

Statement of Network Need for a New Communications Tower
Jessica Maldonado Gutierrez, RF Engineer

1. My name is Jessica Maldonado Gutierrez and I am a radio frequency (RF) engineer for Verizon Wireless (“Verizon”). I have been employed as an RF engineer for 14 years in the telecommunications industry, the last 6 years with Verizon.
2. The primary duties of my job as an RF engineer include the design and management of Verizon’s wireless communications network in its Michigan/Indiana/Kentucky Market, which includes the area in and around Indianapolis, Indiana. In this role, I am also responsible for identifying and correcting substantial service gaps that present themselves in Verizon’s wireless network. These service gaps can be caused by lack of coverage or insufficient system capacity, or both. Service gaps are identified through the use of internal Verizon network monitoring tools and analysis showing the capacity and/or coverage need in a particular area.
3. In the course of my employment at Verizon, I have become aware of a significant service gap in Verizon’s wireless communications network in the area near western Indianapolis, Indiana (the “Gap Area”). As a result of this significant service gap, Verizon customers using their devices in and around the Gap Area are likely to experience diminished call quality, slow and unreliable data transmission speeds, call drops, and blocked calls. Verizon’s service gap in the Gap Area has existed for several years.
4. This significant service gap will remain and cannot be resolved unless a communications tower is constructed within the Gap Area. Verizon must remedy this service gap in order to provide high-speed wireless broadband access to the communities in and around Indianapolis, Indiana, to fill in coverage gaps where wireless services are not reliable, and to provide enhanced E911 services. The primary goal of the new communications tower would be to provide good in-building coverage to residents, businesses, and emergency service providers in the Gap Area, giving them access to reliable wireless and broadband services.
5. Verizon identified a search area in which the new communications tower would need to be located in order to resolve the service gap. Before proposing a new communications tower, Verizon first considered whether any existing towers in the area could be used to resolve the coverage gap in the Gap Area. The existing towers in the area could not be used to resolve the coverage gap in the Gap Area because they are too close to other existing Verizon sites, which would result in interference with those existing site and result in further diminished service. Further, these towers would not cover the residential areas that make up the primary portion of the Gap Area. The existing towers would instead provide coverage near the airport, which is not the intent of the proposed tower. Finally, towers that are too close to an airport are at risk of complications with FAA regulations, including a notification to power down due interference for C-Band There are no other existing towers in the search area on which Verizon could collocate its

communications equipment to resolve the service gap. For this reason, Horvath Towers began looking for available properties in the search area that would be suitable for a tower.

6. Verizon and Horvath Towers have worked together to identify a property in the Gap Area that could accommodate a communications tower to correct the significant service gap in Verizon's wireless communications network. Horvath Towers has proposed to build a new tower on 1201 S County Road 1050 East in Indianapolis, Indiana ("Proposed Tower").
7. By co-locating its communications equipment on the Proposed Tower, Verizon will resolve the current significant service gap and will be able to provide improved service to residents, businesses, and emergency service providers in and around the Gap Area. If Horvath Towers is unable to construct the new telecommunications tower, and Verizon is therefore unable to collocate its equipment on the proposed tower, the significant service gap in Verizon's wireless communications network will remain, and Verizon will be prohibited from providing reliable wireless service to its customers in the Gap Area.

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Jessica Maldonado

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RF Engineer

Verizon