

Dear FCC and FCC Commissioner Adelstein:

Preemption goes against the spirit of adequate environmental review. Local regulation is not obstructionist but rather within the rights reserved to communities by the Telecom Act of 1996 by the US Congress.

I worked on local siting in my town and I can tell you first hand that without the proposed federal interference, as it is we have very little control over tower siting which is usually dictated by the well-heeled cell phone companies which come into towns, demand to have their first choice sites and often create menacing public campaigns that often contain untruths about coverage.

Towers like other non-conforming structures are subject to local review- without review, towers would go up on property where landowners are willing to cut quick deals. These sites are neither the most appropriate environmentally nor the sites that would provide the most efficient coverage necessarily.

Local review ensures appropriate land use policy. It would be devastating for the federal government to take away local zoning power from us.

Please do not approve the preemption policy, which amounts to a de facto land taking by the federal government.

Sincerely,

Deborah Kopald

Town of Highlands, New York