

February 25, 2011

In reviewing the Staff-Report – 2011-010 dated 2/18/2011, I would like some clarification on some of the items listed in that document.

Page 2, Paragraph 1: *“In 2007 two/ additional towers up to 140’ in height were constructed. Each tower was installed with an approved Storey County Building Permit and licensed engineer plans had been submitted.”*. When were these towers issued a permit? What is the permit #? Are the plans wet-stamped by a licensed Structural Engineer?

Page 7: Tower #1 that was supposedly erected in 1997 was raised up to 140’ on July 17, 2008. This is one day after being issued a Code Inspection Report on permit #8354 stating that *“Owner has been advised that Storey County now is of the opinion that a Special Use Permit is required for the construction of towers over 45’ in height, that towers are defined as structures in Storey County Code and therefore are subject to set-back requirements. A Special Use Permit has not been applied for at this time. Owner has been advised that continued construction of tower components is at own risk, and that the erection of towers over 45’ in height with anchors encroaching set-backs may not be approved by Storey County Officials.”* So, Tom WAS fully aware of what he was doing and knew exactly what he was trying to get away with. This tower should NOT be allowed to stay in its present state. I would also request that the back guy-wire be inspected to verify (by someone other than the building department) that it is in-deed on the Taormina’s property. That property owner does not live in-state and his rights should still be protected.

Page 9, Figure 1 – This detail does not accurately show neighboring residences. The residence at 380 Panamint, the closest residence to 370 Panamint, is not shown.

Page 13, Section 4.6 - Interference has been reported to the FCC by at least two different neighbors. Due to lack of time having to deal with these issues, they have not actively been pursued. They have been reported though.

Page 14, last paragraph - *“While the existing amateur radio antenna towers are in fact visible to the neighboring areas, they do not appear to cause detriment or otherwise impact the “quality of life that presently exists in the residential area.”* I would like to suggest that all of the neighboring properties affected directly by the Antenna Farm be visited for a full effect of the actions and inconsideration of the Taormina’s. In particular, addresses along Panamint Road, Highland Road and Saddleback Road. Some of the views have absolutely been destroyed and deserve the courtesy of an onsite visit. Not only is the aesthetic look affected, but the safety of these houses and all of Highlands is directly affected. These homes CAN NOT be properly defended in the case of a forest fire. If a helicopter with a bucket is used, they WILL NOT fly around the area of the towers and therefore compromising the ability to defend the homes and community. Knowing that fire is a highly probable threat, can Storey County give me a guarantee that my home and my neighbors homes can be properly protected with the towers standing like they are, or even higher? Also, Panamint Road and Highland Road are designated to be fire/fuel breaks for the Highlands, what is the point of having that in place if it cannot properly be protected?

Page 17, item 4 - Is the insurance policy only required for the construction process? Is \$1,000,000.00 sufficient in the event a fire? Seems to me this should be a lot higher.

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Page 18, item 10 - *“Reduced setbacks for guy wires, anchor points, and other appurtenances of the tower system shall be subject to the approval of the Storey County Building Department.”* Why is this allowed? These setbacks are there for a reason. Why is the Storey County Building Department the ones that will determine if this is allowed? They (SCBD) are the ones that have allowed the Taormina’s and the County to get to this point that we are at today. There needs to be some sort of over-site on this. Currently there are wires buried along the property lines, guy anchors are directly at or very close to property lines (some are even questionably crossing the rear line). These are in direct violation of SCC 17.40.050

Please note that the wording for tower height was taken out of the HRPOA CC&R’s in 2003 as a direct result of the county code that went into effect in 1999. The HRPOA figured that the Storey County Codes would handle the height restriction and that they would still be able to sign off on any sort of construction requiring a permit since it would have to be submitted to the Architectural Committee prior to approval. This was NEVER done.

Whatever happened to following the laws that have been set forth? If the laws are (knowingly), not followed, they should be REQUIRED to be followed. The laws and codes are stated very clearly and there should be no question that the Taormina’s ARE in direct violation of several count codes. If these existing towers are allowed to stay or new ones to be erected, what kind of precedence does this set for the rest of the community and county?

Please kindly acknowledge these concerns and comments.

Thank you,

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