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Wireless Telecommunications Committee

Meeting Minutes from Wednesday, July 14, 2010

Location: Tech Services Conference Room

Time: 8:30 A.M.

WTC Members in Attendance: Bret De Young, Supv. Technology Services

Dan Reinhart, Resource Mgmt. Ops. Coordinator

Dustin Sene, Radio Technician (by conference call)

Doug Madsen, Compliance Outdoor Recreation Planner

Guests: Matthew Gallagher

Business

Lake Verizon Cell Tower Wireless Proposal: Federal Register Notice application was sent to Washington, D.C. for review by Debra Melton, committee is waiting to hear what the next step will be. The timeline for Federal Register publication is 60 days. There will be a press release and a public meeting at Lake. The press release will be in regards to the NPS receipt of application (from Verizon). The EA and FONSI are both completed for this project. The proposal from Verizon will be evaluated to determine if it is in compliance with the FONSI. Verizon prefers not to schedule the NIER study until they are confident that the NPS will likely approve the proposal. Kevin Howell from Verizon stated that the tower may not go in until Spring 2011. Union Wireless expressed interest to co-locate with Verizon. No actual application has been received from Union.

October Expiration of Right of Ways: The new ten year ROW's are being drafted and all are on Tech Services supervisor desk for review with the exception of Grant. The Yellowstone Superintendent has the authority to sign the new right of way documents. The Old Faithful cellular ROW will include language that states that the right of way can be terminated at any time and new siting will be specified IAW with adopted alternative C of the FONSI.

Old Faithful Cellular Tower: Proposed tower heights and visual impacts were discussed as well as whether to camouflage the top of the tower. Proposed site coverage (propagation) over the developed area was discussed also. An Old Faithful Cellular tower briefing to the Superintendent took place on June 22. Suzanne Lewis was briefed on discussions and developments taking place regarding the proposed site specified in alternative C of the Wireless EA and the FONSI. If all required approvals are obtained, then the move to the proposed site could take place as early as Spring 2011.

Washburn Antenna Migration PMIS Project: Funding was approved for Component A (engineering) of the migration. The funding was approved for FY 10 but Telecomm has requested that it be moved into FY 11 as there may not be enough time in FY 10 to complete the contracting documents. The funding for component B (construction) has yet to be approved in Washington. An independent government cost estimate of the actual migration (construction) for at least one alternative will be available for contract generation after the (engineering) component A is complete.

Proposals:

Cellular Courtesy Signage: Committee briefed Superintendent on July, 7 summarizing two sign samples and site location maps for Mammoth and Old Faithful. The Superintendent asked that the committee follow up with the Interpretation Division to develop wording and design of the signs. The Committee met with Interpretation staff. They suggested a slight word change, and agreed to start monitoring the effect of the signs on visitor actions. A summary of the comments from Interpretation staff will be inserted into the proposal in the comments section. The proposal will be pink slipped to appropriate division chiefs. As soon as a signature has been received from the Superintendent fifty signs will be ordered.