

REPORT TO THE HEARING OFFICER

DATE ISSUED: November 5, 2024

HEARING DATE: November 19, 2024 AGENDA ITEM: #7

PROJECT NUMBER: PRJ2022-001100-(5)

PERMIT NUMBER(S): Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2022003194

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT: 5

PROJECT LOCATION: Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") 2865-021-903

OWNER: City of Santa Clarita

APPLICANT: Crown Castle

PUBLIC MEETINGS HELD: N/A

CASE PLANNER: Christopher Keating, Regional Planner

CKeating@planning.lacounty.gov

RECOMMENDATION

The following recommendation is made prior to the public hearing and is subject to change based upon testimony and/or documentary evidence presented at the public hearing:

LA County Planning staff ("Staff") recommends **APPROVAL** of Project Number PRJ2022-001100-(5), Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") No. RPPL2022003194, based on the Findings (Exhibit C – Findings) contained within this report and subject to the Draft Conditions of Approval (Exhibit D – Conditions of Approval).

Staff recommends the following motions:

I, THE HEARING OFFICER, CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING AND FIND THAT THE PROJECT IS CATEGORICALLY EXEMPT PURSUANT TO STATE AND LOCAL CEQA GUIDELINES.

I, THE HEARING OFFICER, APPROVE CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194 SUBJECT TO THE ATTATCHED FINDINGS AND CONDITIONS

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

A. Entitlement(s) Requested

Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") to authorize the continued operation and maintenance of an existing wireless communications facility ("WCF") consisting of a 72-foot-tall monopole and appurtenant facilities in the A-2-2 (Heavy Agricultural – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) Zone within the Castaic Canyon Zoned District pursuant to County Code Sections 22.16.030.C (Zones A-1, A-2, O-S, R-R, and W, Use Regulations) and 22.140.760 (Wireless Facilities).

B. Project

Crown Castle ("applicant") requests a CUP to authorize the continued operation and maintenance of an existing WCF consisting of a 72-foot-tall monopole and appurtenant facilities for two carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon ("Project"), located at APN 2865-021-903 ("Project Site") within the A-2-2 Zone in the Castaic Canyon Zoned District. The Project involves aesthetic modifications consisting of new equipment screening, cinching the wiring into one bundle and a general improvement in tidiness, and painting the monopole a uniform grey color to reduce the visual impact from Interstate 5.

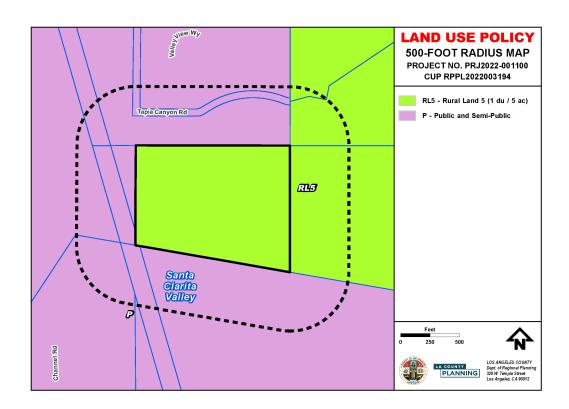
The Project Site is comprised of one parcel: APN 2865-021-093. The Project Site is a 27.92-acre trapezoid-shaped vacant parcel with no official address, although the address has been unofficially listed as 26716 or 26730 West Tapia Canyon Road. The Project Site contains a total of two WCFs: the subject WCF, a 72-foot-tall monopole originally authorized by CUP No. 99-252; and an adjacent WCF, a 67-foot-tall monopine authorized by CUP No. 2015000138, that is not related to the Project. The subject WCF is located near the middle of the southern part of the property, on top of a hill with steep downward slopes. The Project Site is accessible via Tapia Canyon Road, a public road with a 60-foot-wide right-of-way ("ROW"). Tapia Canyon Road is currently improved with 30 feet of paving. The WCF is accessible via an on-site private road and an off-site private extension of Tapia Canyon Road.

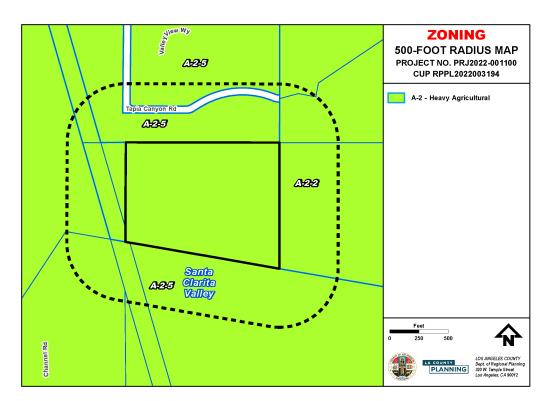
SUBJECT PROPERTY AND SURROUNDINGS

The following chart provides property data within a 500-foot radius:

LOCATION	SANTA CLARITA	ZONING	EXISTING USES
	VALLEY AREA PLAN		
	LAND USE POLICY		
SUBJECT PROPERTY	RL5 (Rural Land 5 –	A-2-2	WCFs
	One Dwelling Unit		
	per Five Acres)		
NORTH	RL5, P (Public and	A-2-5 (Heavy	Equestrian Center,
	Semi-Public)	Agricultural – Five	Vacant Land

		Acre Minimum	
		Required Lot Area)	
EAST	RL5, P	A-2-2, A-2-5	Oil Well, Vacant Land
SOUTH	Р	A-2-5	Vacant Land
WEST	Р	A-2-5	Vacant Land





PROPERTY HISTORY

A. Zoning History

ORDINANCE NO.	ZONING	DATE OF ADOPTION
7486	A-2-2	November 14, 1958

B. Previous Relevant Cases for APN 2865-021-903

CASE NO.	REQUEST	DATE OF ACTION
CUP No. 99-252	CUP to authorize the	Approved on February 13,
	installation and operation of	2001; Expired on February 13
	a 72-foot-tall monopole WCF	2021
	(subject WCF)	
CUP No. 200500027	CUP to authorize the	Approved on October 24,
	installation of a new 67-foot-	2005; Expired on August 3,
	tall monopine	2015
CUP No. 2015000138	CUP to authorize the	Approved on April 5, 2016;
	continued operation and	Expires on April 5, 2031
	maintenance of an existing	
	67-foot-tall monopine	

REA201200006	Revised Exhibit "A" (REA) to authorize antenna upgrades for Sprint for the subject WCF	Approved on August 20, 2012
REA201300092	REA to authorize one new antenna and one new Outdoor Unit ("ODU") for the subject WCF	Approved on May 22, 2013
REA201400038	REA to authorize antenna upgrades for Verizon for the subject WCF	Approved on February 27, 2014
REA201400232	REA to authorize antenna upgrades for Sprint for the subject WCF	Approved on August 5, 2014
REA201400289	REA to authorize a new generator for the subject WCF	Approved on October 7, 2014
REA201500260	REA to authorize antenna upgrades for Verizon for the subject WCF	Approved on October 26, 2015

C. Violations

CASE NO.	VIOLATION	CLOSED/OPEN
RPZPE2017024690	WCF CUP Violation of	Opened November 29, 2017;
	Condition No. 10 due to a	Closed January 8, 2018
	failure to pay inspection fees	
RPZPE2021000480	Operating the subject WCF	Opened February 18, 2021
	with an expired CUP. This	
	CUP abates the violation	
RPZPE2021000486	WCF CUP Violations of	Opened February 18, 2021;
	Condition Nos. 17, 30, 36,	Closed July 1, 2024.
	and 37 for the Adjacent WCF	
	(67-foot-tall monopine) not	
	related to the Project.	
RPZPE2021000482	WCF CUP Violations of	Opened February 18, 2021;
	Condition Nos. 17, 29, and 35	Closed July 1, 2024.
	for the Adjacent WCF (67-	
	foot-tall monopine) not	
	related to the Project.	

PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

RPZPE2024003547	WCF CUP Violations of	Opened June 4, 2024
	Condition Nos. 15, 17, 30, 32,	
	36, and 37 for the Adjacent	
	WCF (67-foot-tall monopine)	
	not related to the Project.	

ANALYSIS

A. Land Use Compatibility

The Project Site is nearby an equestrian center and oil well. The rest of the surrounding area is vacant land. The subject WCF is on top of a hill with steep downward slopes. The subject parcel is a 27.92-acre trapezoid-shaped parcel, adjacent to Tapia Canyon Road with a 60-foot-wide ROW. The existing WCF is compatible with the surrounding land uses as it provides critical telecommunications infrastructure for the nearby rural and residential communities as well as motorists driving on Interstate 5.

B. Neighborhood Impact (Need/Convenience Assessment)

Based on the propagation maps, the WCF provides important coverage along Interstate 5, the mountainous region east of the Project Site, Castaic and surrounding areas, that would not exist otherwise. Without the WCF, there would be a coverage gap, particularly for motorists driving on Interstate 5, which is a major regional transportation corridor. The WCF is located approximately 3,500 feet from the nearest residence, which is located on the west side of Interstate 5. The surrounding existing land uses are either commercial or industrial uses, with most land primarily undeveloped and with steep slopes.

C. Design Compatibility

The Project is visible from Interstate 5, which is located approximately one-half mile west of the subject WCF location. From other locations, the WCF is not visible due to the surrounding steep slopes blocking the WCF from view. Furthermore, the surrounding existing land uses are commercial and industrial, with most land primarily undeveloped. The Project involves aesthetic modifications consisting of new equipment screening, cinching the wiring into one bundle and a general improvement in tidiness, and painting the monopole a uniform grey color to reduce the visual impact from Interstate 5. Staff considered alternative camouflaging techniques but deemed the proposed aesthetic modifications as sufficient because of the low visual impact of the existing tower's location.

GENERAL PLAN/COMMUNITY PLAN CONSISTENCY

The Project is consistent with applicable goals and policies of the General Plan and Area Plan. Consistency findings can be found in the attached Findings (Exhibit C – Findings).

ZONING ORDINANCE CONSISTENCY

The Project complies with all applicable zoning requirements. Consistency findings can be found in the attached Findings (Exhibit C – Findings).

BURDEN OF PROOF

The applicant is required to substantiate all facts identified by Sections 22.158.050.B (Conditional Use Permits, Findings and Decision – Findings) and 22.140.760.I (Wireless Facilities, Findings) of the County Code. The Burden of Proof form with applicant's responses is attached (Exhibit E – Applicant's Burden of Proof). Staff is of the opinion that the applicant has met the burden of proof required findings.

ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYSIS

Staff recommends that this Project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption (Class 1, Existing Facilities) under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") section 15301 and the Los Angeles County Environmental Guidelines. The Project involves the continued use of an existing WCF with aesthetic modifications that do not expand beyond the existing development footprint. The project does not result in cumulative impacts, is not near a scenic highway, is not included on a list of hazardous waste sites, does not impact historic resources, and does not result in other significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no exceptions to the exemptions are applicable and staff recommends that the Hearing Officer determine that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA. An environmental determination (Exhibit F – Environmental Determination) was issued for the Project.

COMMENTS RECEIVED

A. County Department Comments and Recommendations

Staff has not received any comments at the time of report preparation. No review by County departments is required based on the scope of the Project.

B. Other Agency Comments and Recommendations

Staff has not received any comments at the time of report preparation.

C. Public Comments

Staff has not received any comments at the time of report preparation.

