

ROGERS' PROPOSED COMMUNICATION SITE IN BEAVER CREEK

ROGERS FILE: W3579 – PORT ALBERNI NORTH



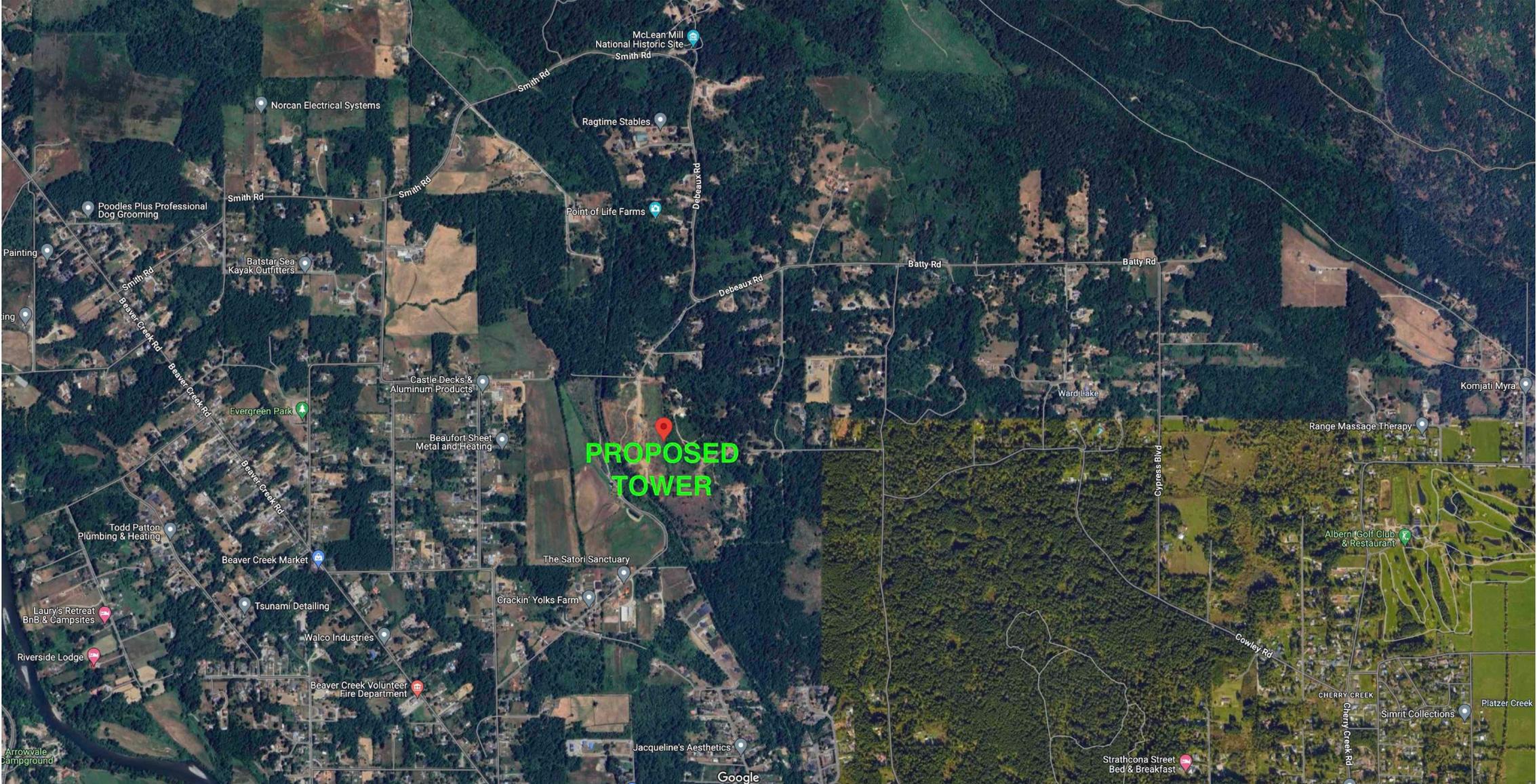
ACRD Area Directors Committee Meeting
June 19th, 2024 | Brian Gregg

