



James Barnes-Lead Teacher  
Mammoth Olympic Academy  
For Academic Excellence

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September 19, 2006

Larry Cameron, Air Quality Specialist  
Great Basin Unified APCD  
157 Short Street  
Bishop, CA 93514

Dear Mr. Larry Cameron, Air Quality Specialist,

Our class recently reviewed the proposal to install a John Deere 96 hp, 60 kw emergency standby diesel-fired generator at 1601 Meridian Blvd. We understand that this generator would be very beneficial to your cell phone users, especially in the winter months, yet we feel that renewable energy sources should be explored.

Renewable energy sources, like solar power, hydropower, or wind energy, would be much safer for the environment and the citizens of Mammoth. Although we know that Verizon Wireless plans on controlling the pollution emissions, we also believe that this endeavor will be relatively difficult. The emissions generated by burning fossil fuels can only be regulated to a certain extent.

Mammoth Lakes enjoys a beautiful, clean environment and is a destination resort for people around the country. We must protect and preserve the natural beauty that still exists.

Large companies like Verizon Wireless have the resources to make positive environmental changes. We encourage Verizon Wireless to seek smarter, non-polluting alternatives that will achieve the same goal. It is the socially responsible thing to do.

Thank you for your time.


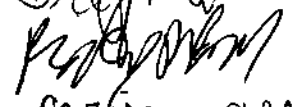
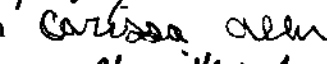

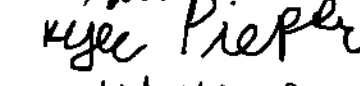

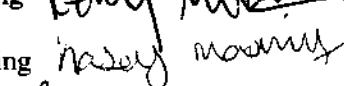
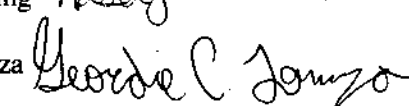
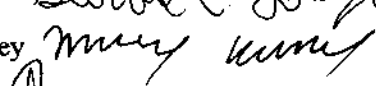


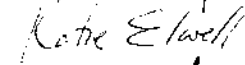
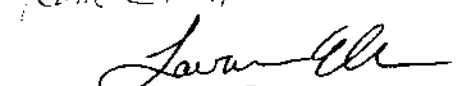
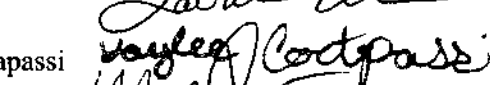

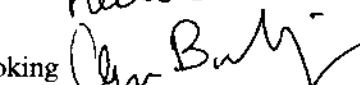
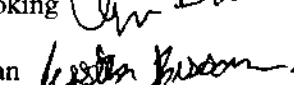
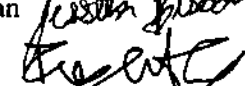


Sincerely,

*Mammoth Olympic Academy*

The students at Mammoth Olympic Academy

SEP 22 2006

The students and staff of Mammoth Olympic Academy

1. Gregory Bretz 
2. Randy Malm 
3. Carissa Allen 
4. Garritt Wormhoudt 
5. Kyle Pieper 
6. Kelly Morning 
7. Kasey Morning 
8. Geordie Lonza 
9. Mikey Kenney 
10. Emily James 
11. Jimmy Greenleaf 
12. Katie Elwell 
13. Lauren Eller 
14. Kaylee Cortapassi 
15. Kellen Carr 
16. Cheyne Brooking 
17. Jessica Biscan 
18. Ryan Berry 
19. Keith Allen 
20. Jim Barnes 



**GREAT BASIN UNIFIED AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DISTRICT**

**157 Short Street \* Bishop, California 93514-2537**

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October 10, 2006

Mr. James Barnes, Lead Teacher  
Students of Mammoth Olympic Academy  
PO Box 3509  
365 Sierra Park Road  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Dear Mr. Barnes & Students:

Thank you for your students inquiry letter of September 19, 2006. The student's letter questioned Verizon Wireless' environmental forethought regarding the installation of a John Deere diesel fired emergency backup generator proposed for their telephone cell-site located at 1601 Meridian Blvd., Mammoth Lakes, California.

On January 23, 2006 the Great Basin Unified Air Pollution Control Board (the Board) adopted a rule to require air quality permits for diesel fueled piston type internal combustion engines greater than 50 horsepower. The reason for the Board's action was to align our District Rule with the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) recently approved Air Toxic Control Measure (ATCM) for diesel particulate matter (Title 17 CCR § 93115). CARB stated that exposure to diesel particulate matter (PM), the tiny soot particles from diesel smoke, is a toxic health hazard. CARB's goal is to reduce diesel particulate matter from all diesel fueled engines by the year 2010. The complete regulation (48 pages) can be found on CARB's website at: <http://www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/ag/documents/finalatcm.pdf>. Stationary engines operated on other fuels such as gasoline, LPG, and natural gas are much cleaner and are not affected by the regulation.