Report

Reviewed By:

Samuel Dea, Supervising Regional Planner

Report

Approved By:

Susan Tae, Assistant Deputy Director

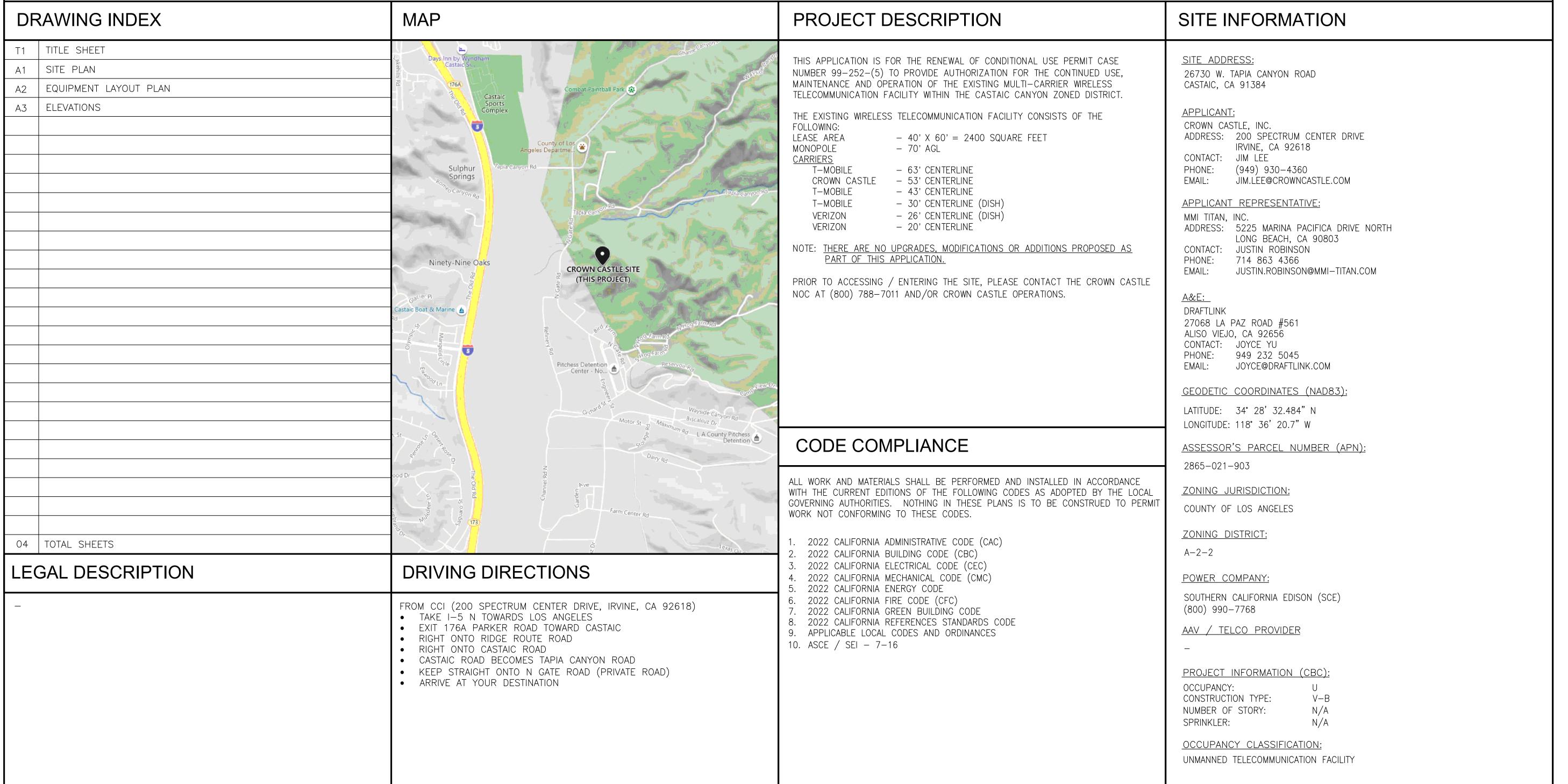
LIST OF ATTACHED EXH	BITS
EXHIBIT A	Plans
EXHIBIT B	Project Summary Sheet
EXHIBIT C	Draft Findings
EXHIBIT D	Draft Conditions of Approval
EXHIBIT E	Applicant's Burden of Proof
EXHIBIT F	Environmental Determination
EXHIBIT G	Informational Maps
EXHIBIT H	Photos
EXHIBIT I	Coverage Maps
EXHIBIT J	Photosimulations



CASTAIC BUN 878019

26730 W. TAPIA CANYON ROAD CASTAIC, CA 91384

(ZONING RENEWAL PROJECT)



PROJECT: CASTAIC 878019 PROJECT ADDRESS:

26730 W. TAPIA CANYON RD CASTAIC, CA 91384

> LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA APN: 2865-021-903

CLIENT:



PREPARED BY:



REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	\triangle
Α	ISSUED FOR ZD REVIEW	09/22/21	
0	ZD SUBMITTAL	12/14/21	
1	APN CHANGE	03/14/22	
2	PLANNING COMMENT	02/05/24	
3	CHANGE TO TMO	08/20/24	
	-		

CONSULTANT:

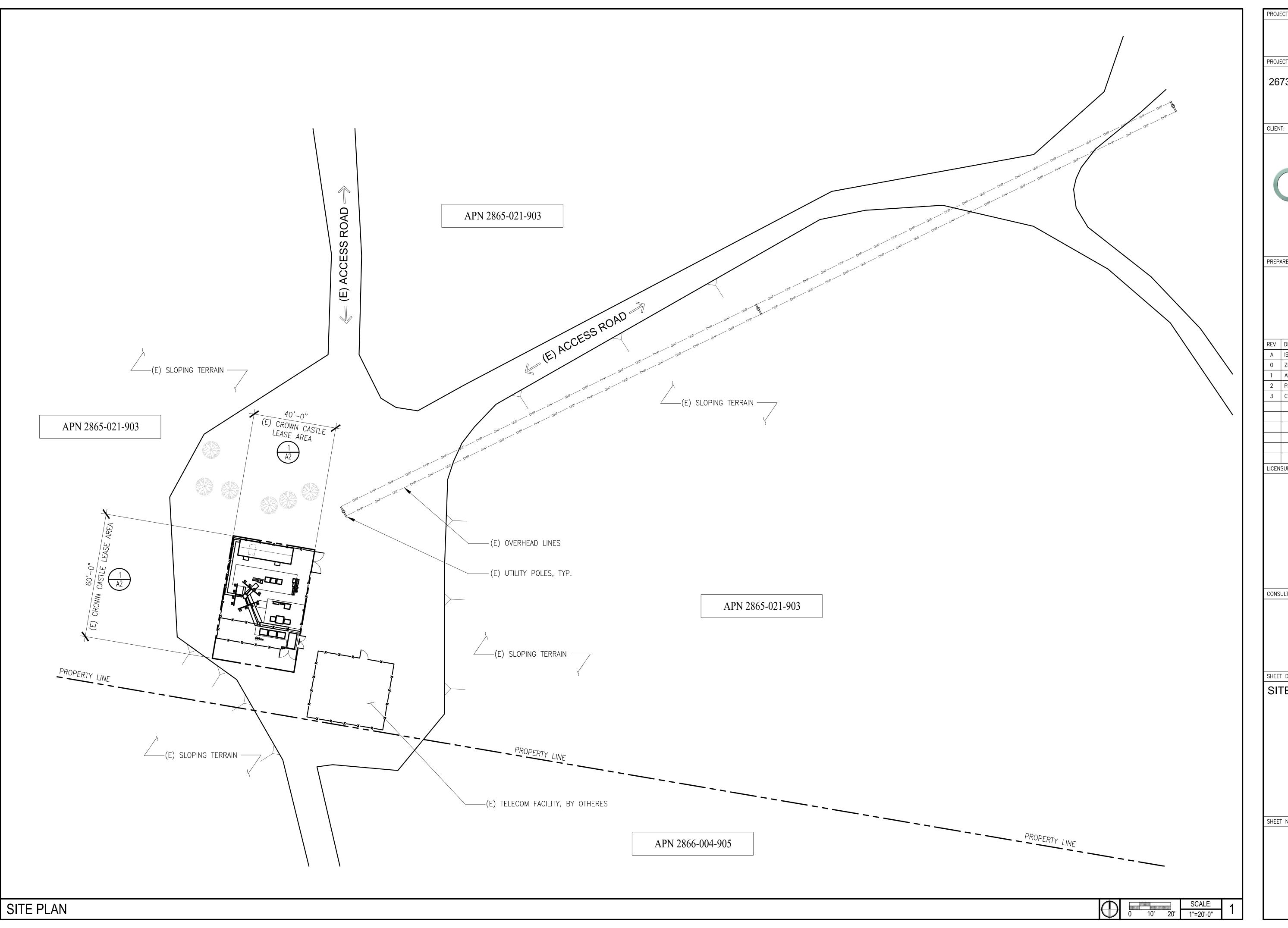
LICENSURE:

SHEET DESCRIPTION / CONTENT:

TITLE SHEET

SHEET NUMBER:

T



CASTAIC 878019

PROJECT ADDRESS:

26730 W. TAPIA CANYON RD CASTAIC, CA 91384

LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA APN: 2865-021-903



PREPARED BY:



REV	DESCRIPTION	DATE	\triangle
Α	ISSUED FOR ZD REVIEW	09/22/21	
0	ZD SUBMITTAL	12/14/21	
1	APN CHANGE	03/14/22	
2	PLANNING COMMENT	02/05/24	
3	CHANGE TO TMO	08/20/24	
LICEN	SURE:		

CONSULTANT:

SHEET DESCRIPTION / CONTENT: SITE PLAN

SHEET NUMBER:

GENERAL IMPROVEMENT NOTES:

1. CINCH STRAP ALL (E) CABLES AT BOTTOM OF TOWER TO ONE BUNDLE

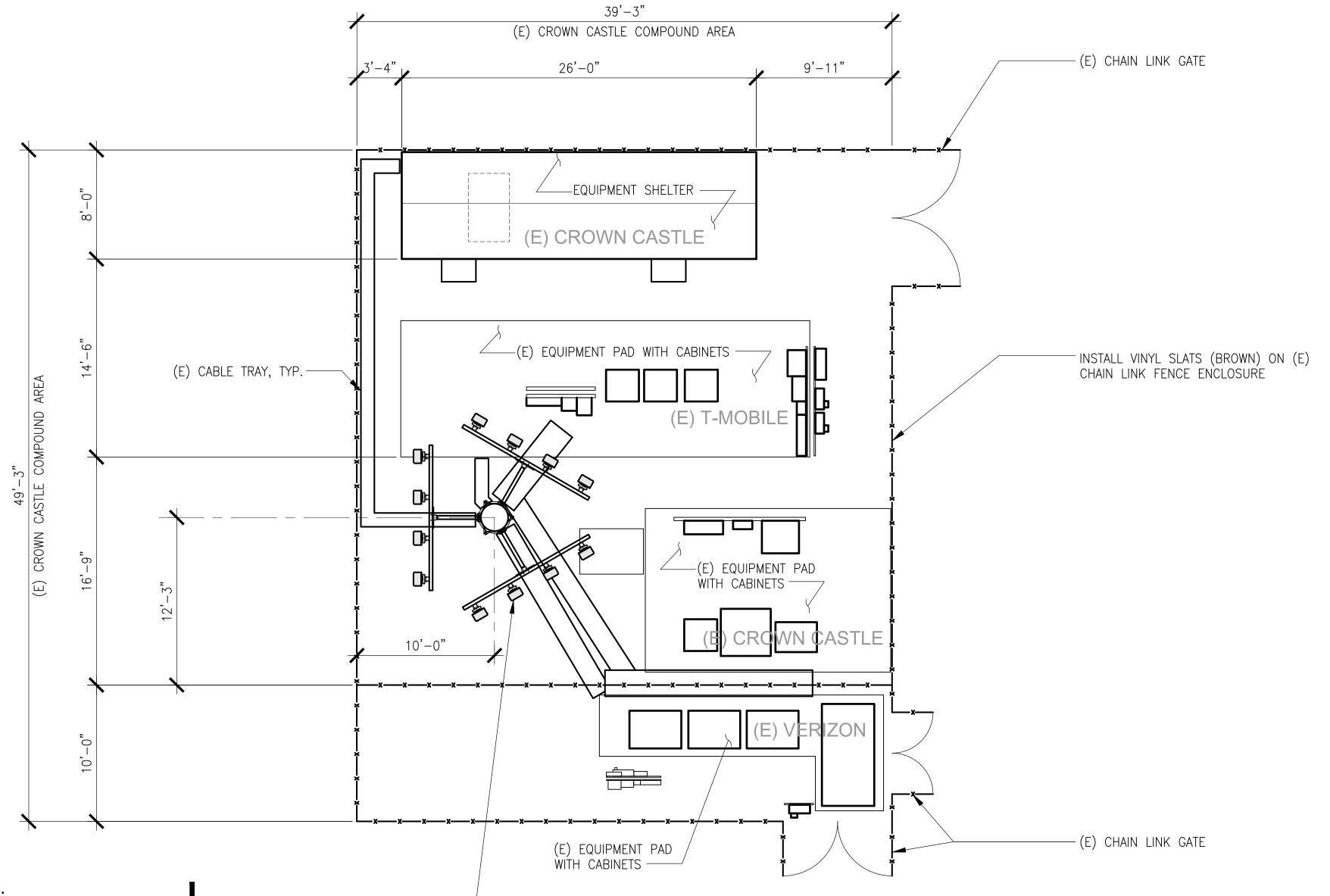


2. PAINT (E) POLE, ANTENNAS, RADIOS AND ALL APPURTENANCES "BATTLESHIP GREY"



3. INSTALL VINYL SLATS (BROWN) ON (E) CHAIN LINK FENCE ENCLOSURE





EXISTING MONOPOLE WITH ANTENNAS, RADIOS AND MICROWAVE DISHES. SEE LIST BELOW:

