



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

**County Board Agenda Item  
Meeting of July 10, 2010**

**DATE:** June 25, 2010

**SUBJECT:** U-2823-94-4 USE PERMIT REVIEW to renew panel antennae and equipment cabinets on water tower located at 2400 N. Wakefield St. (Sprint PCS/Lee Pumping Station) (RPC #05-005-072)

**Applicant:**

Sprint Nextel  
6391 Sprint Parkway  
Mailstop KSOPHT0101-Z2650  
Overland Park, KS 66251

**By:**

Denise X. Scott  
Sprint Property Services—Zoning and Permitting  
6125 Lakeview Road, Suite 100  
Charlotte, NC 28269

**C.M. RECOMMENDATION:**

Renew the use permit, subject to all previous conditions, one (1) amended condition, and with a review by the County Board in one (1) year (July 2011).

**ISSUES:** This is a scheduled review of an existing telecommunications facility on the Lee Heights water tower. There are no known issues as of the date of the staff report.

**SUMMARY:** This is a use permit review for the operation of antennas and equipment cabinets located at the Lee Pumping Station along the borders of the Old Dominion and Donaldson Run neighborhoods. The applicant is required to submit an annual radiofrequency (R/F) emissions report to the County and the civic associations by June 1 of every year. The applicant has submitted the required 2010 report on time. The report, as did all previous reports, shows emissions well below the maximum level considered safe by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC). New condition language is proposed to be added that requires providers to identify all of their equipment on the tower. Therefore, staff recommends renewing the use permit, subject to all previous conditions, and with a review by the County Board in one (1) year (July 2011).

County Manager: MB/GA

Staff: Peter Schulz, DCPHD, Planning Division

PLA-5651

**BACKGROUND:** The use permit was originally approved by the County Board in 1995. The original applicant, Sprint PCS, sold three of the antennas to Voicestream LLC (now T-Mobile) in 2000.

The last review for this use permit was an unscheduled review in September 2009, when the applicant submitted the 2009 annual emissions report after the required June 1 date. By the time of the September 2009 hearing, the applicant had completed the 2009 annual review which showed radiofrequency emissions in line with past measurements.

**DISCUSSION:** The applicant has submitted the required 2010 annual radiofrequency report in advance of the June 1 deadline required by the conditions of approval. The 2010 annual report is consistent with the past annual reports and is well below the maximum permitted by the Federal Communications Commission.

Staff is recommending adding language to Condition #6 requiring all companies/providers with equipment on the water tank to identify their equipment by placing water proof labels on them, in order to identify what equipment belongs to which company. This will also assist in requiring companies/providers to remove unused or obsolete equipment from the water tower.

**Since the last County Board Review (September 29, 2009):**

Use Permit Conditions: The applicant is in compliance with the conditions.

Community Code Enforcement: The Code Enforcement Office does not report any issues.

Police Department: The Police Department does not report any issues.

Emergency Communications Center: The ECC reports no issues with the use permit.

Civic Associations: The site is located within the Old Dominion Civic Association and is adjacent to the Donaldson Run Civic Association. Both associations' presidents have received copies of the emissions report. Comments from the Donaldson Run Civic Association are attached to the report.

**CONCLUSION:** The applicant is in compliance with the approved use permit conditions. Therefore, staff recommends the use permit be renewed, subject to all previous conditions, amended Condition #6, and with a review by the County Board in one (1) year (July 2011).

Amended Condition #6

6. The applicant agrees to remove any equipment not in use or operation from the water tower. The applicant further agrees to place waterproof identification labels on the existing antennas and related facilities, including cables and cabinets inside and outside the Equipment Room, located at the Site, by or before August 31, 2010.

