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Agency Of Natural Resources

May 8, 2015

Mr. Karl Rinker
RINKERS COMMUNICATIONS
103 South Main Street
Barre, VT 05641

Re: Review of Potential Impacts to Significant Wildlife Habitat Associated with the Proposed Communications Tower in Calais, Vermont.

Dear Mr. Rinker:

I am responding to your request for the review of impacts to significant wildlife habitat associated with a proposed communications tower on the Calais/Woodbury town line off of the Bayne Comoli Road in Calais, Vermont. As we've already discussed, the tower site is located adjacent to significant deer winter habitat. The access road runs along the edge of this habitat area. You have agreed to the following conditions to avoid impacts to this habitat:

- a. Prohibit construction of the project during the period December 15 through April 15 to avoid disturbing and displacing wintering deer from this habitat;
- b. Restrict maintenance activities at the tower site to one visit per month during the period December 15 through April 15 for the same reasons expressed in (a), although access for emergency purposes during this time is allowed and must be reported within 48 hour to the Department;
- c. Maintain the access to a width no greater than 15 feet to allow for natural softwood canopy over the road which will avoid fragmenting the wintering habitat, recognizing that the road is along the edge of the habitat and the risk of fragmentation is limited.

Based on the design of the project and the conditions that we agreed to the project will not present a significant impact to the deer winter habitat.

Respectfully,

John M. Austin, Lands & Habitat Program Director
VT Fish & Wildlife Department

cc: Elizabeth Lord
Jen Mojo

