

30AUG2025

From: Scott and Judy Abrams

PO Box 472, Greenville, CA 95947

To: Plumas County Board of Supervisors

My wife, Judy, and I live at 801 Powerline Road in Greenville. Our home and approximately five acres of mature mixed-conifer forest on our property were destroyed during the 4AUG2021 Dixie Fire Burnover of Greenville, CA. After overcoming many administrative hurdles, we were able to begin rebuilding our new home in early September 2023. We moved into our new home around the 1st week of November 2024. We have beautiful views from our home of Keddie Ridge, Indian Head, which is a signature landmark, beloved by all those in Indian Valley, and the green trees that were spared after the burnover. Our front porch allows us to also have incredible views of the forest, as it begins to heal from the fire. However, we just found out last week that a 200-foot tall cell tower has begun to be built right on the edge of John Stewart's property. We will have a clear line of sight to that tower around 900 feet away from our home and less than 300 feet from our property boundary. None of us neighbors along Powerline Road, Williams Valley Road and Upper Williams Valley Road were contacted by the folks initiating this cell tower project. None of the local tribal elders had been visited by anyone responsible for the planning of this project. We recommend you pay close attention to Native American input.

Immediately after the Dixie Fire Burnover, we relocated to Blue Ridge, GA to be near our daughter-in-law and grandchildren. We have been visiting that area since 2006 and have developed long term friendships with so many fine people in that area. We considered moving out of California and relocate to Blue Ridge, but my wife and I have strong roots growing deeply in Indian Valley and especially in Greenville. Even with the destruction of the town, we decided that we would be part of the rebuilding process and commit to remain in Greenville. We returned to Indian Valley, found a rental in Taylorsville, and began our own rebuilding project. Two years later, our new home was ready for us. For the past 10 months or so, we have enjoyed our house and have turned it into a real home.

Then last week, we found out about the 200-foot tall cell tower going up, which would interfere with our line of sight of Keddie Ridge and Indian Head. The tower would be a health and safety eyesore visible to all of us, who live and have rebuilt after the fire, thinking that we would at least have beautiful views of the mountains surrounding our Valley. After two meetings with representatives of the cell tower construction, it has been made clear that they will not relocate the tower to a more suitable location.

SPI is allowing the cell tower to be built at its proposed location. They did not even send a representative to the on-site meeting we were at. SPI is supposed to be a stellar Employer of Choice in Plumas County and claims to have the best interests of residents at heart in every decision they make. The County Planning Department allowed the project to proceed without public comment, even though this is purported to be in the best interests of the public. We were told that no public outreach and interaction were needed, as the project was “Exempt” from normal regulatory processes. However, there are exceptions to this exemption, as noted at the end of this letter.

There was no public outreach or notification given during the planning process. The entire process was done in quiet steps, so as not to raise the ire of residents, who would be directly impacted by the tower’s planned location. There are demonstrated health risks to those living less than one mile from a cell tower and an even greater risk to those living approximately ¼-mile from a tower. In addition, property values of homes within the line of sight of a tower are reduced by up to 10%. Those within a mile of a tower can expect a reduction of up to 3% on their property values. How are we expected to absorb that cost, when we were never contacted about the project?

In the Ordinance dealing with cell towers, it states in Section 9-2.4018(a)(1) Setbacks, that the setback from property lines needs to be 225 feet for this proposed tower. The location of this tower is less than 50 feet from John Stewart’s property line. The site needs to be moved somewhere more appropriately, fitting the spirit of the Ordinance. Also, in Section 9-2.4106(b)(1)(i), it states that if a tower is within 1000 feet of a Residential Zone, a Special Use Permit is required. Finally, regarding health and safety, in Section 9-2.4101(a)- Purpose and Intent, the primary goal of the Ordinance is to “Protect and enhance the safety, health and welfare of the public, while minimizing adverse, visual and operational impacts....”

Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter. It is extremely time-sensitive. I urge the reader to examine their heart and do the morally right decision. There can be an alternate site where public concerns can be mitigated.

Sincerely,

Scott and Judy Abrams