CARRIER	CENTERLINE	ANTENNA QTY	RADIO UNITS QTY	DISH QTY
T-MOBILE	63'-0"	6.0	9.0	0.0
CROWN CASTLE	53'-0"	12.0	0.0	0.0
CROWN CASTLE	43'-0"	3.0	0.0	0.0
T-MOBILE	30'-0"	0.0	0.0	2.0
CROWN CASTLE	26'-0"	0.0	0.0	1.0
VERIZON	20'-0"	6.0	6.0	0.0
	TOTAL:	27.0	15.0	3.0
	·			

CASTAIC 878019

PROJECT ADDRESS:

26730 W. TAPIA CANYON RD CASTAIC, CA 91384

> LOS ANGELES COUNTY, CA APN: 2865-021-903

CLIENT:



PREPARED BY:



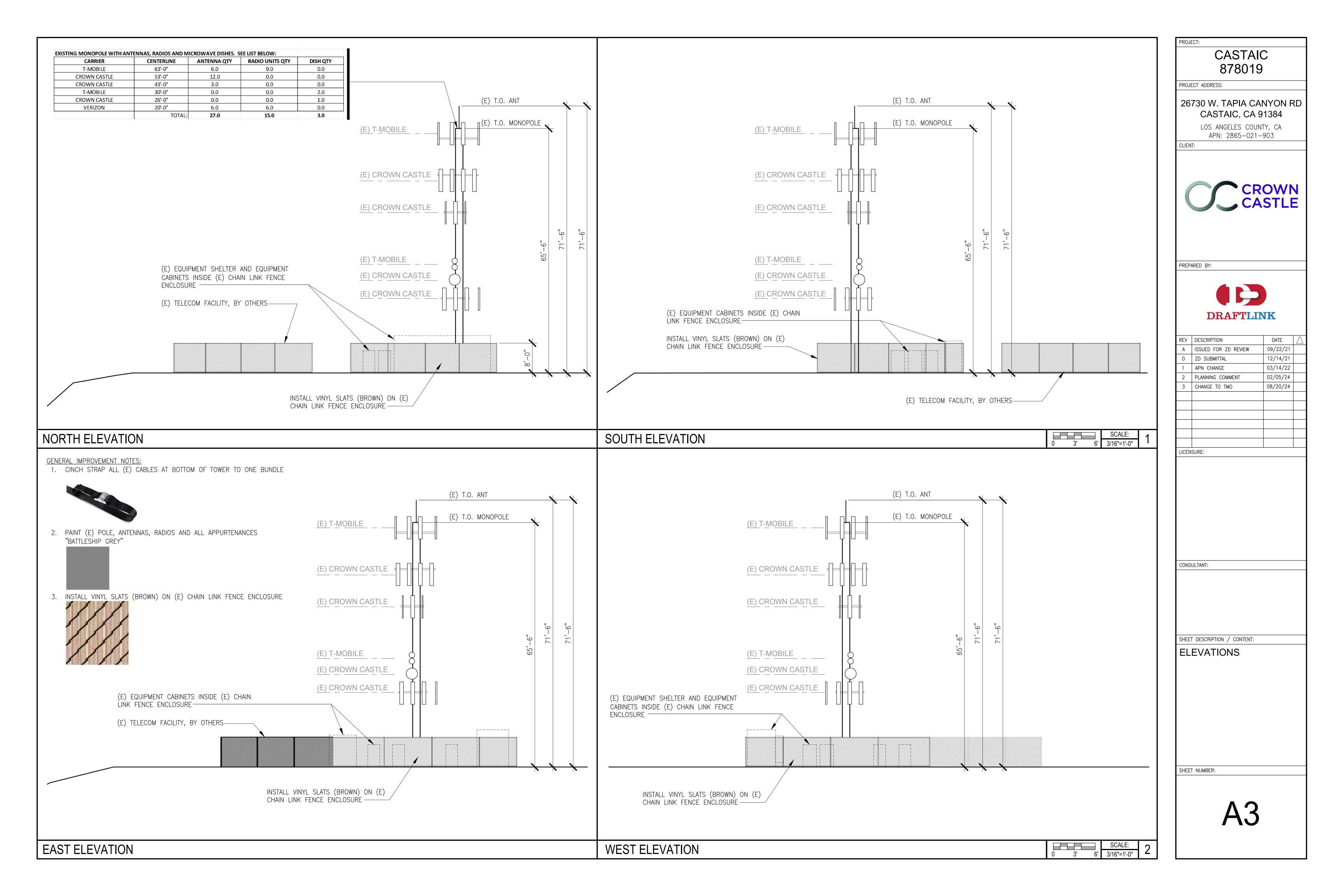
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2	PLANNING COMMENT	02/05/24	
3	CHANGE TO TMO	08/20/24	
LICEN	SURE:		

CONSULTANT:

SHEET DESCRIPTION / CONTENT:

| EQUIPMENT LAYOUT PLAN

SHEET NUMBER:





PROJECT NUMBER

HEARING DATE

PRJ2022-001100-(5)

November 19, 2024

REQUESTED ENTITLEMENT(S)

Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") No. RPPL2022003194

PROJECT SUMMARY

OWNER / APPLICANT

City of Santa Clarita / Crown Castle

August 20, 2024

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The applicant requests a CUP to authorize the continued operation and maintenance of an existing wireless communications facility consisting of a 72-foot-tall monopole and appurtenant facilities for two carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon, on a property located at Assessor's Parcel Number 2865-021-903 in the unincorporated community of Castaic in the A-2-2 (Heavy Agricultural – Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) Zone.

ASSESSORS PARCEL NUMBER(S) 2865-021-903 AREA PLAN Santa Clarita Valley LAND USE DESIGNATION RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) MAX DENSITY/UNITS NA SITE AREA 27.92 Acres 27.92 Acres ZONED DISTRICT PLANNING AREA Santa Clarita Valley Castaic Canyon Santa Clarita Valley Community Standards DISTRICT ("CSD") Castaic Area	LOCATION		ACCESS		
27.92 Acres AREA PLAN Santa Clarita Valley Castaic Canyon ZONE RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) MAX DENSITY/UNITS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")	26730U West Tapia Canyon Road, Castaic		Tapia Canyon Road		
AREA PLAN Santa Clarita Valley Castaic Canyon Santa Clarita Valley LAND USE DESIGNATION RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) A-2-2 PROPOSED UNITS MAX DENSITY/UNITS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")	ASSESSORS PARCEL NUMBER(S)		SITE AREA		
Santa Clarita Valley Castaic Canyon Santa Clarita Valley LAND USE DESIGNATION RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) A-2-2 PROPOSED UNITS MAX DENSITY/UNITS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")	2865-021-903		27.92 Acres		
LAND USE DESIGNATION RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) PROPOSED UNITS MAX DENSITY/UNITS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")	AREA PLAN		ZONED DISTRICT	PLANNING AREA	
RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) A-2-2 PROPOSED UNITS MAX DENSITY/UNITS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")	Santa Clarita Valley		Castaic Canyon	Santa Clarita Valley	
PROPOSED UNITS MAX DENSITY/UNITS COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")	LAND USE DESIGNATION		ZONE		
•	RL5 (Rural Land 5 – One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres)		A-2-2		
NA NA Castaic Area	PROPOSED UNITS	MAX DENSITY/UNITS	COMMUNITY STANDARDS DISTRICT ("CSD")		
	NA	NA	Castaic Area		

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION (CEQA)

Class 1, Existing Facilities

KEY ISSUES

- Consistency with the General Plan and Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan
- Satisfaction of the following portions of Title 22 of the Los Angeles County Code:
 - o 22.16.050 (Development Standards for Zones A-1 and A-2)
 - o 22.158.050.B (CUP Findings and Decision, Findings)
 - o 22.140.760 (Wireless Facilities)
 - o 22.312.060 (Castaic Area CSD, Community Wide Development Standards)

CASE PLANNER: PHONE NUMBER: E-MAIL ADDRESS:

Christopher Keating (213) 647 - 2467 CKeating@planning.lacounty.gov
Regional Planner

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

DRAFT FINDINGS OF THE HEARING OFFICER AND ORDER PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

RECITALS

- 1. **HEARING DATE(S).** The Los Angeles County ("County") Hearing Officer conducted a duly noticed public hearing in the matter of Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") No. **RPPL2022003194** on November 19, 2024.
- 2. **HEARING PROCEEDINGS.** *To be updated after the hearing.*
- 3. **ENTITLEMENT(S) REQUESTED.** The permittee, Crown Castle ("permittee"), requests the CUP to authorize the continued operation and maintenance of an existing wireless communications facility ("WCF") consisting of a 72-foot-tall monopole and appurtenant facilities for two carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon ("Project"), on a property located at Assessor's Parcel Number ("APN") 2865-021-903 ("Project Site") in the unincorporated community of Castaic in the A-2-2 (Heavy Agricultural Two Acre Minimum Required Lot Area) Zone pursuant to County Code Sections 22.16.030.C (Land Use Regulations for Zones A-1, A-2, O-S, R-R, and W, Use Regulations) and 22.140.760 (Wireless Facilities).
- 4. **LOCATION.** The Project is located at APN 2865-021-903 within the Castaic Canyon Zoned District and Santa Clarita Valley Planning Area. The Project Site has no official address, although the address has been unofficially listed as 26716 or 26730 West Tapia Canyon Road.
- 5. **PREVIOUS ENTITLEMENT(S).** CUP No. 99-252 ("prior CUP") was approved on February 13, 2001 to authorize the construction, operation, and maintenance of the subject WCF, a 72-foot-tall monopole; the prior CUP expired on February 13, 2021. Separate CUP No. 200500027 was approved on October 24, 2005 and authorized the construction, operation, and maintenance of an adjacent WCF on the Project Site, a 67-foot-tall monopine, and CUP No. 2015000138 authorized the continued operation and maintenance of that adjacent WCF until April 5, 2031; the 67-foot-tall monopine is not related to the Project. Multiple Revised Exhibit "As" ("REAs") were authorized to replace microwave dishes, colocations, and other equipment upgrades.
- 6. **LAND USE DESIGNATION.** The Project Site is located within the RL5 (Rural Land 5 One Dwelling Unit per Five Acres) land use category of the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan ("Area Plan") Land Use Policy Map, a component of the General Plan.

7. **ZONING.** The Project Site is located in the Castaic Canyon Zoned District and is currently zoned A-2-2. Pursuant to County Code Section 22.16.030.C a CUP is required for wireless facilities, in compliance with County Code Section 22.140.760.D.2 (Wireless Facilities, Application Requirements, CUP), in the A-2 Zone. Additionally, County Code Section 22.140.760.E (Wireless Facilities, Development Standards) applies to the Project. The Project Site is located in the Castaic Area Community Standards District ("CSD") and is subject to the applicable provisions of County Code Chapter 22.312 (Castaic Area CSD).

