verizon

Statement of Network Need for a New Communications Tower
Proposed Location: 13113 24th Ave in Marne, Michigan

1. My name is Jin Tang and I am a radio frequency (RF) engineer for Verizon Wireless ("Verizon"). I have been employed as an RF engineer for 19 years in the telecommunications industry, the last ten 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 Ottawa County, Michigan. 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.

3. 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. As the customer base and data usage in a given area grow, network usage exceeds the available capacity, which creates a gap in service resulting in failed connections, dropped calls, and slow download speeds.

4. 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 Lincoln St and 24th Ave (the "Gap Area") in Marne, MI. Verizon RF engineers have determined that the cell sites surrounding the Gap Area have become saturated with increasing voice and data traffic, and Verizon must add another wireless communications facility in order to remedy the service gap. As a result of this significant service gap, Verizon customers using their devices in and around the Gap Area may 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.

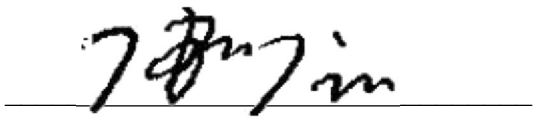
5. This significant service gap will remain and cannot be resolved unless a communications tower is constructed within the Gap Area. Verizon must remedy this service gap in order to provide high-speed wireless broadband access to the communities in and around Lincoln St and 24th Ave, to fill in coverage gaps where wireless services are not reliable, and to provide enhanced E911 services.

6. Verizon identified a search area in which the new 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. 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.

7. 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 at 13113 24th Ave in Marne, Michigan ("Proposed Tower"). The Proposed Tower is required to be 170 feet tall in order to allow Verizon to install its equipment at a centerline of 165 feet. Verizon must operate its equipment from that height in order to provide the coverage needed in the Gap Area. Given the topography of the area and given the large area that must be reached, a lower tower height would not remedy the service gap in the Gap Area.

8. 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.

Dated this Fourteenth day of May, 2026



Jin Tang
RF Engineer
Verizon