PREVIOUS COUNTY BOARD ACTIONS:

- January 7, 1995                      Approved use permit (U-2832-94-4) for installation of six panel antennae not exceeding 54 inches in length by 9 inches in width on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to conditions with a review in one (1) year (January 1996).
- January 20, 1996                      Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions with a review in three (3) years (January 1999).
- January 27, 1999                      Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions and a revised Condition #2, with a review in three (3) years (January 2002).
- January 26, 2002                      Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions and a revised Condition #2, with a review in three (3) years (January 2005).
- April 16, 2005                        Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions, with a review in one (1) year (April 2006).
- April 22, 2006                        Deferred use permit (U-2832-94-4) review for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets to July 8, 2006.
- July 8, 2006                          Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions, with a review in one (1) year (July 2007).
- July 7, 2007                          Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions, with a review in one (1) year (July 2008).
- July 19, 2008                         Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions, with a review in two (2) years (July 2010).

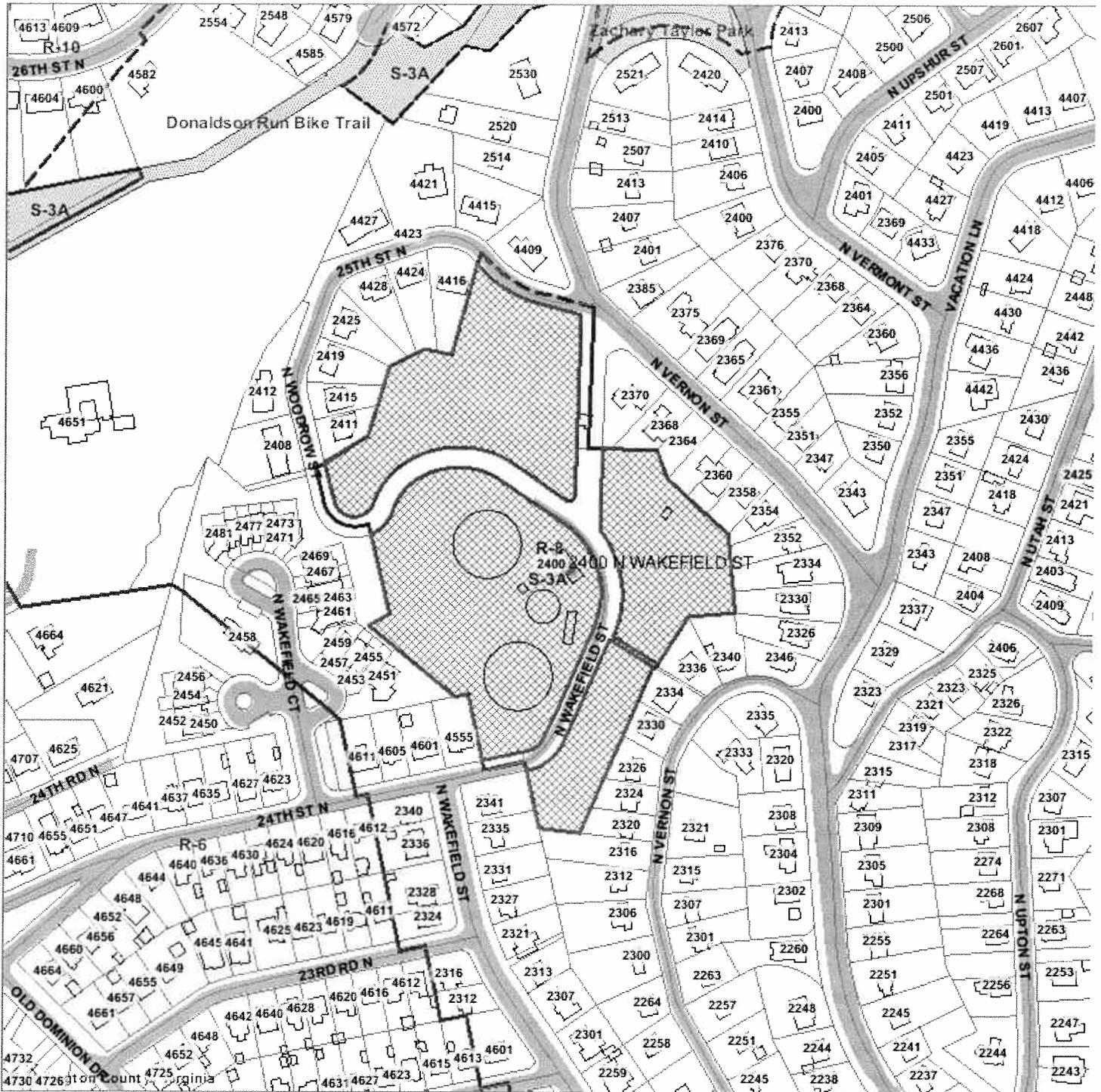
September 29, 2009

Renewed use permit (U-2832-94-4) for operation of six panel antennae on the existing water tower and two equipment cabinets, subject to all previous conditions, with a County Board review in ten (10) months (July 2010).

Approved Conditions:

1. The applicant agrees to limit the number of antennae to six (6) panel antennae (not to exceed 54 inches in length by 9 inches in width). All antennae shall be mounted on the catwalk railing of the water tower and shall be painted to match the color of the tank. No antennae are to be installed on the top of the tank or on the tank's legs or support structure.
2. The electromagnetic emissions from the applicant's antennae shall at all times comply with the ANSI C95.1-1992 Standard for Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3 KHz to 300 GHz, as adopted by the Federal Communications Commission in its Second Order and Report on Personal Communications Systems (Adopted: September 23, 1993 in Docket 90-314). The applicant agrees to have an independent engineering firm conduct, at its sole costs and expense, field measurements of its electromagnetic emissions. The first test shall be conducted within 30 days after the applicant's equipment is