

5-11-22 before Lahontan WB: Hi, My name is Monika Eisenstecken.

I want to thank you all for taking the time to listen to what we have to say. I'm here on behalf of myself and Tahoeans for Safer Tech.

I'm a lifelong resident of SLT. I'm a working mother of two boys (Jake, 10 Logan , 9) living with my husband Thomas and my Father, George, now (82). My father's still working seasonally for Heavenly Valley Ski Area as a service worker, but in 2005 he completed building our family "dream house," with his own hands on a view property he bought long ago for the purpose near Ski Run Blvd. I thought I'd live there my whole life.

Our journey started 3 years ago with an application by Verizon Wireless for a 112-foot monopine macro tower on Ski Run Blvd. 150 feet from my bedroom. This application really woke me up to the many dangers of wireless technology.

At first it was just me and some close neighbors, but our community rallied and presented over 4000 signatures in protest to the Verizon tower. However, it seemed the more we presented info to our City and TRPA planners, the more they turned a blind eye and ignored us, making me even more skeptical. Though I'm not a scientist, the more I investigated, the more concerned I became, as I discovered more and more credible scientific information about how even low-level radiofrequency radiation can seriously affect human health and our beautiful Lake Tahoe environment. And I am medically diagnosed as sensitive to these microwaves.

It would take more time than I have to discuss all that my family and I have been through at the hands of Verizon, the City and TRPA. It has destroyed what we had as a family. Our issues with them are many. I'm told if you want to read our latest filing in federal District court, it will take over 3 hours, with substantial parts about effects of plastic wastes on water quality from the now-approved tower.

Before that filing we did our best to tell TRPA what we learned in late 2021 about plastic wastes from these plastic towers with their fake-tree plastic coverings. The thousands of pounds of plastic needles and branches per tree-tower, how other towers with plastics had fallen apart and been dispersed so all the plastic wastes could never be picked up, the issues with microplastics. The tower is on property operated as a commercial sled hill with a parking lot adjacent the tower, where some of the plastics will fall and be driven on. The sled-hill operator puts the snow he collects from the lot and surrounding areas onto the sled hill, which drains directly into Bijou Park Creek, as does the parking lot. Microplastic waste will go onto the sled hill and drain right to Lake Tahoe, only a mile or so away. Predictably, even that info didn't stop TRPA from its approval.

I saw the handwriting, the steam roller coming, and our family sold our dream house last year, at a depressed price, due to potential buyers being wary of the tower. I will do what I can to protect my family and community, but the cost to me personally, and my family has been very high. We are living in a rental until my Father finishes building a new house for us in SLT, but it will not be the same, not the dream house.

I'm well-past the point of placing any trust in our City or TRPA, as they have simply used their positions to betray and bully us on their way to their approval for the Verizon project. That's how I see it. We are asking you to take an independent look at the threat of these plastics to water quality and require Verizon to report to you about these wastes before any more of these plastic tree-towers go up.

Thank you for your attention today, and listening to what I had to say. I appreciate your commitment to protecting water quality, the ecosystem, wildlife and water clarity. Tahoe is one of the last large, clean lakes in the world. Let's not destroy it now. The Region is supposed to be special. Let's keep it that way.