

Dear Supervisors,

Last week when AT&T was stringing the remaining fiber on the poles and connected them to the communication tower at the Lord's Land on Navarro Ridge in Albion I found out that you with the guidance of County Council and Chief Executive Officer/Clerk of the Board during closed session on July 13 voted to rescind the Stop Work Order and give AT&T the permission to string the remaining aerial fiber on the 50 poles that were installed along Navarro Ridge Road in Albion for 3 miles and connect them to the communication facility on the Lord's Land.

If you would have seen what AT&T did in Albion I don't think that you would have voted the way you did. Workers informed a community member that they could never install aerial cables in Napa or Sonoma County. Why here in Mendocino? Why was AT&T allowed to install this eye soar in the scenic Coastal Zone?

According to the Settlement Agreement that you adopted during closed session on July 13 you voted that AT&T will have to apply for a post-approval and post-construction Coastal Development Permit (CDP) without having had to apply for a pre-construction CDP. The Coastal Commission made it clear that AT&T needed to apply for a CDP first before the Stop Work Order would be lifted. Which local person gets to build anything without a permit, or is allowed to apply for a permit after the fact? Wouldn't a permit insure that a project proceeds according to regulations? It seems that AT&T who had to be stopped by community action twice before gets to do whatever they please in addition to threatening the County with legal action if they do not get their way.

The Coastal Act calls for the "widest opportunity for public participation" in Coastal Planning (Section 30006). These closed session backroom deals exclude the public.

With this decision by you in closed session this project is setting a precedent for corporations to roll over our County government.

You might have heard that on 8-13 EMF safety advocates: the Environmental Health Trust, the Children's Health Defense, other groups and individuals have won an important appeals court case against the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

The United States D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals found that the FCC's 2019 decision to retain its 1996 safety limits for human exposure to wireless radiation was "arbitrary and capricious." The FCC now must substantiate how the federal wireless radiation guidelines are safe.

Based on the information about this court case it is high time to rewrite Mendocino County's Wireless Guidelines, include them in the Mendocino County Local Coastal Program Amendment, and approve this Amendment.

Just as the FCC's regulations from 1996 are outdated, so are

Mendocino County's Wireless Guidelines from 2015.

Sincerely, Annemarie Weibel