8. SURROUNDING LAND USES AND ZONING

The following chart provides property data within a 500-foot radius:

LOCATION	AREA PLAN LAND USE POLICY	ZONING	EXISTING USES
NORTH	RL5, P (Public and Semi-Public)	A-2-5 (Heavy Agricultural – Five Acre Minimum Required Lot Area)	Equestrian Center, Vacant Land
EAST	RL5, P	A-2-2, A-2-5	Oil Well, Vacant Land
SOUTH	Р	A-2-5	Vacant Land
WEST	P	A-2-5	Vacant Land

9. PROJECT AND SITE PLAN DESCRIPTION.

A. Existing Site Conditions

B. The Project Site is comprised of one parcel: APN 2865-021-903. The Project Site is a 27.92-acre trapezoid-shaped vacant parcel. The Project Site contains two WCFs: the subject WCF, a 72-foot-tall monopole originally authorized by the prior CUP; and an adjacent WCF, a 67-foot-tall monopine authorized by CUP No. 2015000138 that is not related to the Project. The subject WCF is located near the middle of the southern part of the property, on top of a hill with steep downward slopes.

C. Site Access

The Project Site is accessible via Tapia Canyon Road with a 60-foot-wide right-of-way ("ROW"). Tapia Canyon Road is currently improved with 30 feet of paving. The WCF is accessible via an on-site private road and an off-site private extension of Tapia Canyon Road.

D. Site Plan

The Site Plan depicts the subject WCF on the southern section of the parcel, showing the monopole and appurtenant equipment area approximately 21 feet from the southern property line. Adjacent to the subject WCF is the existing 67-foot-tall monopine WCF and

appurtenant equipment area authorized by the prior CUP. The elevations page of the site plan depicts the height of the existing WCF with a height of 71 feet six inches and antennas for the two existing carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon. Furthermore, the site plan details the general improvements to the WCF which include cinching all cables at the bottom of the monopole, painting the monopole a uniform grey color, and installing screening for the equipment.

E. Parking

Pursuant to County Code Section 22.112.070.B (Parking), the required parking provided for uses not specified in the County Code may be determined by the Director of the County Department of Regional Planning ("LA County Planning") to prevent traffic congestion and excessive on-street parking. The existing WCF is unmanned and requires only periodic maintenance, which is not anticipated to generate significant traffic. There is ample space for parking available on the property. Therefore no designated parking space is required for the Project.

- 10. **CEQA DETERMINATION.** Prior to the Hearing Officer's public hearing on the Project, LA County Planning staff determined that the Project qualifies for a Categorical Exemption (Class 1, Existing Facilities) under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") Section 15301 and the County environmental guidelines. The Project involves the continued use of an existing WCF with aesthetic modifications that do not expand beyond the existing development footprint. The project does not result in cumulative impacts, is not near a scenic highway, is not included on a list of hazardous waste sites, does not impact historic resources, and does not result in other significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no exceptions to the exemptions are applicable and the Project is exempt from CEQA.
- 11. **PUBLIC COMMENTS.** Staff has not received any comments at the time of report preparation.
- 12. **LEGAL NOTIFICATION.** Pursuant to Section 22.222.120 (Public Hearing) of the County Code, the community was properly notified of the public hearing by mail, and newspapers (Santa Clarita Valley Signal), and property posting. Additionally, the Project was noticed and case materials were available on LA County Planning's website. On October 10, 2024, a total of seven Notices of Public Hearing were mailed to all property owners as identified on the County Assessor's record within a 1,000-foot radius from the Project Site, as well as 23 notices to those on the courtesy mailing list for the Castaic Canyon Zoned District and to any additional interested parties.

GENERAL PLAN CONSISTENCY FINDINGS

13. **LAND USE POLICY.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project is consistent with the goals and policies of the Area Plan because the RL5 land use designation is intended for single-family homes at a maximum density of one dwelling unit per five acres, agriculture,

equestrian uses, private recreation, and public and institutional facilities serving the local area and includes lands with environmental features that are not appropriate for intense development requiring urban services. Although WCFs are not specifically mentioned in the RL5 land use designation, WCFs are considered necessary infrastructure and a utility to support the underlying and intended land uses such as single-family residences. Specific allowable uses in the RL5 land use designation are determined by the underlying zoning designation.

- 14. **GOALS AND POLICIES.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project is consistent with the goals and policies of the General Plan applicable to the proposed project:
 - a. General Plan Public Services and Facilities Policy PS/F 6.2: "Improve existing wired and wireless telecommunications infrastructure."
 - The Project is a vital part of the existing telecommunications infrastructure in the area. Based on the provided propagation maps, the WCF provides essential coverage along Interstate 5. Without the WCF, there will be a coverage gap caused by the lack of high-band infrastructure in the immediate area for customers and travelers along a major transportation route.
 - b. General Plan Public Services and Facilities Policy PS/F: 6.3: "Expand access to wireless technology networks, while minimizing impacts through co-location and design."
 - The Project will help continued wireless telecommunications service in the area. The Project will lessen the visual impact of the existing WCF by incorporating aesthetic modifications including painting the monopole a uniform grey color, new equipment screening, cinching the wires into one bundle, and improving the general tidiness of the tower. Furthermore, the existing tower serves two carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon, with the ability to co-locate additional carriers in the future.
 - c. Area Plan Land Use Policy LU 4,4,4: "Protect and enhance public utility facilities as necessary to maintain the safety, reliability, integrity, and security of essential public service systems for all Valley residents."
 - The Project provides critical wireless infrastructure for local Castaic residents, motorists driving on Interstate 5, and visitors in the surrounding areas.

ZONING CODE CONSISTENCY FINDINGS

15. **PERMITTED USE IN ZONE.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project is consistent with the A-2-2 zoning classification as WCFs are permitted in this zone with a CUP pursuant to County Code Section 22.16.030.C (Land Use Regulations for Zones A-1, A-2, O-S, R-R, and W, Use Regulations). A WCF can be permitted through a Site Plan Review ("SPR") if it complies with

PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

all applicable development standards. However, if it does not fully comply, such as the subject Project, then a CUP is required. The Project requires a CUP pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.D.2 (Wireless Facilities, Application Requirements, CUP Application Requirements) because it is a macro facility that does not meet all the required development standards of County Code Section 22.140.760.E (Wireless Facilities, Development Standards).

- 16. **DESIGN.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project is consistent with the development standards identified in County Code Section 22.140.760.E (Wireless Facilities, Development Standards) except for the length of the arms supporting the antennas on the monopole. The WCF design is deemed appropriate for the surrounding area which is primarily vacant land in a rural area. The Project is visible from Interstate 5, which is located approximately one-half mile west of the subject WCF location. From other locations, the WCF is not visible due to the surrounding steep slopes blocking the WCF from view. Furthermore, the surrounding existing land uses are commercial and industrial, with most land primarily undeveloped. The Project involves aesthetic modifications consisting of new equipment screening, cinching the wiring into one bundle and a general improvement in tidiness, and painting the monopole a uniform grey color to reduce the visual impact from Interstate 5. Staff considered alternative camouflaging techniques but deemed the proposed aesthetic modifications as sufficient because of the low visual impact due to the tower's location. The only development standard that is not in compliance is the length of the existing arms supporting the antennas on the Pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.E.2 (Wireless Facilities, Development Standards-Additional Standards for Monopoles), the arms supporting the antennas may only be two feet in length. The existing arms are over three feet in length and are therefore not in compliance. Therefore, a CUP is required for this WCF rather than a SPR, and a waiver from this design standard is needed. The arms are under the maximum eight feet allowed for monopoles, and the natural topography of the surrounding area helps to screen it from view for most of the surrounding area, in accordance with County Code Section 22.140.760.H.2 (Standards for WCFs Subject to CUP-Design Standards-Monopoles).
- 17. **HEIGHT.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project is consistent with the standard identified in County Code Section 22.16.050 (Development Standards for Zones A-1 and A-2), which does not specify a maximum height for non-single-family residences. The WCF Ordinance, pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.E.1.c.i. (Wireless Facilities, Development Standards, General Standards, Height), specifies the maximum height for WCFs in the Agricultural zones as 75 feet. The proposed WCF is 72 feet tall, and therefore in compliance with the maximum height of 75 feet.
- 18. **LOCATION.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project complies with the location requirements for a WCF in Zone A-2, pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.E.1.b (WCF Development Standards-Location), which requires WCFs to not encroach into required setback areas, and County Code Section 22.140.760.H.1 (Standards for WCFs Subject to CUP-Location), which requires that WCFs be located and designed to minimize visual impacts to

vistas from adopted scenic highways and ridgelines and to be located to minimize visual impacts to adjacent residences and historic resources. The subject WCF is consistent with the minimum yard (setback) standards identified in County Code Section 22.16.050 (Development Standards for Zones A-1 and A-2) which requires a minimum side yard setback of five feet, minimum front yard setback of 20 feet, and minimum rear yard setback of 15 feet in the A-2 Zone. The proposed WCF enclosure is located approximately 21 feet from the side lot line on the south, approximately 860 feet from the side lot line on the north, approximately 700 feet from the front lot line, and approximately 580 feet from the rear lot line. The WCF location is not visible from an adopted scenic highway, as no such highways are located in the area. The Project Site contains an adopted scenic ridgeline, but the subject WCF is located approximately 290 feet from the ridgeline. The subject WCF is an existing facility that is not close to any residences, historic resources or public areas from which it would be highly visible. It is visible from a freeway, Interstate 5, but the freeway is over one-half mile from the subject WCF location, and the proposed aesthetic modifications will further reduce the visual impacts.

- 19. **PARKING.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project Site has adequate parking facilities to serve the Project. The County Code does not include a specific standard for parking for WCFs. Pursuant to County Code Section 22.112.070.B (Required Parking Spaces) of the County Code, the required parking provided for uses not specified in the County Code shall be determined by the Director in an amount sufficient to prevent traffic congestion and excessive on-street parking. The existing WCF is unmanned and requires only periodic maintenance, which is not anticipated to generate significant traffic. There is ample space for parking available on the property and the site plan depicts a large open area east of the subject WCF which is sufficient to provide parking for the vehicles which are needed for routine maintenance of the WCF. No designated parking space is required for the Project.
- 20. **RURAL OUTDOOR LIGHTING DISTRICT.** The Hearing Officer finds that the Project Site is located within the Rural Outdoor Lighting District and is subject to the applicable requirements in County Code Chapter 22.80 (Rural Outdoor Lighting District). The WCF is consistent with the standards outlined by the Rural Outdoor Lighting District. All lighting on the Project Site will be shielded and follow the maximum height requirements. Any lighting established at this location in the future would also be required to comply with these standards.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT FINDINGS

21. The Hearing Officer finds that the proposed use with the attached conditions will be consistent with the adopted General Plan. The Project is consistent with the land use designation in the Area Plan which is intended primarily for low-density residential development and agricultural uses. The existing WCF is a necessary form of telecommunications infrastructure for residential and rural communities. WCF development, such as the Project, is consistent with the RL5 land use designation.

- 22. The Hearing Officer finds that the proposed use at the site will not adversely affect the health, peace, comfort, or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area; will not be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment, or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site; and will not jeopardize, endanger, or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety, or general welfare. The permitee has provided cellular service coverage maps to demonstrate the necessity of continuing the operation of the existing WCF because it provides vital telecommunications infrastructure for the area. Based on the propagation maps, the WCF provides important coverage along Interstate 5, which is a major regional transportation corridor. Without the WCF, there would be a coverage gap, particularly for motorists driving on Interstate 5. The proposed WCF is located approximately 3,500 feet from the nearest residence, located on the west side of Interstate 5. The Project is visible from Interstate 5. From other locations, the WCF is not visible due to the surrounding steep slopes blocking the WCF from view. Furthermore, the surrounding land uses are commercial and industrial, with most land primarily undeveloped. The Project involves aesthetic modifications consisting of new equipment screening, cinching the wiring into one bundle and a general improvement in tidiness, and painting the monopole a uniform grey color to reduce the visual impact from Interstate 5. The design makes it less likely to result in concerns about potential adverse visual impacts to the surrounding area.
- 23. The Hearing Officer finds that the proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area. The Project meets all setback requirements, parking, and all other development standards pursuant to County Code Sections 22.16.050, 22.140.760.E, and 22.312.060 (Castaic Area CSD, Community Wide Development Standards) and the Project Site is sufficiently large to accommodate the subject WCF and the other adjacent WCF. The Project is compatible with the uses in the surrounding area.
- 24. The Hearing Officer finds that the proposed site is adequately served by highways or streets of sufficient width and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate, and by other public or private service facilities as are required. The existing WCF is an unmanned facility that only requires occasional maintenance, and therefore unlikely to generate significant traffic. Further, the WCF is accessible from Tapia Canyon Road with a 60-foot ROW and has adequate capacity to accommodate the Project's maintenance activities.

