



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education, and Economics
Agricultural Research Service

April 28, 2026

Marcel C. Acosta, Executive Director
National Capital Planning Commission
401 9th Street, N.W., Suite 500N
Washington, D.C. 20004

Dear Mr. Acosta:

Enclosure for preliminary and final approvals are materials associated with the modification of AT&T antenna site Water Tank #316, Branchville – 10092075, Site Address: 6900 Powder Mill Road, Beltsville, Prince George's County, MD 2070 at the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) property in Beltsville, Maryland.

AT&T proposes to modify an existing telecommunications facility for AT&T wireless telecommunication services. The scope of work for this project has been summarized below:

- Add three (3) new CommScope model NNHH-65A-R4 antennas measuring 55.1"H x 19.6"W x 7.8"D and light grey in color (1 per sector).
- Mount the antennas to an existing handrail mount on the water tank at centerline heights of approximately 80 feet and tip heights of approximately 82 feet.
- Add three (3) remote radio heads (RRH) (1 per sector) to the existing instruments mounted on the water tank's handrail per the enclosed construction drawings.
- The overall height of the water tank will remain approximately 109 feet.
- Route additional cables from the antennas to AT&T's existing equipment pad following the existing cable path.
- Install/upgrade equipment on AT&T's existing equipment pad.

BARC will renew and update the existing revokable permit to reflect these modifications for AT&T's use of its water tower.

BARC has determined that the proposed modification is a categorical exclusion under its regulations at 7CFR 520.5(b)(1) for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The water tank on which the antennas will be mounted is a contributor to the National Register-eligible BARC historic district. BARC has determined that these minor modifications to existing equipment will not adversely affect the water tower or the historic district. The scope of the

project appears to exempt the project from Section 106 review based on the FCC's Nationwide Programmatic Agreement.

I look forward to NCPC's response to this project. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at Claudette.Joyner@usda.gov or on 301-504-5221.

Sincerely,

CLAUDETTE JOYNER
Realty Specialist
Real Property Section

Enclosures:
Project Narrative
Construction Drawings
Antenna Specifications
RF Site Compliance Report