Good afternoon,

Thank you for your thoughts regarding cell phone tower installations.

EWEB does not own or install cellular phone towers, or any other cellular phone receive/transmitting facilities. However, EWEB is required by city and state rules, in addition to federal law (Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996), to accommodate requests for co-location of antennas on our structures and right of ways as long as those requests meet our electrical safety, engineering and siting requirements.

There have been recent rulings from the FCC regarding the future installations of cellular technology on municipal facilities, such as electric utility poles. These changes take effect in 2019 and we are monitoring those updates closely to ensure we remain compliant with the new laws.

We are also closely following legislation that could adversely impact public power utilities’ control over pole attachments. In December, EWEB commissioners adopted a resolution which provides that EWEB supports legislation which generally preserves and enhances local control. Additional information pertaining to the position EWEB staff will take in the upcoming legislative session can be found in the December 4th memo to the board and resolution 1827.

EWEB values public safety and will ensure that all cellular equipment will be installed per current NESC/PUC electrical codes and that all cellular technology installed is FCC compliant. For further discussions regarding the siting, installations and safety of cellular technology, please contact the cellular provider.

Kind regards,

Anne Kah
Executive Assistant to General Manager/Board
Eugene Water & Electric Board
Phone/Fax 541-685-7191