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Subject: Online Submission

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RE: DA2020/0661 - 7356 / 1167221 Huston Parade NORTH CURL CURL NSW 2099

To the Assessing Officer,

Submission Opposing DA2020/0661.

Following I outline some of the many reasons I am opposed to the Optus Telecommunications Facility in John Fisher Park:

1. The proposed Optus Telecommunications Facility has been earmarked within Lot 7356 / DP 1167221 and nowhere in this large, designated area is a mobile tower suitable. This area is located next to schools, homes, on a green space with soccer field and other sports fields, next to natural wetlands, estuaries or lagoons, next to a pristine beach, next to walking paths, and where parents, grandparents and children play.

Telecommunications facilities are suitable in industrial areas or similar which have been put aside specifically by local government for the purpose of industrial work, business or infrastructure.

2. My family and friends are extremely concerned about the health risks associated with mobile phone towers.

The radio frequency (RF) electromagnetic energy (EME) radiation is going to be omitted in 360 degree bands 24hrs 7 days a week 365 days a year into our community. The proposed tower is 22.5m so the EME range will be far reaching and unlike the ability to turn off a mobile phone or microwaves at home this tower will be continually omitting EMEs.

There is much conjecture and many varying views on the impact of EMEs. Some of our most eminent doctors and scientists remain concerned about the long-term impacts of exposure - these include the brilliant neurosurgeon, Dr Charlie Teo.

Has the Council/Administration and Optus completed a full due diligence health report in respect to EMEs from mobile towers and their effect on the public?

3. The local community, environmental groups and The Northern Beaches Council

(NBC) and previous Councils have done so much work in conjunction to maintain, build and beautify our local parks, reserves, wetlands, beaches and Community areas. Years of work and money restoring John Fisher Park (JFP) and surrounds will be if Optus is allowed to erect a Telecommunications Facility in JFP.

I am a long-term member of Curl Curl Lagoon Friends. This year is our 40th anniversary and during the past 40 years this group, local residents and schools have worked tirelessly to improve the quality of the Curl Curl Lagoon water and surrounding wetlands. The area proposed for the mobile tower is right on the water's edge.

The Curl Curl community garden sitting in the grounds of the Curl Curl Community Centre has been recently established with the close support of the NBC and will be right near the proposed mobile tower.

The Curl Curl Community Centre has been promoted and supported strongly by the NBC as a place for the community to gather. There is currently under construction a skateboard park which will also bring many young people and once again this new facility will be under the shadow of a 22.6m mobile phone tower.

4. Many different sporting codes and recreational activities take place in the sports grounds next to the proposed mobile phone tower. These include soccer, baseball, netball, AFL, running, walking, dog walking or just families and kids putting a rug out and enjoying the big green open spaces. There are 3 known heritage sites in close proximity to this proposed site and maybe many more yet to be discovered.

The pristine sands and waters of Curl Curl Beach that are visited by thousands of people a week during the summer and thousands more call home all year round, should be kept free of such an imposing eyesore. There are suitable locations in industrial areas.

5. Most people have a mobile phone. We currently have 4 phone owner/users in our family - all with Optus. Coverage is good and the vast majority in Curl Curl are of the same opinion.

This proposed mobile phone tower appears to be a move to obtain more market share rather than a coverage issue.

We value highly our family and personal health, our community green spaces, the beauty of looking at trees, a beautiful skyline and would never compromise any of these for any degree of enhanced coverage coming from a large telecommunications facility.

6. Past marketing material promoted by Optus to the Curl Curl community called "Real Stories from Real People" and their mobile coverage quotes "Optus' excellent network coverage", "Curl Curl...improved immeasurably" and "can drive from the northern suburbs to Surry Hills, and even right down the bottom of the Harbour Tunnel and the reception is perfect".

Optus' own material clearly states that mobile coverage provided in Curl Curl is acceptable.

7. Unwise decisions regarding and impacting on the Curl Curl area have been made in the past that still adversely affect us all today. One that most people are aware of is the garbage tip and dumping grounds around the Curl Curl Lagoon and sand dunes in previous decades. The land and water ways are recovering but there is a long way to go and we will never be able to fully restore the area.

We need to learn from our past mistakes, particularly those that fundamentally affect the environment and/or the potential health and wellbeing of those that live here, to ensure we don't repeat these errors into the future.

8. Mobile towers encourage more telecommunication corporations to the area. They can co-share a monopole which can grow into something a lot bigger and send out stronger EME's and once they arrive it opens the path for many more to establish themselves.

For all the reasons outlined in my submission I ask NBC to oppose the installation of a mobile phone tower in JFP as proposed in the DA2020/066.

Kind regards - Deborah Moffat