SUPPLEMENTAL FINDINGS – WIRELESS FACILITIES

25. The Hearing Officer finds that the facility complies with all applicable standards in County Code Section 22.140.760 (Wireless Facilities) unless a waiver has been requested, pursuant to Subsection L. The WCF complies with all design requirements of the section except for the

length of the arms on the monopole exceeds the maximum length of two feet, pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.E.2 (Wireless Facilities, Development Standards-Additional Standards for Monopoles). The arms are over three feet in length, so a waiver is required. The WCF has a height of 72 feet which is in compliance with the maximum height of 75 feet. The WCF also does not encroach into any required setbacks for structures; the proposed design cinches the cables and increases general tidiness, paints the monopole a uniform grey color, and screens the appurtenant equipment.

- 26. The Hearing Officer finds that the design and placement of the facility are the least visually intrusive that are technically feasible and appropriate for the location. The Project is visible from Interstate 5. From other locations, the WCF is not visible due to the surrounding steep slopes blocking the WCF from view. Furthermore, the surrounding land uses are commercial and industrial, with most land primarily undeveloped. The Project involves aesthetic modifications consisting of new equipment screening, cinching the wiring into one bundle and a general improvement in tidiness, and painting the monopole a uniform grey color to reduce the visual impact from Interstate 5. Staff considered alternative camouflaging techniques but deemed the proposed aesthetic modifications as sufficient because of the low visual impact of the existing tower's location.
- 27. The Hearing Officer finds that a waiver of the standard for the length of the arms supporting the antennas on the monopole is justified pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.L (WCF Waivers) and the permittee has established that the denial of the application would:
 - a. Prohibit or effectively prohibit the provision of personal wireless services, pursuant to <u>Title 47</u> of the United States Code, section 332(c)(7)(B)(i)(II), or any successor provision;
 - b. Otherwise violate applicable laws or regulations; or
 - c. Require a technically infeasible design or installation of a wireless facility.

Although the existing monopole arms of over three feet in length exceed the standard of two feet in length allowed with an SPR, the arms are well under the maximum length of eight feet allowed under a CUP. The current design is acceptable, as the subject WCF is located far from the surrounding uses and the visual impacts will be further minimized with the proposed aesthetic changes. The subject WCF is a crucial component of the local telecommunications network, and denial of the request would result in a coverage gap for the surrounding area.

28. The Hearing Officer finds that to ensure continued compatibility between the Project and the surrounding land uses, it is necessary to limit the CUP to 20 years.

ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS

29. The Hearing Officer finds that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1, Existing Facilities). The Project involves the continued use of an existing WCF with aesthetic modifications that do not expand beyond the existing development footprint. The project does not result in cumulative impacts, is not near a scenic highway, is not included on a list of hazardous waste sites, does not impact historic resources, and does not result in other significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no exceptions to the exemptions are applicable and the Project is exempt from CEQA.

ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS

30. **LOCATION OF DOCUMENTS.** The location of the documents and other materials constituting the record of proceedings upon which the Hearing Officer's decision is based in this matter is at LA County Planning, 13th Floor, Hall of Records, 320 West Temple Street, Los Angeles, California 90012. The custodian of such documents and materials shall be the Section Head of the North County Development Services Section, LA County Planning.

BASED ON THE FOREGOING, THE HEARING OFFICER CONCLUDES THAT:

- A. The proposed use with the attached conditions will be consistent with the adopted General Plan.
- B. The proposed use at the site will not adversely affect the health, peace, comfort or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area, will not be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site, and will not jeopardize, endanger or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety or general welfare.
- C. The proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping and other development features prescribed in Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area.
- D. The proposed site is adequately served by highways or streets of sufficient width and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate, and by other public or private service facilities as are required.
- E. The facility complies with all applicable standards in County Code Section 22.140.760 (Wireless Facilities) unless a waiver has been requested, pursuant to Subsection L.
- F. The design and placement of the facility are the least visually intrusive that are technically feasible and appropriate for the location.

PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

G. A waiver of the standard for the length of the arms supporting the antennas on the monopole is justified pursuant to County Code Section 22.140.760.L (WCF Waivers).

THEREFORE, THE HEARING OFFICER:

- 1. Finds that the Project is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines Section 15301 (Class 1, Existing Facilities); and
- 2. Approves **CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194**, subject to the attached conditions.

ACTION DATE: November 19, 2024

SD:CK November 5, 2024

c: Zoning Enforcement, Building and Safety

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF REGIONAL PLANNING

DRAFT CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project is a Conditional Use Permit ("CUP") to authorize the continued operation and maintenance of an existing wireless communications facility ("WCF") consisting of a 72-foot-tall monopole and appurtenant facilities for two carriers, T-Mobile and Verizon ("Project"), located at APN 2865-021-903 ("Project Site"), subject to the following conditions of approval:

GENERAL CONDITIONS

- 1. Unless otherwise apparent from the context, the term "Permittee" shall include the applicant, owner of the property, and any other person, corporation, or other entity making use of this grant.
- 2. This grant shall not be effective for any purpose until the Permittee, and the owner of the subject property if other than the Permittee, have filed at the office of the Los Angeles County ("County") Department of Regional Planning ("LA County Planning") their affidavit stating that they are aware of and agree to accept all of the conditions of this grant, and that the conditions of the grant have been recorded as required by Condition No. 6. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Condition No. 2 and Condition Nos. 3, 4, and 8 shall be effective immediately upon the date of final approval of this grant by the County.
- 3. The Permittee shall defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the County, its agents, officers, and employees from any claim, action, or proceeding against the County or its agents, officers, or employees to attack, set aside, void, or annul this permit approval, which action is brought within the applicable time period of Government Code section 65009 any other applicable limitations period. The County shall promptly notify the Permittee of any claim, action, or proceeding and the County shall reasonably cooperate in the defense. If the County fails to promptly notify the Permittee of any claim, action, or proceeding, or if the County fails to cooperate reasonably in the defense, the Permittee shall not thereafter be responsible to defend, indemnify, or hold harmless the County.
- 4. In the event that any claim, action, or proceeding as described above is filed against the County, the Permittee shall within ten days of the filing make an initial deposit with LA County Planning in the amount of up to \$5,000.00, from which actual costs and expenses shall be billed and deducted for the purpose of defraying the costs or expenses involved in LA County Planning's cooperation in the defense, including but not limited to, depositions, testimony, and other assistance provided to Permittee or Permittee's counsel.

EXHIBIT D CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL PAGE 2 OF 6

PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

If during the litigation process, actual costs or expenses incurred reach 80 percent of the amount on deposit, the Permittee shall deposit additional funds sufficient to bring the balance up to the amount of \$5,000.00. There is no limit to the number of supplemental deposits that may be required prior to completion of the litigation.

At the sole discretion of the Permittee, the amount of an initial or any supplemental deposit may exceed the minimum amounts defined herein. Additionally, the cost for collection and duplication of records and other related documents shall be paid by the Permittee according to County Code Section 2.170.010.

- 5. If any material provision of this grant is held or declared to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the permit shall be void and the privileges granted hereunder shall lapse.
- 6. Prior to the use of this grant, the Permittee, or the owner of the subject property if other than the Permittee, shall **record the terms and conditions** of the grant in the office of the County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk ("Recorder"). In addition, upon any transfer or lease of the property during the term of this grant, the Permittee, or the owner of the subject property if other than the Permittee, shall promptly provide a copy of the grant and its conditions to the transferee or lessee of the subject property.
- 7. This grant shall terminate on November 19, 2044. Entitlement to use of the property thereafter shall be subject to the regulations then in effect. If the Permittee intends to continue operations after such date, whether or not the Permittee proposes any modifications to the use at that time, the Permittee shall file a new Conditional Use Permit application with LA County Planning, or shall otherwise comply with the applicable requirements at that time. Such application shall be filed at least twelve months prior to the expiration date of this grant and shall be accompanied by the required fee. In the event that the Permittee seeks to discontinue or otherwise change the use, notice is hereby given that the use of such property may require additional or different permits and would be subject to the then-applicable regulations.
- 8. This grant shall expire unless used within ninety (90) days from the date of final approval of the grant. A single thirty (30) day time extension may be requested in writing and with the payment of the applicable fee prior to such expiration date. For the purposes of this provision, continued operation of the WCF and satisfaction of Condition No. 2 shall be considered use of this grant.
- 9. The subject property shall be maintained and operated in full compliance with the conditions of this grant and any law, statute, ordinance, or other regulation applicable to any development or activity on the subject property. Failure of the Permittee to cease any development or activity not in full compliance shall be a violation of these conditions. No provision of any easement of any other encumbrance on the property shall exempt the Permittee and/or property owner from compliance with these conditions and applicable

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PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100-(5) CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT NO. RPPL2022003194

regulations. Inspections shall be made to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant as well as to ensure that any development undertaken on the subject property is in accordance with the approved site plan on file. The Permittee shall deposit with the County the sum **\$4,441.00**, which shall be placed in a performance fund and be used exclusively to reimburse LA County Planning for all expenses incurred while inspecting the premises to determine the Permittee's compliance with the conditions of this grant. The fund provides for **ten (10)** inspections. Inspections may be unannounced and may be conducted utilizing any available technologies, including, but not limited to, unmanned aircraft systems ("UAS").

If additional inspections are required to ensure compliance with the conditions of this grant, or if any inspection discloses that the subject property is being used in violation of any one of the conditions of this grant, the Permittee shall be financially responsible and shall reimburse LA County Planning for all additional enforcement efforts necessary to bring the subject property into compliance. The amount charged for additional inspections shall be **\$441.00** per inspection, or the current recovery cost established by LA County Planning at the time any additional inspections are required, whichever is greater.

- 10. Notice is hereby given that any person violating a provision of this grant is guilty of a misdemeanor. Notice is further given that the Regional Planning Commission ("Commission") or a Hearing Officer may, after conducting a public hearing, revoke or modify this grant, if the Commission or Hearing Officer finds that these conditions have been violated or that this grant has been exercised so as to be detrimental to the public's health or safety or so as to be a nuisance, or as otherwise authorized pursuant to Chapter 22.238 of the County Code.
- 11. All development pursuant to this grant must be kept in full compliance with the County Fire Code to the satisfaction of the County Fire Department.
- 12. All development pursuant to this grant shall conform with the requirements of the County Department of Public Works to the satisfaction of said department.
- 13. All development pursuant to this grant shall comply with the requirements of Title 22 of the County Code and of the specific zoning of the subject property, unless specifically modified by this grant, as set forth in these conditions, including the approved Exhibit "A," or a revised Exhibit "A" approved by the Director of LA County Planning ("Director").
- 14. The Permittee shall maintain the subject property in a neat and orderly fashion. The Permittee shall maintain free of litter all areas of the premises over which the Permittee has control.
- 15. All structures, walls and fences open to public view shall remain free of graffiti or other extraneous markings, drawings, or signage that was not approved by LA County Planning. These shall include any of the above that do not directly relate to the business being

EXHIBIT D CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL PAGE 4 OF 6

operated on the premises or that do not provide pertinent information about said premises. The only exceptions shall be seasonal decorations or signage provided under the auspices of a civic or non-profit organization.

In the event of graffiti or other extraneous markings occurring, the Permittee shall remove or cover said markings, drawings, or signage within 48 hours of such notification, weather permitting. Paint utilized in covering such markings shall be of a color that matches, as closely as possible, the color of the adjacent surfaces.

- 16. The subject property shall be developed and maintained in substantial conformance with the plans marked Exhibit "A." If changes to any of the plans marked Exhibit "A" are required as a result of instruction given at the public hearing, **one (1) digital copy of** a modified Exhibit "A" shall be submitted to LA County Planning by **January 18, 2024**.
- 17. In the event that subsequent revisions to the approved Exhibit "A" are submitted, the Permittee shall submit **one (1) digital copy of** the proposed plans to the Director for review and approval. All revised plans must substantially conform to the originally approved Exhibit "A". All revised plans must be accompanied by the written authorization of the property owner(s) and applicable fee for such revision.

