

Juliette Rezzato

From: Board Of Supervisors
Sent: Monday, June 9, 2025 1:53 PM
To: Agenda Management Support
Subject: Item #10 Comment_Taylor-Blackstorm, S

-----Original Message-----

From: Sara Taylor-Blackstorm <zencatdream@yahoo.com>
Sent: Sunday, June 8, 2025 8:32 PM
To: Board Of Supervisors <boardofsupervisors@santacruzcountyca.gov>; COB Staff <COBStaff@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Justin Cummings <Justin.Cummings@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Andy Schiffrin <Andy.Schiffrin@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Sandy Brown <Sandy.Brown@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Jamie Sehorn <Jamie.Sehorn@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Manu Koenig <Manu.Koenig@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Felipe Hernandez <Felipe.Hernandez@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Ramon Gomez <Ramon.Gomez@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Maria Orozco <Maria.Orozco@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Rae Spencer-Hill <Rae.Spencer-Hill@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Fifth District <Fifth.District@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Monica Martinez <Monica.Martinez@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Megan Renfrew <Megan.Renfrew@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Jesseka Rodriguez <Jesseka.Rodriguez@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Kimberly De Serpa <Kimberly.DeSerpa@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Maureen McCarty <Maureen.McCarty@santacruzcountyca.gov>; Regina Kelbert <Regina.Kelbert@santacruzcountyca.gov>
Subject: Agenda Item #10 - 6/10 Supervisors Regular Meeting

****CAUTION:This is an EXTERNAL email. Exercise caution. DO NOT open attachments or click links from unknown senders or unexpected email.****

Dear Santa Cruz County Board members,

RE: Agenda Item #10 - 6/10 Supervisors Regular Meeting

Hello, we are the Blackstorm Atton Family, we own and reside at 305 Summit Drive, almost directly across from the proposed cell tower. We are members of the Bonny Doon Residents for Responsible Cell Coverage, working to create sensible solutions for cell coverage in Bonny Doon that meet our region's needs without adversely impacting property owners and taxpayers in our community.

We are pro responsible cell coverage in Bonny Doon, and we are against the construction of the unnecessary tower proposed at 186 Summit drive. If you look closely, CTI is gaslighting the fact that the proposed cell service provided at 186 Summit Drive will make a dent in what service local residents will receive.

The section the fake tree covers has multiple negative attributes that outweigh the few homes that will actually receive coverage.

Who really benefits from this?

It happens to be a large corporation masquerading as a savior for a rural population with low cell coverage. Look closer at their documentation, this tower is outdated and does not serve enough people to warrant its hazardous placement. There are our other better and viable options and we have presented them in previous documentation at length. At present Starlink satellite provides everyone in the mountains cell service, making the cell tower a moot point!

Northern California municipalities have recently taken action through ordinances to stop cell tower installation because of better and safer options, these include Fairfax, Petaluma, Mill Valley, San Rafael, Ross, San Anselmo. We need to be listed among those.

Studies show homes that are located next to or near cell towers decrease in property value. Local and area real estate professionals and appraisers have stood up at the county meetings and given testimony for us confirming this to be true. In addition, a proposed cell tower must be disclosed for properties surrounding the proposed location. Would you want to buy a home across the street from a cell tower? For many of us who devastatingly lost everything after the CZU fire, and put our hearts into rebuilding our homes, moving is no longer an option.

We have no way to escape having a cell tower in our backyard, and if for some reason we were able to move after being saddled with debt from rebuilding, our property values would diminish.

This is unfair punishment from a county that we love and support. We are requesting that you please prioritize a loyal resident over an out of town corporation with money to burn.

This is bad business – for residential property owners, real estate business, and Santa Cruz County (in decreased property revenues).

The California Public Utilities Commission is concerned about cell towers as fire hazards and is currently in the process of proposing new rules and regulations for them. Cell towers are also accompanied with back up generators that are often powered with batteries (think Moss Landing fire) composed of hazardous materials.

There is documented evidence of cell towers having caught fire during routine maintenance.

Fire is another enormous reason we do not need a cell tower at 186 Summit Dr. The last thing we need is another fire in California wiping out thousands of homes. There simply is not enough manpower or water to take this risk. We as residents are doing everything we can to fireproof our neighborhood. A cell tower is unacceptable, think of it as a preventive measure.

It is illegal and unethical to build a cell tower near endangered animals, plants and parks. Just 5 miles away from the proposed tower lies the Bonny Doon Ecological Reserve. It is home to many animals, including birds, mammals and amphibians. In fact, some of the mammals that reside on this mountain are on the endangered species list and need the surrounding area to be protected before they become extinct.

Henry Cowell Redwoods State Park Fall Creek Unit trails run up to Summit Rd. Fall Creek protected property also continues behind Summit Road to Alba Road. Fall Creek is a place of peace and quiet for those who visit and a place of refuge for the animals and plants that live there. Please help protect and preserve the area surrounding a park and mountain so full of rich history, plants, animals and a valuable watershed.

Fall Creek's Pine Flat trail has an entrance that goes right up to Summit Drive. In fact most of the trails follow old wagon and logging roads. One of these old roads, Old Alba Road, even runs right behind where the cell tower is to be placed. Why cheapen this rich history with ugly, outdated technology? Many people can be seen walking the street to enjoy the beauty of the surrounding area, and to be clear, a monstrous monopine is not beautiful and looks nothing like a real tree.

What a shame to destroy part of what the Cowell's and others have worked so hard to protect. The land, animals and the future preservation of the Santa Cruz mountains is at stake, and we have come so far in conserving the land around us. The decision to disrupt an ecosystem and neighborhood rests in your hands, and we request that you uphold the dignity, beauty and unity

that the Santa Cruz Mountains and its residents stand for. We have faith in the goodness and fairness of our community.

Thank you for your consideration in this heartbreaking matter,

Dr. Sara Blackstorm Atton

Dr. Robert Atton

Winter Blackstorm

Solar Blackstorm