

STATE OF VERMONT
PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

Case No. 26-0574-PET

Petition of Industrial Tower and Wireless LLC)
requesting a certificate of public good, pursuant)
to 30 V.S.A. § 248a, authorizing the installation)
of telecommunications equipment off of)
Bordoville Road in Enosburgh, Vermont)

COMMENTS OF THE VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

On March 27, 2026, Industrial Tower and Wireless, LLC (“Petitioner”) filed an application with the Public Utility Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a, for approval to construct a 120’ above ground level (“AGL”) wireless telecommunications facility on property located off of Bordoville Road in Enosburgh, Vermont (the “Project”).

This is Petitioner’s second petition regarding this location, as Petitioner previously sought permission to construct a 140’ AGL facility on this property in Case No. 22-2120-PET. The Commission denied that petition in an order dated August 3, 2023, which adopted the Hearing Officer’s recommendation that the petition be denied because the proposed tower did not comply with the recommendations of the Northwest Regional Planning Commission (“NRPC”) regarding the regional plan. The Commission explained that the State’s interests under § 202c and the public good in general “could, at least in part, be served with a shorter and less obtrusive tower as recommended by the NRPC [Northwest Regional Planning Commission].”¹ Petitioner has attempted to address the concerns identified by the Commission and the NRPC in the instant petition by reducing the height of the Tower to 120’ AGL.

¹ *Petition of Industrial Tower and Wireless, LLC requesting a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 248a, authorizing the installation of wireless telecommunications equipment off of Bordoville Road in Enosburgh, Vermont*, Case No. 22-2120-PET, Order of 08/03/2023 at 9.

The Vermont Department of Public Service (“Department”) filed initial comments on the Project on April 30, 2026, in which the Department informed the Commission of Petitioner’s intent to supplement the co-location analysis in response to communications with the Department and requested the opportunity to comment after receiving Petitioner’s supplemental filings. On May 6, 2026, the Hearing Officer issued a memo setting a timeline for Petitioner’s response and the Department’s reply. The Department has reviewed the supplemental testimony and exhibit regarding co-location and submits the following comments on the Project.

Based on the application, supporting testimony, and accompanying exhibits, the Project will consist of the following:

1. Construction of a 80’ x 80’ compound with a crushed-stone surface enclosed by a 8’ high chain link fence with a locked gate;
2. Clearing approximately 25,256 square feet of the property for the construction of the Project’s access and compound;
3. Installation of a 120’ AGL telecommunications self-supporting lattice tower (“Tower”) within the fenced compound;
4. Installation of six (6) whip antennas on the Tower, measuring approximately 13’ long and 2.75” in diameter, mounted at 120’ AGL and extending to a maximum height of 133.0’ AGL;
5. Installation of an equipment cabinet on a 10’ x 10’ concrete pad inside the fenced compound;
6. Installation of co-axial cables that descend inside the Tower and exit near the base to connect with the equipment cabinet via a cable bridge; and
7. Construction of a 12’ wide access road that follows the existing entrance to a seasonal camp with a 25’ wide easement area.

The Department has reviewed the application materials, as well as the supplemental filings, and has not identified a significant issue regarding the Project’s compliance with the Section 248a

criteria subject to the Department's review. Regarding colocation, Petitioner has sufficiently supported its position that there are no existing facilities in the area that would allow it to achieve the coverage objectives for this Project. The application also indicates that the Project will comply with the requirements of the *Low Risk Site Handbook for Erosion Prevention and Sediment Control*.

Petitioner states that the primary purpose of the Project is to fill a coverage gap in Petitioner's network in the area of Bordoville Road by providing the coverage and capacity to allow ITW subscribers living in, working in, or passing through the Enosburgh area to use ITW's network. Petitioner also states that the Project will have space for public safety radio equipment at 120' AGL and for one other wireless communications carrier on the Tower. Petitioner's filings related to the petition include a letter of support for the Project from St. Albans Central Dispatch, which explains their interest in installing their equipment at the top of a 120' tower, and that doing so at this location would lead to improvements in public safety communications for Enosburg and other towns in the area. In communications with the Department, counsel for Petitioner has confirmed plans to locate St. Albans Central Dispatch equipment on the Tower.

The Project has received a number of comments from members from the public, as well as comments from the NRPC and the Town of Enosburg. Many of the comments from members of the public that oppose the Project cite concerns about impacts to aesthetics and to the character of the area. Many of the comments in support of the Project cite a need for improved communications for emergency services as well as improved cellular coverage. The NRPC filed comments on April 30, 2026, in which it concluded that the Project conforms with the Northwest Regional Plan. The Town of Enosburg also filed comments in support of the Project, on April 28, 2026, explaining its strong interest in improvements to emergency services communications.

Based upon the understanding that emergency services radio equipment will be located on the Tower, and considering the potential for one carrier to co-locate on the tower in the future, the Department supports the petition. The Department finds that the Project will promote the general good of the state and has the potential to further state telecommunications policy and planning goals pursuant to 30 V.S.A. § 202c(b).

Based on the foregoing, the Department recommends that the Commission issue a certificate of public good for the Project.

DATED at Montpelier, Vermont, this 26th day of May 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
VERMONT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE

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