

Shell Groundbirch Radio Tower Program 2023

Activity:	Summary of Public Information Meeting held August 17, 2023	
Date Submitted:	September 1, 2023	
Shell Contact:	Daniel Churchill	
Activity Description:	On Thursday, August 17, 2023, from 5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m., Shell held a public information session at the McLeod Community Hall. On July 25, 2023, invites for the session went out to 184 stakeholders as per Section 4.19, 4.20, and 4.21 of the Peace River Regional District (PRRD) Telecom Tower Siting Policy. In addition to Shell employees, subject matter experts from Petron Communications were in attendance. Shell had various maps, plots plans, tower visuals for the public to view, as well as handouts regarding radio frequency and safety information. In total, 26 individuals from the public and PRRD attended the session. A summary of questions, concerns, or general feedback from the session is included below.	
	Questions, concerns, or general feedback	Shell Response
	Multiple residents stated they have concerns regarding 5G technology.	Shell advised that the 5G telecom cellular towers are a distinct technology and are not what Shell is installing.
	Questions regarding the radio/microwave technology and impacts to health.	Shell provided an overview of the Point-to-Point technology, including how the wave transmission operates and provided handouts with information regarding radiofrequency and Health Canada's Safety Code 6.
	Question: Why Shell is not utilizing fiber?	Shell advised that fiber is being utilized to the extent feasible where pipelines are being constructed to share the right-of-way. Shell further advised that fiber is not readily available throughout the asset and it would entail new disturbance and rights-of-way to install.
	Question: Why Shell is not utilizing LTE?	Shell advised that Shell's process control data requires secure data transfer and that Shell created a private LTE gateway within Telus' network; therefore, Shell can only use LTE where Telus provides LTE coverage which is only possible at a small number of wellsites.
	Question: Why not stay with the current 400 MHz communications?	Shell advised that the 400 MHz has low data throughput and the propagation is insufficient for data transmission requirements.
	Question: Why does Shell need to transmit so much more data?	Shell advised that Shell is shifting the SCADA system from round-robin type data to real time data with centralized monitoring and that Shell is preparing for future needs at the well pads (e.g. cameras).
	Feedback regarding the number of towers.	Shell advised that the number of towers directly related to the number of wellsites where more reliable data transmission is required.
	Multiple residents expressed a desire for improved cellular service.	Shell advised that the radio towers do not provide cellular service and they would need to speak to a telecom provider.