installed and becomes operational. Thereafter, the test shall be conducted annually from the approval date of the special exception use permit (January 7, 1995). True and correct copies of the field measurement, certified by an engineer licensed to practice in the Commonwealth of Virginia, shall be submitted to the Zoning Administrator, the Presidents of the Donaldson Run and Old Dominion Civic Associations, and the Director of the Emergency Communications Center within 30 days of the test completion no later than June 1st of each year. If at any time the applicant's operations cause it to exceed the standards set forth in the above ANSI standard, then the applicant agrees to immediately cease operations until the violation can be corrected. The applicant agrees not to continue operations until such time as the system is operating within the applicable standard.
3. The applicant agrees to limit its use of the Lee Pumping Station to personal communications services operating within its FCC license.
4. The applicant agrees to limit access to the Lee Pumping Station site to bi-monthly maintenance and repair of equipment. Service vehicles shall be limited to vehicles no larger than a one (1) ton truck or van.
5. The applicant and County representatives, at the applicant's sole expense, shall make yearly inspections of the applicant's antenna mounts and other equipment installation to ensure the antennae and equipment are installed in accordance with the plans and specifications approved by the County. The applicant agrees to immediately repair any deficiencies found.
6. The applicant agrees to remove any equipment not in use or operation from the water tower. The applicant further agrees to place waterproof identification labels on the existing antennas and related facilities, including cables and cabinets inside and outside the Equipment Room, located at the site, by or before August 31, 2010.

7. The applicant agrees to install its equipment and antennae and to complete the relocation of County equipment, as provided for in the Lease Agreement, within 20 working days after commencement of the work. The applicant agrees to limit work to Mondays through Fridays from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
8. The applicant shall establish and identify a liaison who shall be available to address any concerns regarding its operations at the Lee Pumping Station. The name and telephone number of the liaison shall be sent to the Donaldson Run Civic Association and the Old Dominion Civic Association and to the Zoning Administrator.



**U-2823-94-4 USE PERMIT AMENDMENT**  
**2400 N. Wakefield St.**  
**(RPC #05-005-072)**

Note: These maps are for property location assistance only.  
 They may not represent the latest survey and other information.



Not To Scale

