

House Energy & Digital Infrastructure Committee considering H.527

Dear Ms. Kathleen James:

My background is in telecommunications engineering (see attached resume) and I'm a member of the NEKCV CUD executive committee.

I was a witness at the application of Industrial Tower and Tireless (ITW), LLC for a certificate of public good, pursuant to 30 v.s.a. section 248a, authorizing the construction of a wireless telecommunications facility in Westmore, Vermont Evidentiary Hearing held before the Vermont Public Utility Commission, via videoconference, on May 14, 2025.

At the Evidentiary Hearing I was question by ITW's attorney, Mr. Daniel Seff, and was only asked questions regarding if I had "experience analyzing or assessing the aesthetics of telecommunications towers", which I answered I have not.

In my opinion the tower being proposed by ITW is a structure that goes beyond what is required for the 2-way radio commercial service being proposed by ITW. A much smaller and less intrusive structure would be adequate and sufficient for the proposed service. Since no Cell service provider has contracted to be located in the proposed ITW tower, the claim that the tower would in the future accommodate Cell phone service is speculative, which does not comply with the Town of Westmore's ordinance for telecommunications towers and facilities, adopted June 29, 2004, page 6, Section ARTICLE VIII, paragraph **II**. The Westmore telecommunications tower also states that "existing antenna/tower sites" should be considered, Section ARTICLE VIII, paragraph **I**, sub-A, d).

As for the potential of providing wireless internet service Westmore is already covered by both Vtel wireless and NEWco (New England Wireless Co.). In addition, both Comcast Xfinity and NEKCV CUD currently provide fiber to the home (FTTH) to portions of Westmore and NEKCV CUD will be covering the remainder of Westmore by 2027 in several areas that the ITW tower's signal would not be able to reach, be it 2-way radio or Cell.

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