<u>PERMIT-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS – CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT (WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY)</u>

- 18. The facility shall be operated in accordance with regulations of the California State Public Utilities Commission.
- 19. Upon completion of construction of the facility, the Permittee shall provide upon request to the Zoning Enforcement Section of LA County Planning ("Zoning Enforcement") written certification that the radio frequency electromagnetic emissions levels comply with adopted Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") limitations for general population/uncontrolled exposure to such emissions when operating at full strength and capacity. If other WCFs are located on the subject property or on adjacent parcels, the aforementioned report shall include the radio frequency electromagnetic emissions of said WCFs.
- 20. Insofar as is feasible, the Permittee shall cooperate with any subsequent applicants for WCFs in the vicinity with regard to possible co-location. Such subsequent applications will be subject to the regulations in effect at that time.
- 21. Any proposed WCF that will be co-locating on the proposed facility will be required to provide upon request the same written verification of emissions and include the cumulative radiation and emissions of all such facilities to Zoning Enforcement.

EXHIBIT D CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL PAGE 5 OF 6

- 22. If any external lighting is proposed, including security lighting, it shall be on motion sensors, be of low intensity, fully shielded and directed away from any adjacent residences. Pole mounted lighting is prohibited on the leasehold unless the facility is disguised as a light pole. Antenna lighting is prohibited. Beacon lights are prohibited unless required by the Federal Aviation Administration.
- 23. Placement and height of all pole mounted equipment shall be in substantial conformance with that shown on the approved Exhibit "A". The facility shall be built as depicted in the photo simulations presented at the public hearing.
- 24. Maintenance vehicles shall not block access to driveways or garages.
- 25. The maximum height of the facility shall not exceed 72 feet above finished grade of the existing concrete pad, as shown on the Exhibit "A".
- 26. The Permittee shall maintain current contact information with Zoning Enforcement.
- 27. The finished surface of the facility shall not be glossy or reflective in nature unless such finish is necessary to blend into existing design features. The finish shall be graffitiresistant.
- 28. The facility shall be maintained in good condition and repair, and shall remain free of: general dirt and grease; chipped, faded, peeling or cracked paint; trash, debris, litter, cracks, dents, blemishes and discolorations; visible rust or corrosion on any unpainted metal areas. Any damage from any cause shall be repaired by the Permittee within 30 days of notice. Weathered, faded or missing parts/materials used to disguise/camouflage the facility shall be maintained and/or replaced by the Permittee within 30 days of notice.
- 29. Upon request, the Permittee shall submit annual reports to Zoning Enforcement to show compliance with the maintenance and removal conditions.
- 30. The FCC Antenna Structure Registration site number, conditional use permit number, primary leaseholder's and facility manager's contact information shall be kept current and prominently displayed on the facility where it can be easily viewed from ground level.
- 31. The facility shall be secured by fencing, gates and/or locks as shown on the Exhibit "A". All new fencing or walls used for screening or securing the facility will be chain link fencing with wooden slats.
- 32. Upon termination of this grant or after the facility has ceased to operate; the Permittee shall remove such facility and clear the site of all equipment within six months of the cease of operation date. The Permittee shall restore the site as nearly as practicable to the condition prior to the installation of the subject facility. Failure to remove such facility as required herein shall constitute a public nuisance and be subject to appropriate

EXHIBIT D CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL PAGE 6 OF 6

enforcement actions by Zoning Enforcement and any other government agency. In the event the facility is not so removed within 90 days after the Permittee's receipt of notice requiring removal, the County may itself cause the facility to be removed at the Permittee's expense.

33. Appurtenant equipment boxes shall be screened or camouflaged.

PROJECT SITE-SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

- 34. All lighting for the facility, if any is provided, shall be in compliance with the standards of the Rural Outdoor Lighting District, pursuant to Sections 22.80.010 through 22.80.100 of the County Code.
- 35. The monopole shall be painted a uniform grey color, as shown on the Exhibit "A".



CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

Pursuant to County Code Section 22.158.050 (Findings and Decision), the applicant shall substantiate the following:

(Please see Guidelines for Writing Your Conditional Use Permit Findings Statement, Do not repeat the statement or provide Yes/No responses. If necessary, attach additional pages.)

The proposed use will be consistent with the adopted General Plan for the area. B.1

This EXISTING site has been in place and operation in excess of twenty years and since the initial issuance and the use, telecommunications facilities, are consistent with the General Plan for this Area and the Santa Clarita Valley Area Plan that was adopted in 2012. All prior approvals of this site and the adjacent facility have confirmed in each of the Findings that this use is allowed and consistant.

- The requested use at the location proposed will not:
 - a. Adversely affect the health, peace, comfort, or welfare of persons residing or working in the surrounding area:
 - b. Be materially detrimental to the use, enjoyment, or valuation of property of other persons located in the vicinity of the site; and
 - c. Jeopardize, endanger, or otherwise constitute a menace to the public health, safety, or general welfare.

This location, has provided a much needed benefit to the community by providing service and capacity relief along the 5 Freeway and the Castaic and Santa Clarita areas for the last 20+ years. The existing installation has operated without impacting or disrupting the surrounding area. The existing facility is unmanned, it has no impact on traffic circulation systems, utilities and doesn't generate noise, odors, smoke or any other adverse impacts to this parcel or the adjacent land uses. As such, the proposed project is proper in relation to adjacent uses and is not detrimental or harmful to any adjacent or surrounding parcels in the vicinity of the property on which it is located.

B.3 The proposed site is adequate in size and shape to accommodate the yards, walls, fences, parking and loading facilities, landscaping, and other development features prescribed in this Title 22, or as is otherwise required in order to integrate said use with the uses in the surrounding area.

The EXISTING takes up 2,400 square feet of a largely undeveloped 29 Acre Parcel. Other than the other Wireless Telecommunicantions Facility on the property, there are no other established uses on this or the surrounding properties. This parcel is insulated and not accessible to the public. There are no other uses that would require this site being integrated in to.

- The proposed site is adequately served:
 - a. By highways or streets of sufficient width, and improved as necessary to carry the kind and quantity of traffic such use would generate; and
 - b. By other public or private service facilities as are required.

As noted, this is an existing unmanned facility. The site is accessed by private road off of Tapia Canyon Road. As this site is unmanned, there are only a few trips made to the site each month for security checks, routine maintenance and optimization. The existing site does not put any undue burden on the highways, streets or even the access road. The site is routinely accessed by pickup.



CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT WIRELESS FACILITIES RPPL2022003194

STATEMENT OF FINDINGS

A. The facility complies with all applicable standards in Section 22.140.760 unless a waiver has been requested in Section 22.140.760.L.

This facility was initially approved, permitted, and constructed in 1999 and has been in operation continuously since that time. This facility meets the height limit standards and, as currently proposed, will be painted "Battleship Grey" to help blend the facility with the sky and will provide for additional screening for the base of the equipment as required by Section 22.140.760. This existing site meets the applicable standards specified in subsections (E) and (H) for Wireless Facilities subject to a Conditional Use Permit. This location, although on a plateau, has been there for twenty-five years, fully operational. The existing Wireless Facility is located on a 29-acre agricultural parcel that is bordered on the south by land that is owned by the County and used for the Pitches Detention Center (Wayside). There are not any homes in the near vicinity and all other boundary properties are owned by the City of Santa Clarita and are similarly zoned agricultural. This site meets the height limit for this particular zone and can only be seen from limited locations around the city most significantly visible from Interstate 5 which is more than a half-mile away at its nearest point.

B. The design and placement of the facility are the least visually intrusive, technically feasible, and appropriate for the location.

As noted in the previous finding, this site is indeed located in the least intrusive location to meet its coverage objectives, mitigate significant views, and in an uninhabited area away from residential. Fortunately, this facility meets all of these requirements.

- 1. The site is located on a plateau at an elevation of roughly 1444' AMSL which provides an excellent vantage point to maximize the operational footprint for Crown Castle's tenants on the monopole which in turn, reduces the number and need for additional sites to achieve the same objective(s).
- 2. Crown Castle, in discussions with Staff, has proposed to re-paint the facility "Battleship Grey" to visually blend in with the sky.
- 3. This area of the County between the City of Santa Clarita and the Town of Castaic is sparsely populated due in large part to the Correctional Facility, and it is likely not going to be accessible and developed in such a way to allow the public access to these areas in the foreseeable future.

This is an ideal location for Crown Castle to allow its tenants to meet the needs and demands of their customers.



AMY J. BODEK, AICP Director, Regional Planning

DENNIS SLAVIN Chief Deputy Director, Regional Planning

PROPOSED ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION

DETERMINATION DATE: November 19, 2024 PRJ2022-001100-(5) PROJECT NUMBER:

Conditional Use Permit No. RPPL2022003194 PERMIT NUMBER(S):

5 SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT:

Assessor's Parcel Number 2865-021-903 PROJECT LOCATION:

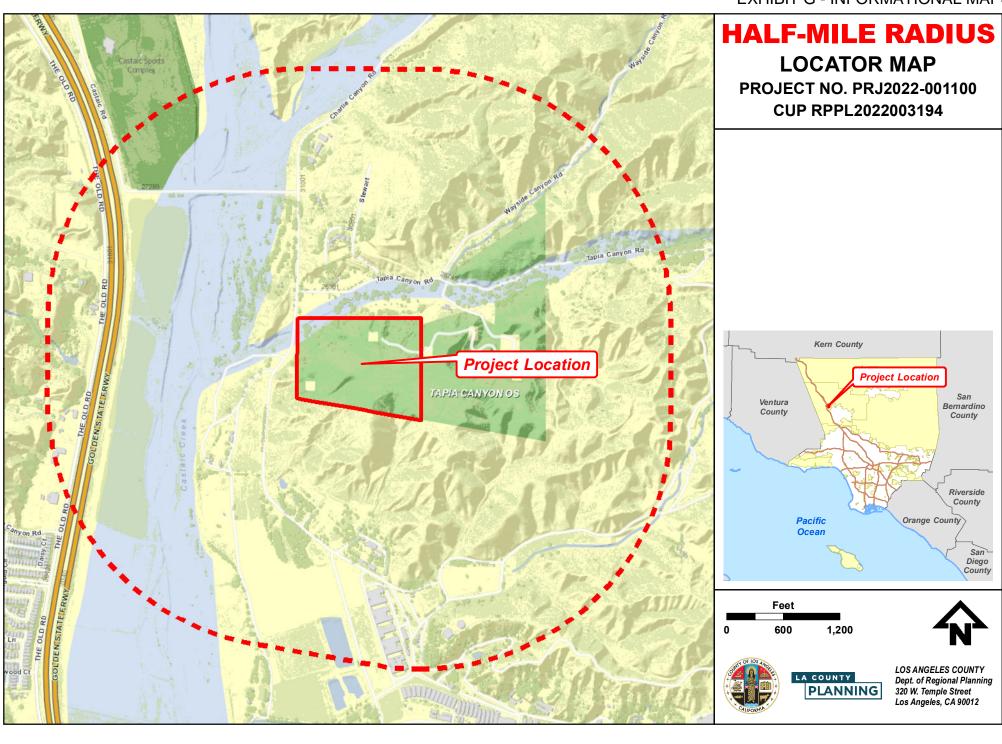
City of Santa Clarita OWNER:

