

To the Senate Finance Committee:

My name is Bruce Jones and I live in Rochester Vermont. Vertex/Verizon are proposing a cell tower south of Rochester village. I will be able to see it from my house and different locations on my property. I petitioned to intervene on aesthetics along with several others in town.

I for one found the process to apply to intervene very confusing and difficult. I had to reach out to people that had past experience with this process to help me. Section 248a seems to hinder rather than help the the people who oppose the cell towers. Seems it stream lines the process for getting towers installed with out push back for bad or wrong locations. Rochester Planning Committee and Rochester Select Board are going to intervene because the proposed cell tower location does not meet the town plan in many ways, concerns over wetlands, steepness of access road, rare and endangered wildlife, erosion potential. Historic buildings and sites, also parks will be visually impacted All this takes lawyers, money that the town and tax payers could be using elsewhere. There is an independent party making claim to right of way breech being committed with the access road to the proposed tower. The town has a cell service already. The Select board asked the Fire and Rescue Chief and the road crew foreman if the proposed cell tower would help them in their jobs, both replied no it would not. Aesthetic interveners have been told that only one person out of the group will be aloud to testify at the hearing. We were told this is to maintain the "

judicial economy " of the hearing . That is a big responsibility for one person to speak on other's behalf. Sounds like another lawyer is needed. Would Mr. Thompson of the DPS be willing to send the people of the town that will see the tower form their property, a town that has cell service already, a town plan that protects certain areas from seeing a cell tower and the surrounding environment that would be impacted by the tower and it's access road, into the volcano as a sacrifices to the cell tower gods.

Bruce Jones, Rochester, VT