



National Headquarters

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Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
RE: WT Docket Nos. 08-61 and 03-187; DA 11-558
445 12th St., SW., Room TW-A325
Washington, DC 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED

MAY - 6 2011

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

To Whom It May Concern:

Please find attached more than 34,000 comments from Defenders of Wildlife supporters regarding the FCC's Draft Environmental Notice Requirements and Interim Procedures Affecting the Antenna Structure Registration Program submitted through May 5th, 2011. Many of these individuals signed on to some version of the text below, however some chose to personalize their comments.

As a supporter of Defenders of Wildlife and someone who cares about migratory birds, I am writing today to urge the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to adopt proposed rules that will help greatly reduce the number of bird deaths caused by tower structures regulated by the FCC.

According to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, each year an estimated 5 million birds are killed from collisions with communications towers and related structures across the United States.

Around 230 species of birds -- over one-quarter of all avian species found in the U.S. -- have been documented as being killed by towers. At least 44 of these species are designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service as Birds of Conservation Concern. These are species that without conservation action are likely to be added to the list of Endangered Species. Research has demonstrated that for some of these species collisions with towers are having an effect on populations of birds.

The proposed rules (WT Docket Nos. 0861 and 03187; DA 11558) require public notice of all proposed towers. While the FCC considers broader changes to the program, environmental assessments would be required at least for all towers over 450 feet to ensure that the environmental effects of these towers are fully considered before the structures are approved and built.

These rules are based in part on recommendations from a partnership among Defenders, American Bird Conservancy, National Audubon Society and the communications industry to address the threat of towers and other communications structures to millions of birds through the FCC's tower registration process.

The proposed rules will help FCC to comply with federal laws -- including the National Environmental Policy Act, the Endangered Species Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act -- that require the Commission to adopt measures to prevent, or at least minimize, bird fatalities caused by FCC registered antenna structures.

Please quickly adopt these rules that safely reduce further bird deaths from antennas and structures regulated by the FCC.

Thank you for your consideration.

Over, please...

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List A B C D E

Please accept these individuals' comments with regard to the FCC's Draft Environmental Notice Requirements and Interim Procedures Affecting the Antenna Structure Registration Program and accept our thanks for your agency's collaboration in ensuring that the voices of these concerned citizens are heard.

Sincerely,

Ryan Cree
Online Campaigns Manager
Defenders of Wildlife

P.S. If you have any questions about the data, please feel free to give me a call at 202-772-3236 or email me at rcree@defenders.org.

DOCKET NO. 08-61 03-187

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