

Officer responsible Parks Manager	Author Property Services Officer, Lewis Burn
Corporate Plan Output: Parks Unit-Customer Services 9.4.8	

The purpose of this report is to obtain the Council's consent as administering body, to the installation by the lessee, Broadcast Communication Limited, of transmission antenna to the existing tower and at a location at ground level at the base of the tower.

BACKGROUND

The Sugarloaf transmission site situated on Crown Scenic Reserve, is designated in the Transitional plan (Heathcote Section) for "Television Transmitter". The new plan provides for a broadened designation, "Broadcast and Telecommunications" to provide for a comprehensive range of broadcast and telecommunication activities as the major transmission facility for the Christchurch region. Notwithstanding the designation, the terms of the lease to BCL requires the consent of the Council, as manager, and the Department of Conservation, as owner, to all erections, structures including antenna necessary for broadcast and communication functions. This consent has not been delegated by the Council.

APPLICATION

Two separate applications were received in October from BCL for the installation of new antenna on site.

1. 2 x 3 metre diameter solid dish antennae to the western face of the existing tower. The antennae proposed are necessary as part of a Government requirement to upgrade the national radio frequency from 2GH to 5GH in many locations throughout NZ. The new dishes must be of sufficient diameter for the signal to travel the distance to a new site at Hororata and to comply with international regulations.
2. A 1.8 metre diameter solid dish antenna at ground level inside the security fencing. The proposed antenna is a Sky television satellite receive dish to be located downhill from the Prime TVRO dish that was installed last year.

Outline/location plans for both applications are attached.

COMMENT

The antennae proposed fall within the scope of the broadened designation proposed in the new City Plan and is consistent with the lease purpose. No new parties to the current approved site users of Sugarloaf are involved in either application. The rental recently negotiated with BCL for the renewal lease accounts for the existing approved co-sites and reflects the highest and best utilisation of the site.

Pending the new City Plan becoming operative BCL have sought an alteration to the Sugarloaf designation pursuant to Section 181 of the RMA, to ensure that the operative designation is generally consistent with the designation publicly notified through the new City Plan. A decision of the Council's hearings committee on this request is imminent. The new antennae will have minimal obtrusion on the skyline.

Recommendation: That the Council, as administering body of the Sugarloaf transmission site, consent to BCL installing three solid dish antennae strictly in accordance with the applications outlined in this report for radio and television transmission as shown on the plans attached subject to BCL obtaining at their cost:

- (a) The consent of the Minister of Conservation.
- (b) The consent of the Summit Road Protection Authority.
- (c) Any necessary statutory consents.
- (d) Compliance with radio frequency radiation emission standards/regulations.
- (e) Prior to any site works for the Sky television receive dish being undertaken an on site meeting with the Area Parks Officer Consents to be held to ascertain the Council's requirements through the construction phase to minimise the environmental effects of this new structure.
- (f) A standard performance bond of not less than \$2,000 being imposed. This bond to be refunded on completion of installation of the Sky television receive dish less any cost incurred by Council with revegetation work or repairs to the access road.
- (g) Excavated material remaining the property of the Council.

Chairman's Recommendation: That the above recommendation be adopted.