Notice of Ex Parte Contact

TO: Data Center All Parties in Case No. TO-2003-0531 All Commissioners

Chairman Steve Gaw

DATE: November 16, 2004

FROM:



On November 8, 2004, my office received a phone call and a copy of the attached letter by fax from Charlette Dysart, Director of Howard County 911. On November 15, I received another phone call from Ms. Dysart. The Commission is currently considering the issues discussed in the letter and the phone calls in Case No. TO-2003-0531 and is bound by the same *ex parte* rule as a court of law.

Although communications from the public are always welcome, those communications must be made known to all parties to a contested case so that those parties have the opportunity to respond. According to the Commission's rules (4 CSR 240-4), when a communication (either oral or written) occurs outside the hearing process, any member of the Commission or the Regulatory Law Judge who received the communication shall prepare a written report concerning the communication and submit it to each member of the Commission and the parties to the case. The report shall identify the person(s) who participated in the *ex parte* communication, the substance of the communication and the relationship of the communication to a particular matter at issue before the Commission.

Therefore, this report is submitted pursuant to the rules cited above. This will ensure that any party to this case will have notice of the attached information and a full and fair opportunity to respond to the comments contained therein.

cc: Executive Director Secretary/Chief Regulatory Law Judge General Counsel



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CHARLOTTE DYSART

HOWARD COUNTY 91 1 600 W. MORRISON, SUITE 1 FAYETTE, MISSOURI 65248 PHONE: (660) 248-2340

October 11, 2004

Johnny Johnson Vice-President of Sales and Operations Mid-Missouri Cellular 1500 S. Limit Sedalla, Missouri 65301

Re: Additional Cellular Tower in Northern Howard County

Dear Mr. Johnson,

This letter is to express my concerns in reference to the need for an additional cellular tower in the northern part of Howard County. Howard County is largely a rural community with limited cellular coverage. Mid-Missouri Cellular provides more consistent coverage in our county than any other cellular company; however, there are still large areas of our county where coverage is drastically limited - and in some places non-existent - many of these being on our major roads. As the Director of Howard County 911 I have been on the receiving end of emergency calls from cellular customers who have been unable to communicate clearly their needs to our agency due to poor signal quality. Our need for an additional tower is crucial for reducing response time in emergency situations so that our agency can clearly determine the location and needs of these callers in a life-threatening situation. Also, a large portion of our law enforcement officers rely heavily on your cellular services for communication, and there are times where Mid-Missouri Cellular is our only link of communication to our officers in situations where officer safety is a major concern.

As I am sure you are well aware, the government has mandated the Phase II update of all emergency dispatch centers, and will require all agencies to provide advanced 911 services to cellular subscribers. We currently are unable to provide this vastly needed service to the citizens of our county. There have been many examples of this need where we have received 911 calls from cellular customers in our county that have been routed to us from other agencies before coming into our office, which decreases response time in these emergencies. Another cellular tower is a key component in these necessary updates so that we may be able to not only receive cellular 911 calls directly, but be able to obtain the location of the caller if they are unable to provide us with that information.

I am expressing my concerns today not only as the Director for Howard County 911, but also as a Mid-Missourl Cellular subscriber.

Very truly yours,

Charlatte Dyeart

Charlotte Dysart Director, Howard County 911