

November 20, 2018

To: City of Ann Arbor Planning Services

From: Douglas Miller, 2291 Canyon Ct., Ann Arbor MI

Re: Phoenix Substation Expansion and Monopole Construction, 2001 Dhu Varren Road, Ann Arbor5

I have lived next to the Phoenix Substation on its East side since July 1998. Phoenix is a bad neighbor.

This industrial installation is an eyesore in the middle of nice residential areas. It is noisy, busy (often with bright lights on all night) and has very poor maintenance of the surrounding landscaping.

Ann Arbor and its citizens near Phoenix deserve better than this. And yet, approval of the monopole will make this installation even more detrimental to neighborhood appeal, and an eyesore from even farther away than it is now.

Approval should be contingent on Phoenix Substation meeting requirements for landscaping, aimed at making the installation a less painful eyesore. Two simple requirements would be:

1. 150 trees should be planted around the substation and maintained to assure that many survive. This should include the slope abutting my property, where all of the original trees have died, that continues to be poorly planted and to erode soil into the slope runoff. Coniferous trees should be favored, in order to provide screening even in the winter.
2. The monopole should be camouflaged in some visually pleasing manner. I have seen monopoles in other cities (in other states) which were cleverly camouflaged as tall pine trees. This does not inhibit the function of the pole and would lend a more pleasing appearance to the entire site (not unlike the water tower near Plymouth Road, which is painted like the sky).

Thank you for your consideration of these reasonable steps to mitigate the adverse visual impact off the very obtrusive monopole, and to make Phoenix Substation a better neighbor.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Miller". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "M".

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