

From: RALPH DOM [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 3:47 PM
To: SSIInfo
Cc: Timothy Peterson; Jamie Harris; Laura Patrick
Subject: Some comments on Agenda Item 14.3 - PLTT20240361 - D. Claros - 131 Knott Place, SSI

To: Trustees Harris, Patrick and Peterson,

Subject: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/salt-spring-ltc-regular-meeting-agenda-36/>
14.3 - PLTT20240361 - D. Claros - 131 Knott Place, SSI (p.91-164)

I was dismayed to read about the cell tower proposal on your agenda for this Thursday's LTC meeting. I'm writing to you to express my concerns about environmental ramifications if this cell tower is allowed to be built. As a senior citizen, parent and grandparent, below are some concerns:

1) A cell tower should not be sited directly adjacent to park and recreation land (Mouat Park) which has been identified in this proposal's environmental assessment to:

"contain(s) mature native trees and support(s) a (more) diverse and sensitive ecosystem. This adjacent parkland likely serves as important habitat for a variety of wildlife species, including nesting birds, pollinators, and potentially species at risk."

(p.95 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/salt-spring-ltc-regular-meeting-agenda-36/>)

Please note that this environmental assessment only addresses short-term effects. It does not look at any long-term implications to humans, wildlife and the natural world.

There are several reputable peer-reviewed studies which prove that cell tower microwave radiation has negative impacts on flora, fauna, pollinator insects, trees, and birds:

- <https://mdsafetech.org/environmental-and-wildlife-effects/>

- https://thecalm.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/EKLIPSE_KnowledgeOverviewReport_EMF_FLO_RA_FAUNA.pdf

2) Risks associated with siting a tower 200m from Rainbow Recreation Centre pool, 700m from Gulf Islands Secondary School, 500m from its playing fields, and 1000m from Salt Spring Elementary School:

Although health concerns are deferred to Canada's very outdated Safety Code 6 and go beyond your mandate, it isn't prudent to site a tower where children and the community get together, play and study.

The Kanaka Skate Park and Hart Memorial Disc Golf circuit are also very close to this site.

Our 2001 Salt Spring Antenna Siting Protocol did not allow towers to be built within 500m of any buildings or parks used by humans without strict proof that the radiation levels emitted would be well below those allowed by Canada's radiation exposure guideline Safety Code 6.

Our current Antenna Siting Protocol discourages towers from being built by schools and playgrounds as well as environmentally sensitive areas.

A 2-year toxicology study, published by the esteemed US National Toxicology Program this past August, shows clear evidence of an association between exposure to cell phone radiation and cancer in rats.

[Cell Phone Radio Frequency Radiation](#)

3) This proposal is very vague and does not specify:

How many antennas and transmitters will there be?

Which telecom carriers will use this cell tower?

What frequencies will be used?

What is the total projected radiation that will be emitted?

Exactly how will this cell tower improve wireless service in Ganges (i.e. where is service poor)?

Where will the projected transmission signals travel to (i.e. radius)?

Most importantly, where is the Engineer's report to clarify all of these technical issues?

4) If this cell tower is built, ISED will permit the tower to be increased in height by up to 25% with no further land use consultation required.

This project looks like a business proposal to make money. I don't believe it will benefit our community but it has great potential to cause harm to children, senior citizens and the natural world.

Please adhere to the Precautionary Principle. It's better to be safe and not sorry.



Thank-you.

Ralph Dom
