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17 August 2017

Enclosed: 3 copies

Dear Sir/Madam

Reference number: APP/C3105/W/17/3174363

I am writing to object to the installation of 1 no. 21 metre high RT Swann Lattice tower on a concrete base with 6 no. antennae, 2 no. dishes, 4 no. cabinets and ancillary development at Sibford Gower on the B4035.

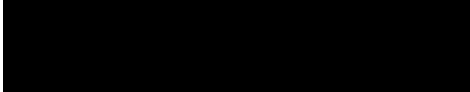
The proposed site is opposite a T junction where the lane from the busy villages of the Sibfords comes onto the B4035. The B4035 has become increasingly busy, particularly at 'rush hour' times of day. The lane up to the B4035 is used by local traffic and as a cut-through from large village of Hook Norton and beyond. The lane approaches the B4035 up a short incline and has limited visibility to the right at the junction. It is a difficult junction and has been the site of several minor accidents as the traffic has increased. A huge structure opposite the junction could create a further distraction and safety issue. The Photomontage submitted with the Appeal are taken from another junction that is wide, much safer and some distance away.

The D'arcy Dalton Way footpath runs for 170km across Oxfordshire, Cotswolds and Thames Valley. It runs through the same field and a few metres from the proposed site of the telecommunication tower. These fields are enjoyed by walkers, particularly because of the panoramic views across three counties. In my view the addition of the tower would not be appropriate in this particularly scenic area that looks across AONB. There are old and established hedgerows and mature trees around the field and site. It is an area that is well used by a wide range of wild life including badgers, foxes, deer and ground-nesting larks.

A short time ago an application for some solar panels across the valley, mostly hidden by trees and hedges, could be seen from these footpaths and planning was refused. Photographs submitted in Photomontage of the site do not reflect the impact from the D'arcy Dalton Way adjacent footpath, or the footpaths and Roman Road bridleway on the opposite side of the valley.

While I agree that it would be beneficial to have a more secure mobile signal in some of the local area, this has improved recently. I understand that there were several suitable sites for the tower identified. I would hope they can be revisited and a site found which creates less damage to the environment and without the potential road safety issues.

Yours faithfully

A solid black rectangular box redacting the signature of Ros Tustian.

Ros Tustian