on my back deck (we have a swimming pool) to enjoy the beauty and scenery (and the
9 sunsets!) in our village. The cell tower would destroy my and my family's ability to
10 enjoy the scenic views.

11 **Q.12 Are you aware of any steps the Petitioner has taken to minimize the aesthetic impact**
12 **of the tower?**

13 A.12 No.

14 **Q.13 Does this proposed tower's purported societal benefits outweigh its social costs?**

15 A.13 No.

16 **Q.14 Explain how the proposed tower violates the Town Plan and the**
17 **Telecommunications bylaw.**

18 A.14 The proposed cell tower would go into a protected viewshed as outlined in our town plan.
19 The viewshed exists to protect the rural character and scenery of this beautiful village. I
20 also understand that the proposed tower height will exceed the allowable height above the
21 average surrounding tree line under the Marshfield Telecommunications Bylaw by more
22 than three times.

AFFIDAVIT

1. I declare that the above statement is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand that if the above statement is false, I may be subject to sanctions by the Commission pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 30.
2. I have personal knowledge of the information provided in my pre-filed testimony.
3. I am able to testify as to the validity of the information contained in my prefiled testimony.

Dated at Marshfield, Vermont on the 30th day of January, 2026.

/s/ Michael Xenakis

Michael Xenakis