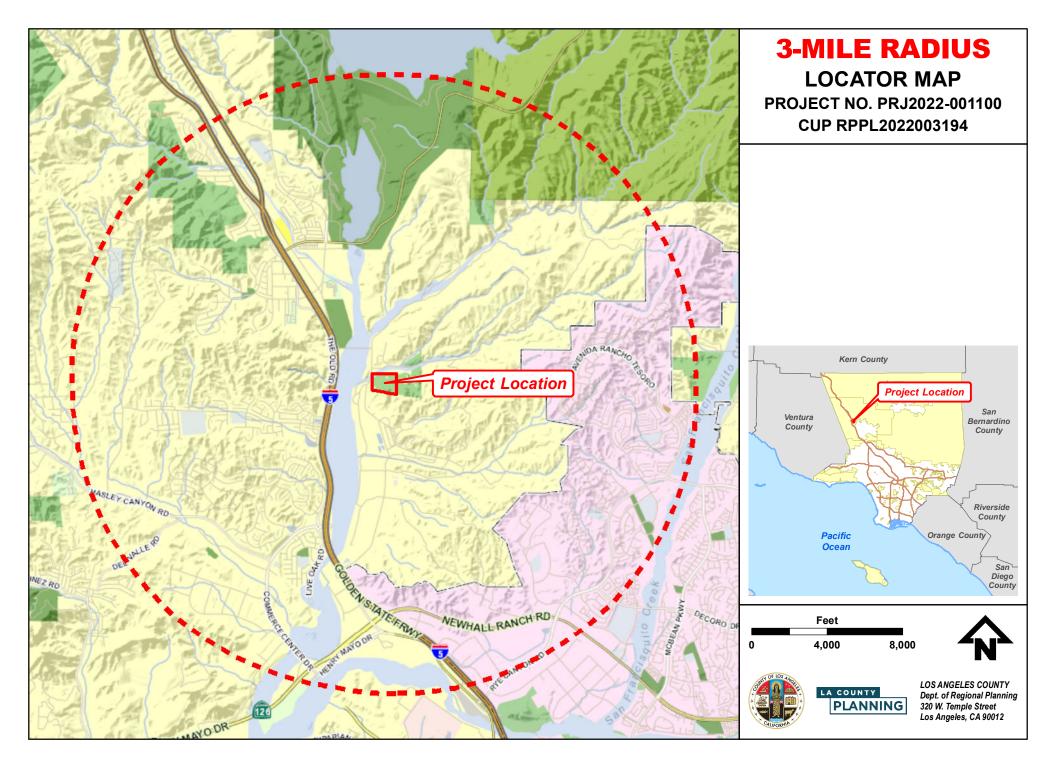
APPLICANT: Crown Castle

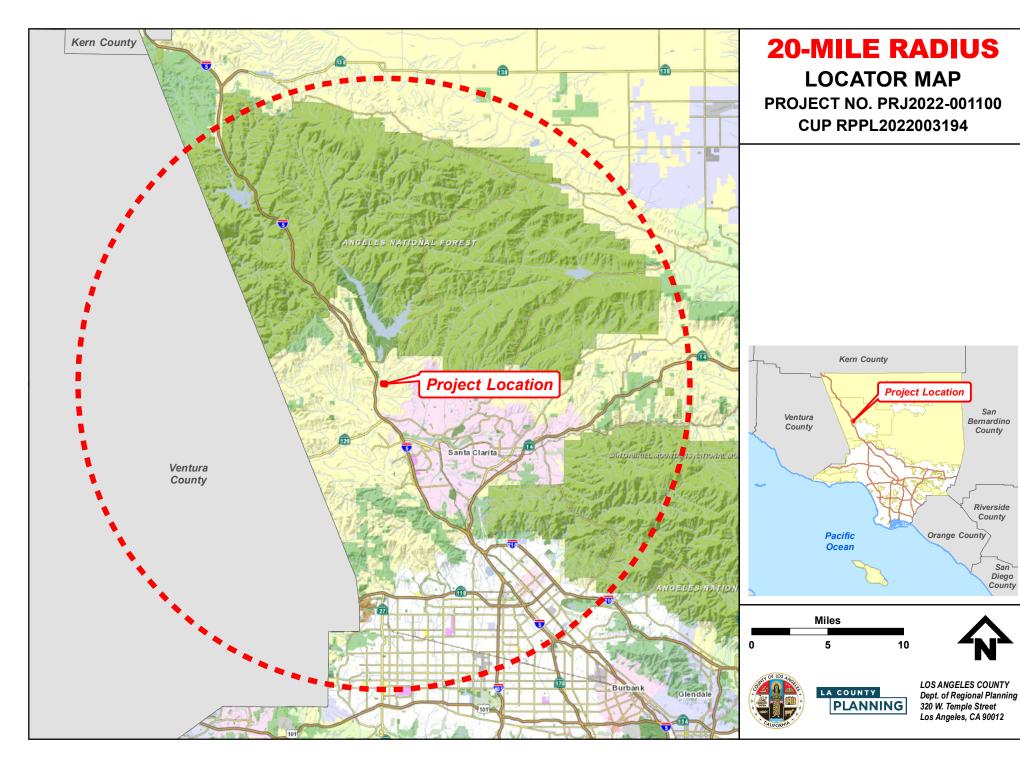
CASE PLANNER: Christopher Keating, Regional Planner

CKeating@planning.lacounty.gov

Los Angeles County ("County") completed an initial review for the above-mentioned project. Based on examination of the project proposal and the supporting information included in the application, the County proposes that an Exemption is the appropriate environmental documentation under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA"). The project qualifies for an exemption pursuant to Class 1 (Existing Facilities) under State CEQA Guidelines section 15301 and the County environmental guidelines because the project involves the continued operation and maintenance of an existing wireless communications facility consisting of a 72-foot-tall monopole and appurtenant facilities with no modifications beyond the existing development footprint which will have no significant effect on the environment. The project does not result in cumulative impacts, is not near a scenic highway, is not included on a list of hazardous waste sites, does not impact historic resources, and does not result in other significant effects on the environment. Therefore, no exceptions to the exemptions are applicable and the Project can be considered categorically exempt.







San

San Diego County



AERIAL IMAGERY

SITE-SPECIFIC MAP
PROJECT NO. PRJ2022-001100
CUP RPPL2022003194

Digital Ortho Aerial Imagery: Los Angeles Region Imagery Acquisition Consortium (LARIAC) 2023

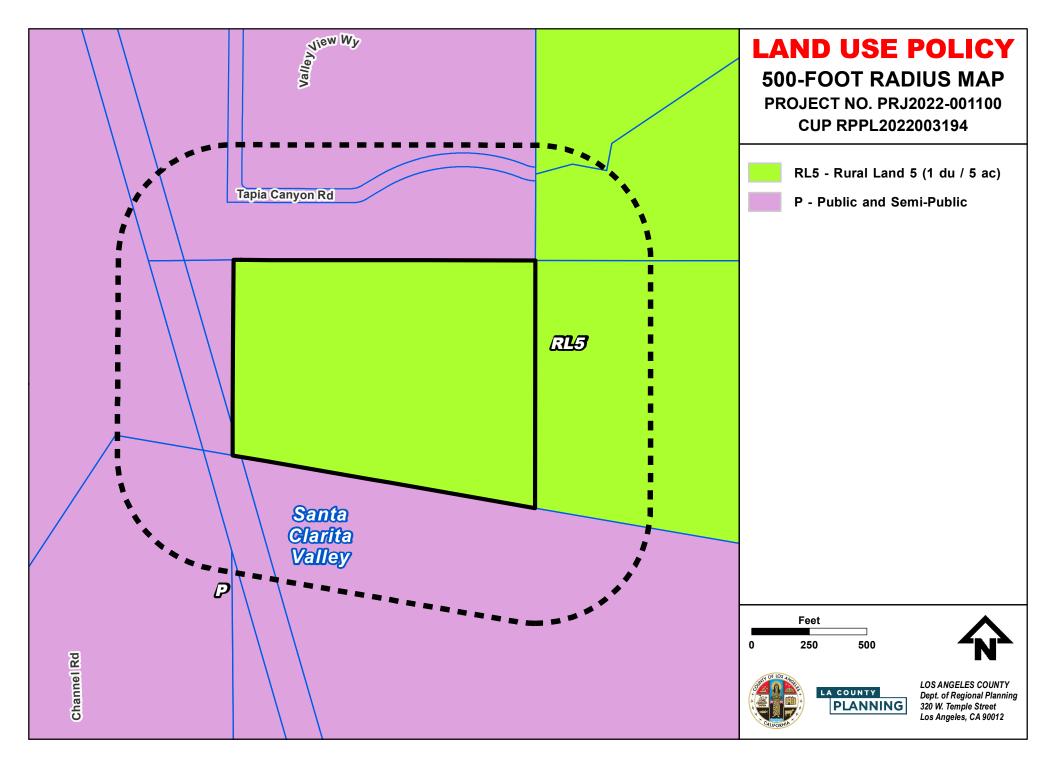
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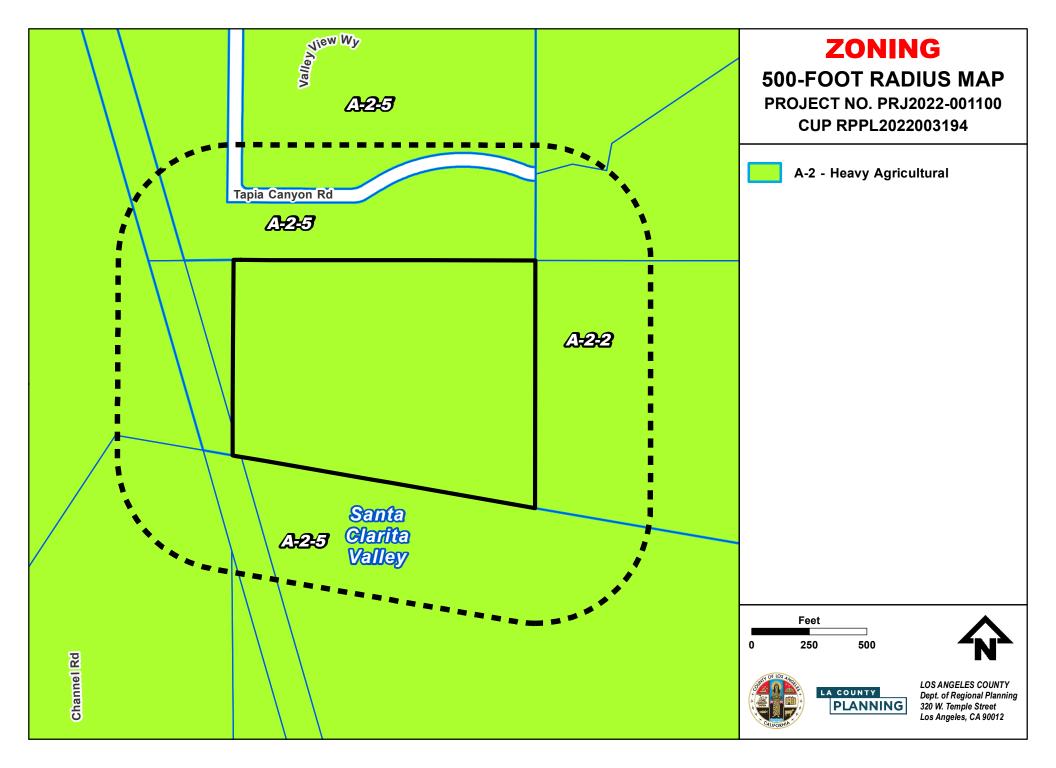






LOS ANGELES COUNTY Dept. of Regional Planning 320 W. Temple Street Los Angeles, CA 90012