Agenda

- Proposed tower location – aerial photo
- Proposed design – partial site plan and tower profile
- Proposed design – Photo simulation
- Public Consultation Process and Results
- Addressing Outstanding Questions – Health and Safety
- Addressing Outstanding Questions – Alternative Siting and Co-location
- Next Steps



Proposed Tower Location – Aerial Photo

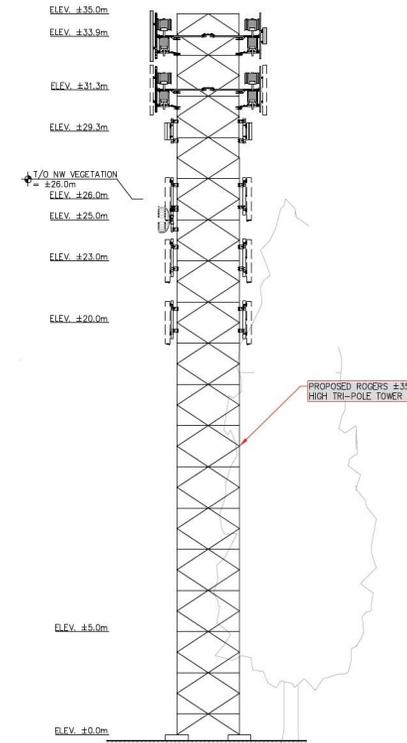


Proposed Design – Partial Site Plan and Tower Profile



Partial Site Plan

- Rogers has made an effort to keep its space needs to a minimum:
 - 15.0 meter x 15.0 meter compound size on large 26.05 acre lot.
 - Rogers' equipment includes a tripole structure and foundation, a 6' x 8' equipment shelter containing ancillary electronics equipment and fencing.
 - Respectful setbacks from neighbouring residences.



Tower Profile

- Rogers is proposing a tripole structure rather than a guyed tower thereby minimizing ground space needs.
- The tower height is only 35.0 meters tall plus a 3.0 meter tall lightning rod – the minimum height needed to service the area reliably.

Design - Photo Simulation (for discussion purposes only)



View Southeast



Public Consultation Process

- In order to proceed with this proposal, Rogers was required to undertake a public consultation process in accordance with the Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) Canada Default Consultation Process.
- The ISED Default Process entails three (3) general steps including:
 1. **Mail-out notification** - Notification packages welcoming public input for a 30 day comment period were sent to all owners/occupants within a 114 meter radius of the proposed tower. The initial notices were sent out on August 25th, 2023 with a comment deadline of October 9th, 2023.
 2. **Newspaper Notification** - Rogers posted two (2) public notices in the *Alberni Valley News* publication on August 30th and September 6th, 2023 again welcoming public comments until October 9th, 2023.
 3. **Land Use Concurrence Request** - At the end of the public comment period, Rogers is required to summarize the results of the consultation and request a motion or letter of land use concurrence via the ACRD.
- In addition to completing the ISED Default Process, Rogers agreed to expand upon this process by completing the following additional steps:
 - **Public Information Meeting:** At the request of the ACRD, Rogers agreed to host a digital public meeting on February 22, 2024.
 - **Additional Public Notices:** Rogers welcomed attendance at the public meeting through posting two (2) additional notices in the *Alberni Valley News* on February 7th and February 14th, 2024. Rogers also distributed invitations to the public meeting via an expanded mail out to area residents.



