

The Honorable Marlene H. Dortch  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20054

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Attention: Commissioners

This letter is my public comment with respect to the Federal Communications Commission's Notice of Inquiry on the Effects of Communications Towers on Migratory Birds, WT DKT NO. 03-187, FCC 03-205.

In the past I have been shocked to have heard and read about the large mortality to a wide diversity of birds that has occurred during the spring and fall migrations at a single tower outside of Youngstown, Ohio. Some of these major bird kills have been documented by the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh, PA. The cumulative effects of the many thousands of towers to bird populations have to be very significant. As we are very much aware, the number of new communications towers continues to grow rapidly.

It is my firm belief that the FCC must begin implementing preventative measures on existing as well as new communications towers to prevent the unnecessary deaths of millions of migratory birds. I also believe that the FCC should adopt the September 2000 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's guidelines for siting and construction of communication towers. These guidelines, which are supported by the best available data, indicate that co-location, keeping towers under 200', avoiding guy wires, minimizing lighting, and using only white strobes at minimum required pulse rates would greatly reduce bird deaths.

It is my understanding that the FCC already has studies that indicate over 90% of the birds killed are neotropical migratory birds. Among the species of birds being killed by communication towers are several endangered species and over 50 species on the Fish and Wildlife Service's Birds of Conservation Concern List.

I strongly urge that the FCC adopt the necessary measures to prevent tower kills of birds and become compliant with the legal requirements of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, National Environmental Policy Act, and the Endangered Species Act.

Sincerely,

Paul Brown  
1012 Norwood Avenue  
Pittsburgh, PA 15202-1022

The Honorable Marlene H. Dortch  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20054

Dear Ms. Dortch:

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I urge the FCC to adopt the September 2000 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) Guidelines for siting and construction of communication towers by the FCC. These measures, supported by the best available data, indicate that co-location, keeping towers under 200', avoiding guy wires, minimizing lighting, and using only white strobes at minimum required pulse rates would greatly reduce bird deaths – which as you must know are estimated between 5 million and 40 million each year.

I am aware that the FCC already has studies that indicate over 90% of the birds killed are neotropical migratory birds, and most migrate and are killed at night. Alarming, the birds killed include several endangered species and over 50 species on the FWS Birds of Conservation Concern List (2002), meaning special attention is needed to properly manage these species. For example, the Cerulean Warbler is on the 2002 list and a listing petition has been filed under the Endangered Species Act for this bird.

Please see that the FCC complies fully with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, NEPA, and the ESA, and adopts measures now prevent further bird deaths at communication towers.

Thank you for accepting my comment.

Sincerely,

Homer Singleton  
10100 Coleman Lane  
Elberta, AL 36530-6526

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Thank you for accepting my comment.

Sincerely,

Charles Frederic Andros  
PO Box 165  
Walpole, NH 03608-0165

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Sincerely,

Dave Bordenkircher  
500 Paragon Mills Road #G-6  
Nashville, TN 37211-3757

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Sincerely,

Clarence Trinkner  
633 Sunset Drive  
Janesville, WI 53548-2751

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Sincerely,

Mary Mulcahy  
PO Box 545 8 Broad Street  
Greenport, NY 11944-0545

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Sincerely,

Beth N. Humble  
914 Howard Street  
Missoula, MT 59804-3051

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Please see that the FCC complies fully with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, NEPA, and the ESA, and adopts measures now prevent further bird deaths at communication towers.

You may know that over 70 million Americans consider themselves birdwatchers. This represents not only a large percentage of the voting public, but potential economic resource stemming from ecotourism.

Thank you for accepting my comment.

Sincerely,

Carole Straughn  
824 Northwest 18th Street  
Oklahoma City, OK 73106-6413

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Federal Communications Commission  
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Sincerely,

Deborah Poole  
595 11th Street  
Brooklyn, NY 11215-5202

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Sincerely,

Elizabeth Brookes  
PO Box 951  
Kelseyville, CA 95451-0951

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Sincerely,

Betsie Potasz  
707 Franklin Road Southeast Apt. 18-11  
Marietta, GA 30067-7891

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Sincerely,

Robert Sheena  
21 Appleton Street  
Arlington, MA 02476-5919

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Sincerely,

Amy Duin Ratcliff  
1272 S. Pennsylvania St.  
Denver, CO 80210-1533

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Sincerely,

Laura Sides  
148 Gable Road  
Coatesville, PA 19320-1284

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Sincerely,

Kaye Fissinger  
22861 Satcoy Street  
West Hills, CA 91304-4537

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Sincerely,

Grace Neiland  
151 Morris Avenue Apt. #514  
South Plainfield, NJ 07080-4749

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Washington, DC 20054

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Sincerely,

Patricia Turk  
105 Chautauqua Boulevard  
Erie, PA 16511-1107

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Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S W  
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Sincerely,

Harold Samuels  
5659 Ramara Avenue  
Woodland Hills, CA 91367-4057

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445 12th Street S W  
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Thank you for accepting my comments. I hope they encourage you to do the humane things.

Sincerely,

Janet Brown  
3401 W Parmer Lane Apt 2311  
Austin, TX 78727-4142

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Federal Communications Commission  
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Please see that the FCC complies fully with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, NEPA, and the ESA, and adopts measures now prevent further bird deaths at communication towers.

Thank you for accepting my comment.

Sincerely,

Beth N. Humble  
914 Howard Street  
Missoula, MT 59804-3051

The Honorable Marlene H. Dortch  
Federal Communications Commission  
445 12th Street S.W.  
Washington, DC 20054

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Julie Kummel  
5100 E Camino Cielo  
Santa Barbara, CA 93105-9762

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Denise Gibbs  
8619 Hawkins Creamery Road  
Gaithersburg, MD 20882-3609

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Pat Jaynes  
PO Box 756  
Stillwater, OK 74076-0756

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Peter Reynolds  
5201 Bradwood Street  
Springfield, VA 22151-3506

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Mary G. T. Fowler  
206 Ridge Road  
Franconia, NH 03580-4829

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Kathy Shimata  
1735 Young St. Apt. H  
Honolulu, HI 96826-2103

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Marsha Cannon  
420 Sidney Street  
Madison, WI 53703-1724

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Carol Baskauf  
102 Keri Drive  
Pleasant View, TN 37146-9793

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7741 Blackshear Drive  
Huber Heights, OH 45424-2103