Before beginning the permitting process, we suggested to Verizon's contractor that the standby generator should be operated on an alternative fuel such as propane. Our suggestion was made to avoid the need for District permitting. We understand that virtually all Verizon's cellular sites are identical in design. Since this project emits toxic air contaminants, the District is required to conduct a thorough evaluation of the project's potential to emit and determine compliance with existing air quality regulations. In this case, the engine Verizon chose must be one of the cleanest available or equipped with T-BACT technology. CARB has determined that a diesel engine emitting particulate matter less than 0.15 grams/horsepower-hour is considered T-BACT with limited hours of operation. As long as Verizon Wireless complies with current Air Quality Regulations, the District obligated to issue a permit for their project.

Mr. James Barnes, and Students of Mammoth Olympic Academy  
October 10, 2006  
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Attached for your information is an introduction letter that was included in Verizon Wireless' Authority to Construct Permit Application. The introductory letter was written by Shawn Stacey, Verizon Environmental Supervisor. His letter may help answer some of your student's environmental concerns. Mr. Stacey is probably better suited to directly answer your student's concerns. His address is:

Shawn Stacey, Environmental Supervisor  
Verizon Wireless  
255 Parkshore Drive, Building D  
Folsom, CA 95630  
tel: 866.694.2415

If you have any further questions or wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to call me.

Sincerely,



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Larry Cameron  
Air Quality Specialist

cc: Shawn Stacey, Verizon Wireless



Verizon wireless – “Mammoth H.S.” Site  
1601 Meridian Blvd.  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

### *Introduction*

Verizon Wireless is undertaking a large expansion project to add coverage to the residences and businesses in the California Central Valley. This project will increase the service area to Verizon’s existing network in the area. Verizon maintains a strong customer base in Mammoth Lakes and strives to expand and improve coverage for both current and potential customers. This network development will increase public safety within the surrounding area and bring wireless service to areas that are currently underserved.

A ground lease at this location will contain the associated radio equipment. This unmanned facility will provide service to the area residents and businesses 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This site will serve as a backup to the existing landline service in the area and will provide for mobile telecommunications so essential to modern commerce and recreation.

### *Safety Benefits of Improved Wireless Service*

Mobile phone use has become an extremely important system for public safety. Along roads and highways without public call boxes, mobile phones are the only means for emergency roadside communication. Motorists with disabled vehicles can use their phones to call in and request appropriate assistance. With good cellular coverage along important roadways, emergency response is readily available. Furthermore, as a back up system to traditional landline phone service, mobile phones have proven to be extremely important during natural disasters and catastrophes.

Verizon has taken the responsibility for back up service very seriously. As such, Verizon incurred increased expense to install a back up generator at this facility to insure quality communications for the surrounding community regardless of any disaster or catastrophe.

### *Emergency Standby Generator and Batteries*

Verizon Wireless installs an emergency back up generator and batteries at all of its cell sites. The generator and batteries serve a vital role in Verizon’s emergency and disaster preparedness plan. In the event of a power outage, Verizon’s communication equipment will first transition over to back up batteries. The batteries can run the site for a few hours depending on the demand placed on the equipment.

Should the power outage extend beyond the capacity of the batteries, the back up generator will automatically start and continue to run the site. This two stage back up plan is an extremely important component of every Verizon communications site. As one of the nation’s largest wireless companies, Verizon is the mobile phone service of choice for many federal, state and local public safety agencies. While many public safety agencies employ their own two-way radio systems for intra-agency communications, Verizon phones are often the link to other agencies and the outside world. Back up batteries and generators allow Verizon communications sites to continue providing valuable communications services in the event of a power outage, natural disaster or other emergency.

The manufacturer’s stated emissions levels are maximum levels based upon standard #2 diesel fuel, but considering mandated fuel characteristics in California, actual emissions levels are expected to be lower.

### *Convenience Benefits of Improved Wireless Service*

Modern day life has become increasingly dependent on instant communications. Families must remain in contact, businesses must maintain supply and delivery schedules and students must research and confer. Wireless communications are no longer a convenience, they are an integral part of modern life.

### *Compliance with Communication Facility Requirements*

Verizon Wireless will obtain approval from all local, state and federal authorities having jurisdiction over this project.