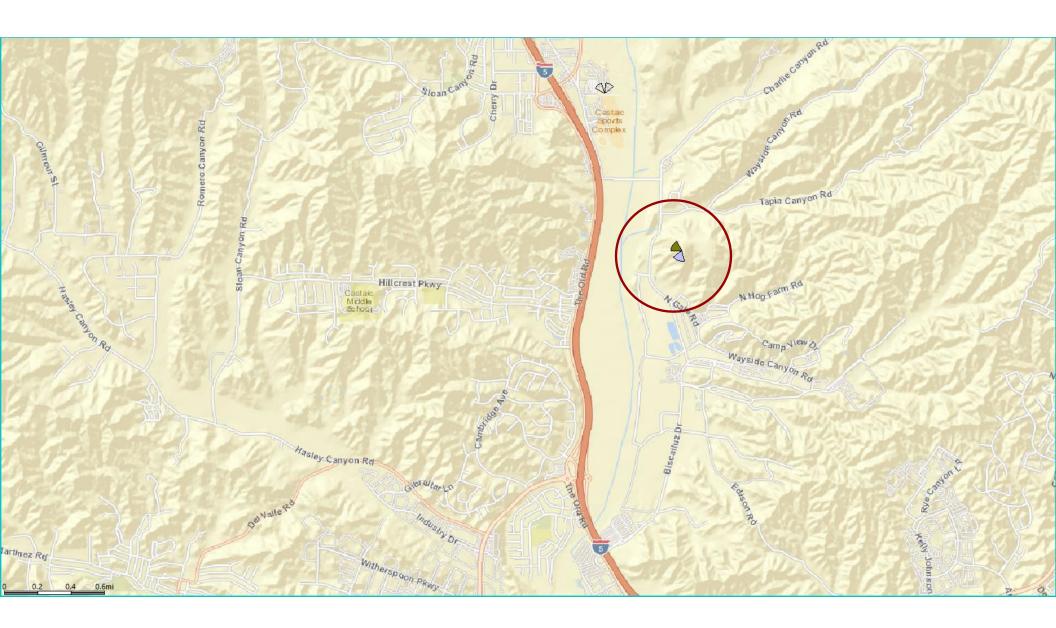


Halsey Canyon (Macro) Prop Maps

26730 W TAPIA CYN RD Castaic, CA 91384 March 04, 2022

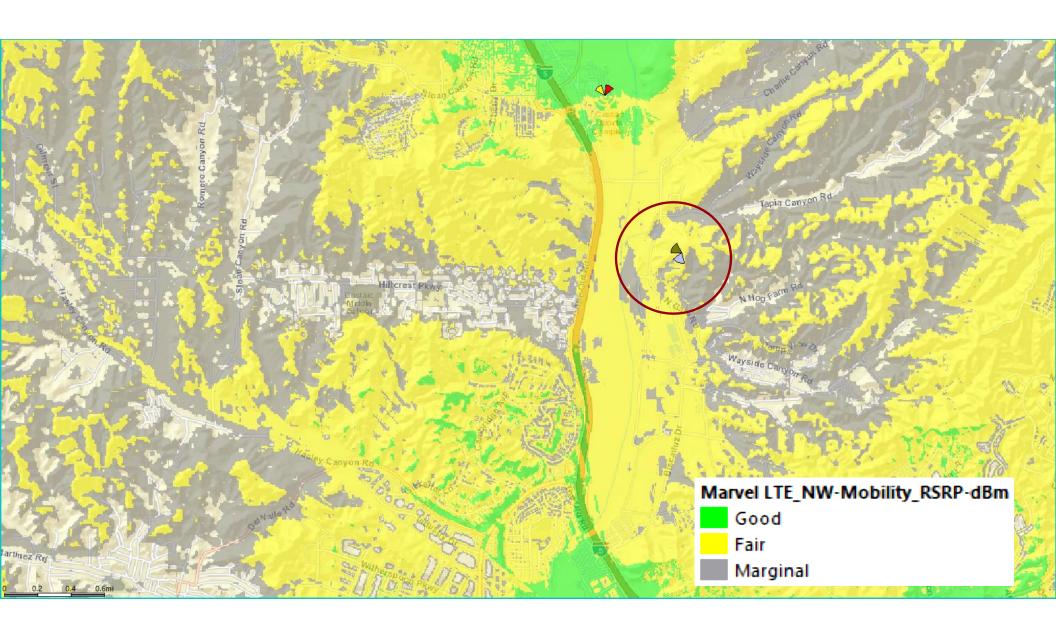


Halsey Canyon General Map



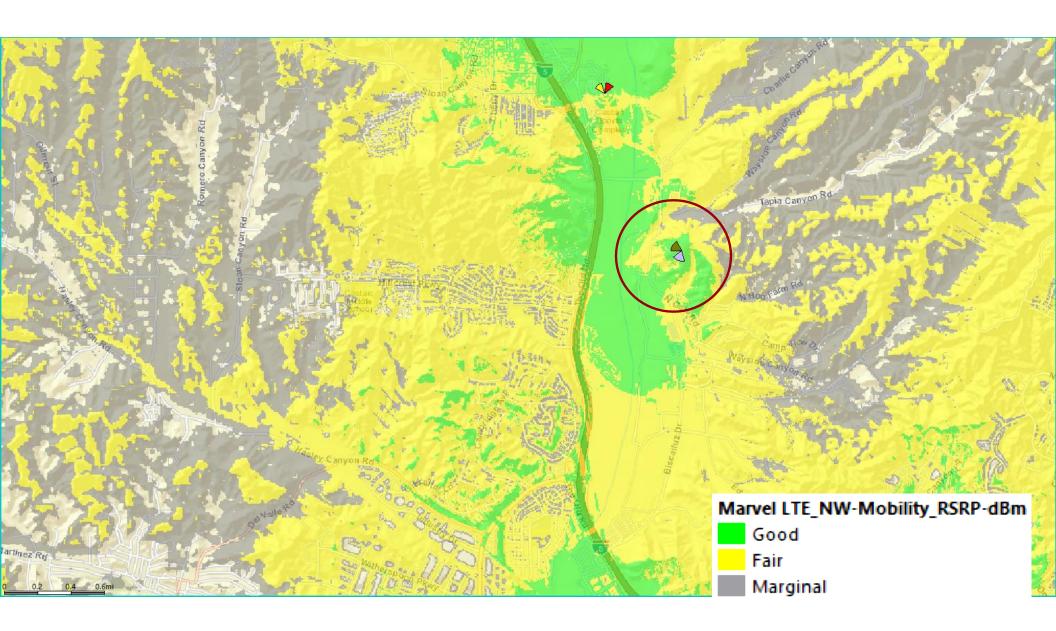


Without Halsey Canyon Coverage



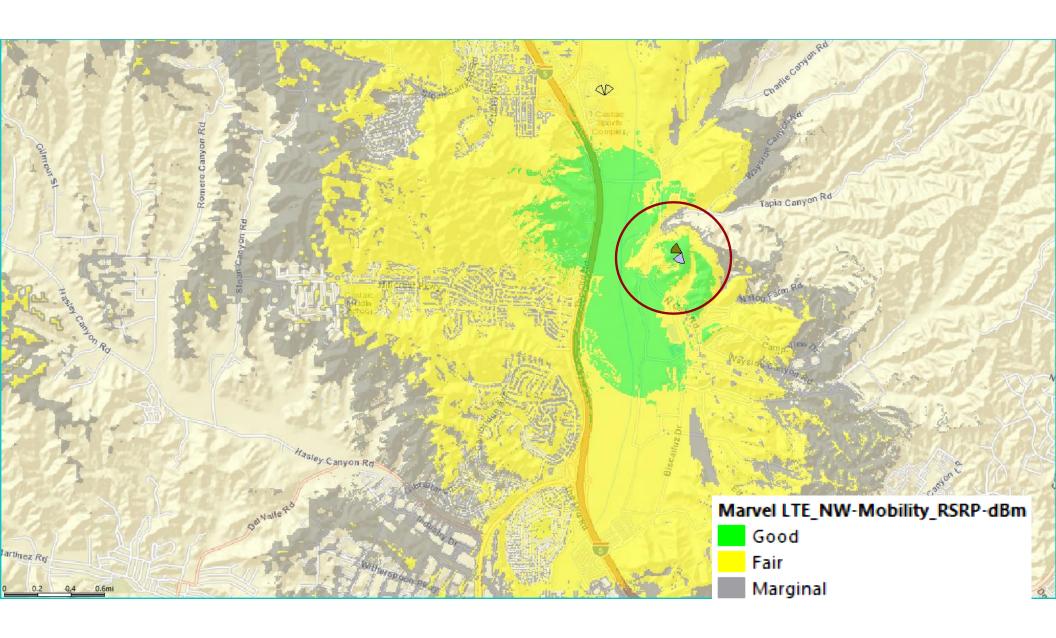


With Halsey Canyon Coverage





Standalone Halsey Canyon Coverage





T - Mobile •

CUP RENEWAL PROPAGATION MAPS

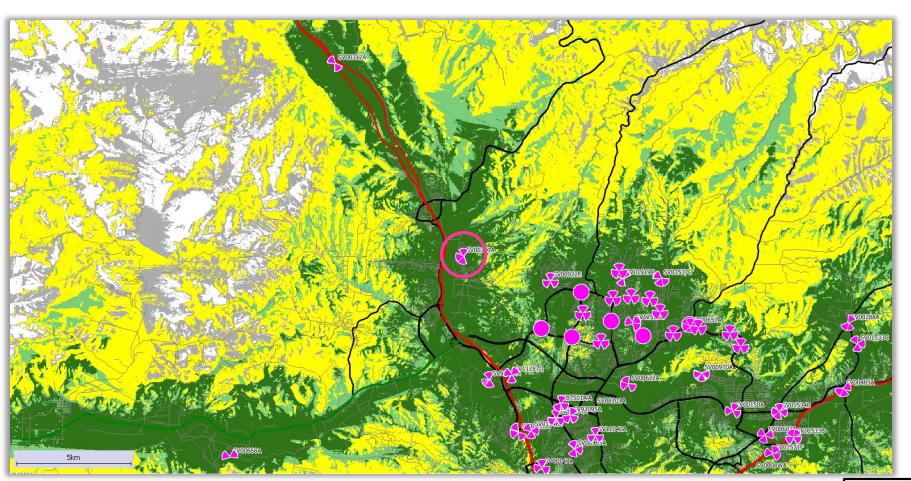
SV00311A

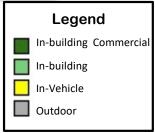
LA311-TAPIA CANYON 26730 W TAPIA CYN RD, CASTAIC, CA 91384

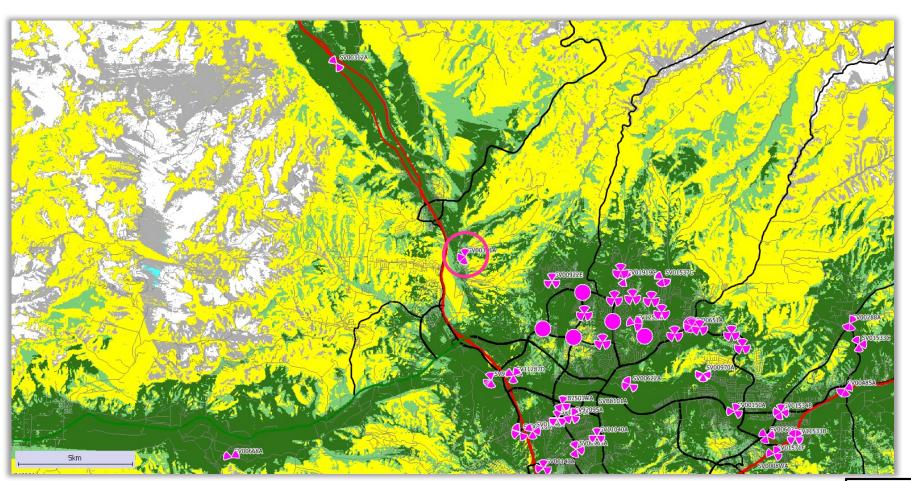
The Right Results
The Right Way™

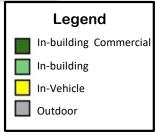
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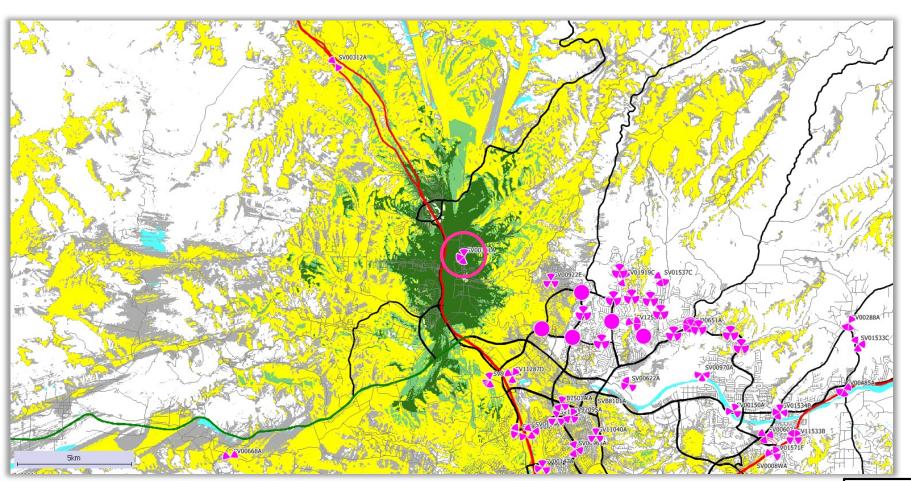
Site ID	On Air Technologies
SV00311A	2G + 3G (U1900) + 4G LTE (L600 L700 L1900 L2100 L2500) + 5G NR600 + 5G NR2500

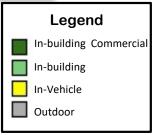
















VIEW 1









VIEW 2