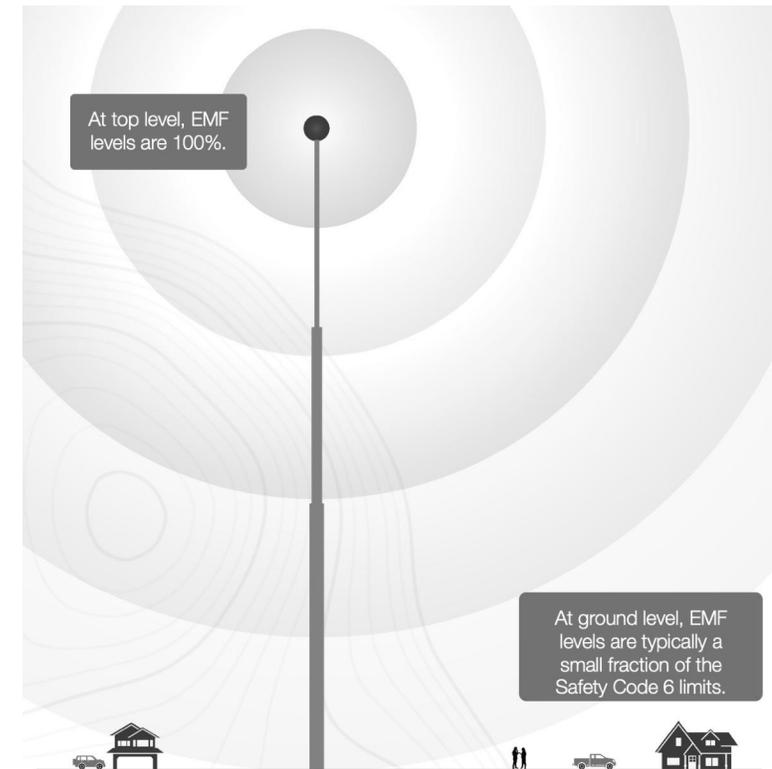
Public Consultation Results

- Please refer to Rogers' letter to the ACRD dated April 4th, 2024 and the enclosed appendices of that letter for a detailed summary of the public consultation processes undertaken and for Rogers' official land use concurrence request report.
- During the **initial (official) public comment period which closed in August of 2023**, Rogers received only **two (2) neutral public comments**. Both commenters asked for information but did not state a position of support or opposition. Rogers thus intended to request land use concurrence in 2023, however the ACRD asked Rogers to host a public meeting to welcome broader public input.
- Via Rogers' **additional notification process in 2024 for the public meeting** which entailed an *expanded notification radius at the ACRD's request*, Rogers received numerous requests to attend the meeting as well as additional feedback regarding the proposal. While it should be noted that these additional comments are outside the official comment period, the results of the additional notification are as follows:
 - **A total of seventeen (17) additional commenters** submitted inquiries.
 - **Six (6) commenters (35%) indicated support** for the proposal.
 - **Seven (7) commenters (41%) submitted neutral questions** such as instructions regarding how to attend the public meeting and did not take a position in support or opposition.
 - **Four (4) commenters (24%) stated concerns or opposition** to the proposal.
 - In sum, **the majority of commenters (76%) indicated support or neutral questions** regarding the proposal.

Addressing Outstanding Questions – Health and Safety

- Rogers would like to offer to address any outstanding questions or concerns prior to formally seeking a land use concurrence decision via the ACRD.
- Upon review of the non-supportive comments received, effectively all such commenters referenced a concern that Health Canada’s Safety Code 6 (the applicable safety protocol for cell towers) may not be valid.
- Although debating the validity of Health Canada’s Safety Code 6 is deemed “not relevant” as part of this consultation process by Innovation, Science and Economic Development (ISED) in the *CPC-2-0-03 — Radiocommunication and Broadcasting Antenna Systems*, section 4.2, Rogers provided a Safety Code 6 Compliance Confirmation report to the ACRD sealed by a professional engineer.
- The Safety Code 6 Compliance Confirmation report as submitted to the ACRD by Rogers notes that the maximum radio frequency energy at ground level in the vicinity of the proposed tower is approximately **14.2 times lower** than the allowable maximum limits established to be safe to occupy on a 24/7 basis by Health Canada.

