

7.7 COMMUNICATION TOWERS

- (1) Industry Canada is responsible for regulating radio communication in Canada and for authorizing the location of radio communication facilities, including communication towers. In making its decision regarding the communication tower and related facilities, Industry Canada considers the following:
 - a. the input provided by the Approving Authority;
 - b. compliance with Transport Canada's painting and lighting requirements for aeronautical safety;
 - c. Health Canada's safety guidelines respecting limits of exposure to radio frequency fields;
 - d. an environmental impact assessment may be required in order to comply with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.
- (2) The participation of the County in the consultation process does not transfer any Federal decision making authority, nor does it confer a right of veto in the location of the communication tower.
- (3) Unless demonstrated to be impractical, transmission antennae shall be mounted on existing structures (including buildings or towers) or within transportation and utility corridors.
 - a. The tower base shall be setback from abutting parcels and roadways by a distance of 120 percent of the tower height or the distance between the tower base and guy wire anchors, whichever is greater.
 - b. Transmission towers must have the least practical adverse visual effect on the environment. This may be mitigated through landscaping and/or fencing.
- (4) Communication towers shall be located in a manner that minimizes the impact on the natural environmental and residential communities while recognizing the unique location requirement for siting communication towers.
- (5) All equipment shelters must meet the County's setback distances to roads and property lines.
- (6) All telecommunication carriers requesting a new telecommunication tower shall be required to identify any other such structure within an 8.05 km (5 mi) radius of the proposed site location. Each request shall also provide documentary evidence that co-location of the existing structures within that 8.05 km (5 mi) radius is not a viable alternative to a second structure.
- (7) Where Transport Canada requires that a telecommunication tower be lighted, the following procedures shall be encouraged to minimize visual impacts:
 - a. The lighting of equipment structures and any other facilities on site shall be shielded from adjacent properties where possible without interfering with the requirements of Transport Canada.
 - b. All lighting shall be a minimum number of low intensity white lights; and
 - c. The strobe interval shall be the maximum allowable by Transport Canada, and the strobe lights shall only be used if absolutely necessary.