

NOTICE OF INTENT
TO ADOPT A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION
(Pursuant to PRC Section 21092 and CEQA Guidelines Section 15072)

Sierra County has prepared an Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for the AT&T Downieville Cell Tower Project (Project) pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines Sections 15063 and 15071. Based on the analysis provided in the IS/MND and with the incorporation of mitigation measures identified in the IS/MND to mitigate project impacts, the County finds that the project would result in no significant environmental impacts. Therefore, an IS/MND is proposed for compliance with the requirements of CEQA. Details of the proposed project and information on how a copy of the document can be obtained for review are provided below.

Project Title: AT&T Downieville Cell Tower Project

Lead Agency: Sierra County

Project Location: The 0.34-acre Project site is located at 160 Galloway Street within the community of Downieville in Sierra County (Assessor's Parcel Number 002-150-010). The site, located 2,500 feet south of State Route 49, is accessed from Galloway Road via Nevada Street and Front Street.

Project Description: The Project consists of constructing a new telecommunication facility with a 120-foot-tall lattice cell tower and associated ground equipment. The Project would be a part of the greater effort of AT&T Wireless to improve the existing wireless network coverage and network capacity in the Downieville area of Sierra County. The telecommunication facility would be constructed on a 35-foot by 35-foot base area on privately leased land; the existing access driveway serving the site would be improved and a gravel turnaround would be constructed adjacent to the tower base facility. The proposed 120-foot-tall cell tower would include 9 panel antennas and 24 remote radio heads/units. In addition to the tower, the Project would include the installation of a 30 kilowatt diesel standby generator with acoustic enclosure and attached 190-gallon capacity tank on a 5-foot by 10-foot slab. An 8-foot by 8-foot pre-manufactured walk-in structure would be constructed to house communication equipment.

Public Review: Sierra County is the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act for the Project. Members of the public are invited to comment on the proposed IS/MND. The comment period is from November 25, 2020 to December 30, 2020.

The proposed IS/MND can be reviewed at the Sierra County Planning Department at 101 Courthouse Square in Downieville, or on the Sierra County Planning Department web site at <https://sierracounty.ca.gov/471/Projects>.

Formal comments regarding the IS/MND may be submitted in writing via U.S. mail or email any time during the public review period. Written comments regarding the scope and content of information in the IS/MND or any questions regarding the document should be submitted no later than December 30, 2020. Comments may be sent to:

Brandon Pangman
Sierra County Planning Department
101 Courthouse Square
Downieville, CA 95936
bpangman@sierracounty.ca.gov

Following the close of the written comment period, the Lead Agency will consider the Initial Study in a public meeting held by the Sierra County Planning Commission and determine whether it is in compliance with CEQA and whether to approve the project. The time and date of the Planning Commission hearing will be noticed separately, at least ten (10) days before the scheduled meeting.