
From: struss@frontier.com [mailto:struss@frontier.com]
Sent: Tuesday, May 24, 2016 5:00 PM
To: Kolar, Mary; Matano, Alfred; Bollig, Jerome; oloughlin@countyofdane.com; Miles, Patrick; Lane, Roger; Violante, Todd
Cc: alan@countyofdane.com; Bob Salov
Subject: Village of Cambridge's Position

Review Board Members,

Due to our Village Board meeting I am unable to attend the public hearing tonight regarding US Cellular's application for a new wireless tower in the Town of Christiana, so please accept this email as my comment. The village has made verbal offers to modify the railing on its water tower to meet Edge Engineering's specifications, at village expense, if US Cellular would consider placing its proposed antennae on the tower, however the issue seems to be a question of the structural stability of the tower itself. Our engineer has questioned this, however without conducting our own engineering analysis, at considerable expense, we have no data to back him up. We are basically at the mercy of Edge Engineering, and the desire of US Cell to build its own towers. We do not intend to hire a structural engineer, however if the claim before you is that only the structural strength of the railing is in question, and not the tower itself, you may consider delaying your approval and asking Edge Engineering for further structural analysis of our water tower indicating that it will not support US Cell's proposed antennae.

Below is the email from our engineer, Warren Myers, of Town and Country Engineers explaining this greater detail.

Thank you for your consideration,

Steven R. Struss
Village President
Cambridge Wisconsin

++++
From Warren Myers:

Hi Steve & Nancy;

I talked to the David Lyshek, P.E., the Edge Engineering consultant who stamped the structural report on the Village's water storage tank that they prepared for US Cellular. It was an interesting conversation. He will pass back to his clients the Village's willingness to remove other antennas to make room for US Cellular, and to structurally reinforce the railing to allow US Cellular to place its antennas on the tank. However, he indicated that US Cellular has adopted an approach to its antenna installations that may make any efforts to make space and railing structural stability on the Cambridge tank a moot point. He indicated that for the

pedestal spheroid type water storage tanks (which are the most common and generally least expensive type of elevated storage tank being built for small communities) US Cellular is shying away from mounting any new antenna locations on those tanks. They are making every effort to stay on such tanks where they already have antennas mounted, but, because of “long term considerations and the hundreds of thousand dollars they will be investing in equipment” they prefer to build their own towers rather than create new locations on such tanks. Apparently pedestal spheroid type tanks aren’t as strong, structurally, as standpipes or the very large legged tanks some of which they still are considering for new antenna locations. Apparently they are concerned that at some time in the future they may want to add an antenna that has a big wind load, and that the tank itself (not the railing) might not handle it, even if the tank would handle the antennas they want to mount at the present time. Whether this is just a marketing ploy to allow them to construct new towers where they can rent space to other cellular companies I don’t know. The performance of pedestal spheroid tanks in tornadoes, such as the one that went through Barneveld years ago, makes me wonder if they aren’t creating concerns where there really aren’t any, but I’m not a structural engineer, and I doubt if it’s worth it for the Village to hire a structural engineer to do such an analysis. (Chicago Bridge & Iron won’t do such analyses.)

Dave Lyshek indicated that it would be a conflict of interest for him to repeat his analysis with the Netwurx and the ham radio antennas removed, so that option is not there. Contacting Lane Tank to get a cost for reinforcing the railing system now seems to be not required, because I think US Cellular has decided it wants its own tower regardless of whether there is railing space or railing structural capacity. Dave Lyshek indicated that there is an intermediary company US Cellular uses for site acquisition for new towers, and that is Wireless Planning, LLC, whose representative is Todd Anderson. He indicated that that is who will respond to the Village’s overtures to make space and make any necessary railing improvements. However, I think that Wireless Planning will be working at cross purposes with the Village, so I anticipate that when the response comes it will be negative. I think the only way US Cellular will actually consider the Cambridge water storage tank as a location for its antennas is if their application to build its own tower is denied by the County.

Warren

Warren O. Myers, P.E. – Senior Project Manager

warren@tcengineers.net

Town & Country Engineering, Inc.

2912 Marketplace Drive, Suite 103

Madison, WI 53719

(608) 273-3350 Fax: (608) 273-3391