At ground level, cellular towers typically operate at a small fraction of the maximum level allowed under the Safety Code 6 guidelines administered by Health Canada.



Addressing Outstanding Questions – Alternative Siting and Co-location

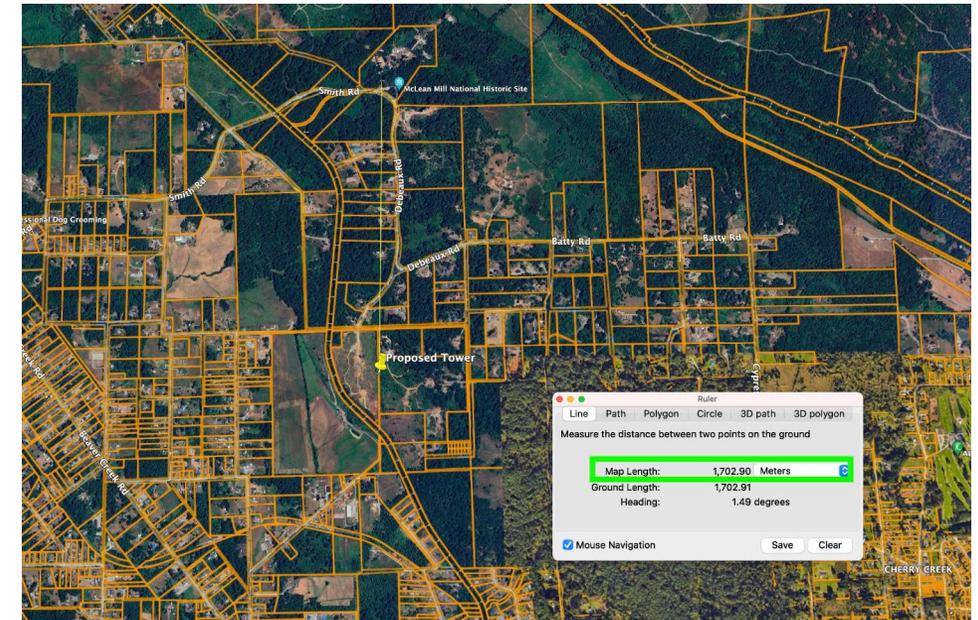
McLean Mill National Historic Site

- Rogers also received a question regarding whether the tower could instead be sited at the McLean Mill National Historic Site.
- Rogers advised that this alternative location is outside Rogers' search area and would not allow for the delivery of optimal service as it is too far away from the majority of households that the facility is aiming to service.
- Specifically, as per Figure 1, McLean Mill National Historic Site is approximately 1.7 – 2.0 kilometers to the north of the current proposed tower location (depending on the location on the alternative lot) – a substantial distance in terms of network design.
- Rogers also advised that it does not have land rights at the McLean Mill National Historic Site.

Co-location (Tower Sharing)

- Rogers was asked whether it would entertain co-location or tower sharing proposals from third parties.
- Rogers advised that it will co-operate with tower sharing proposals as per ISED's tower sharing protocols if a third party applies to co-locate on the tower.
- Rogers advised that it reviewed its search area within approximately a 1 kilometer radius of its proposed tower and is not aware of any viable existing structures that it can propose to co-locate on hence the proposed new tower.

Figure 1 – Distance From Current Proposed Tower Location to McLean Mill National Historic Site.



Next Steps

- Rogers welcomes any additional questions from the ACRD.
- Rogers is aiming to resolve any outstanding relevant concerns before seeking a formal land use concurrence decision.
- If the ACRD is satisfied with the results of the consultation process, Rogers proposes to request land use concurrence via the ACRD Board at an upcoming Board meeting.
- If land use concurrence is granted, Rogers will confirm its construction plans with the property owner and ACRD prior to any construction commencing.

Questions?

