

# Tower deal irks Colchester resident

BY ANDY COMBER

Darren Entwistle.

A resident of Colchester Village feels the town should have consulted the community before allowing the construction of a communication tower near the centre of the village.

"There was no public meeting, we had no say," said Milt Dzodin, a U.S. citizen with residences in Colchester and in Michigan, speaking of a 160-foot tower erected by Telus on the Town of Essex water treatment plant property in Colchester.

In a letter to Telus sent Feb. 19, Dzodin asked one of Canada's leading telecommunications companies to halt construction.

"I understand that the Town of Essex will receive remuneration from your company for this location and I understand under federal law you can't be restricted as to placement," wrote Dzodin, in a letter to Telus President and CEO

"What I don't understand is that a corporate giant like Telus doesn't think that people have a right to live in a rural farming village and not have a cellular tower sticking up like a sore thumb," he wrote.

A cell phone user himself, Dzodin recognizes the need for communication towers to serve local cell phone users, but he feels the tower could have been situated in a neighbouring farm field, just outside the village.

"They could have made it look nicer, too" said Dzodin, complaining that the tower is one of "bare bones construction."

"I've seen monopoles and some towers that look like trees...they camouflage it," he said.

Kevin Carter, a building inspector with the Town of Essex, said that communication towers that exceed 16.6 metres above ground level, such as the



No input - A resident of Colchester Village, Milt Dzodin recently voiced concerns over a lack of communication between the town and villagers regarding the installation of a communication tower in the village.

Colchester tower, are defined as "a building" under the Ontario Building Code.

Carter said that the Colchester project received a building permit, and is being inspected under municipal and provincial laws. However, telecommunications are governed by federal jurisdiction, and not subject to provincial legislation or municipal bylaws, he said.

The governing body, Industry Canada, encourages all proponents of radiocommunication facilities to comply with local zoning by-laws where they exist. However, local by-laws cannot prevent a radiocommunication facility from being built, as Industry Canada has the final authority over radiocommunication towers and facilities under the Radiocommunication Act.

On their website, Industry Canada notes that local concerns can be taken into consideration during the consultation process with the proponent of the radiocommunication facili-

ty and municipal land use authorities.

"Telus determined where they needed a tower," said Carter, noting that Telus Mobility had made the request to the town to install communication equipment at the Harrow and Colchester South Water Treatment Plant last spring.

The Town of Essex entered into an agreement with TM Mobile Inc. (Telus Mobility) under town by-law #734, which was approved by the town in May 2006. It is reported that the town will receive \$4800 annually in lease payments under the deal.

"The town should take any money they receive and put it into improvements for the village," said Dzodin, "that is the least they can do."

As yet, Dzodin has not received a response from Telus.

**Bi-Annual Consignment CONSTRUCTION AUCTION**

to be held at THE PROPERTY OF  
**Eldorado Logistics**  
County Rd. 42, Belle River, Ontario

*Surplus Equipment and vehicles from various townships as well as private industries...*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 31st, 2007**  
at **10:00 am**

**Consign your equipment NOW!!!!**  
In order to get the most exposure

Phone: (519) 728-2120 Fax: (519) 728-3537

**EPD AUCTION AND APPRAISERS INC.**  
Please visit our website for more information. Website: [www.epdauction.com](http://www.epdauction.com)

**EPD**  
AUCTION AND APPRAISERS INC.  
ED DUNN

**Essex Athletic Association Presents:**

**THE 1ST ANNUAL BOYS AND GIRLS BASKETBALL SPRING LEAGUE**

Date: Tuesdays & Thursdays from 6:30pm - 8:30pm  
at Essex District High School  
April 24, 26  
May 1, 3, 8, 15, 17, 22, 24, 29

The Essex Athletic Association is providing a skills-based instructional league for boys and girls in grades 4 - 8. This is an opportunity to have your sons/daughters learn more about basketball in a fun, non-threatening environment!

**Improve Your Skills**

**Camp Features:**

- 10 - 1 hour fundamental developing sessions
- 10 - 1 hour league play and championship games
- Prizes for Camp MVP, Most Improved, Best Attitude
- Free t-shirt
- Small group and individual instruction
- Shooting contests

**Camp Fee: \$100**  
Sign-Up Forms must be submitted no later than March 26th, 2007

Please send Sign-Up sheets and cheques to:

Essex District High School  
244 Talbot S. North  
Essex, ON  
N8M 2E1  
Ph.: 519-776-7344

**Rheem**  
Relax. It's Rheem.™

**The Relaxing Choice for Home Heating Comfort.**

Virtually any furnace can make your home warmer. But few can do that job as quietly and efficiently as a Rheem furnace. There's a quality Rheem furnace that's perfect for your budget and your family's home comfort needs.

Call your authorized Rheem dealer for more information...

**Wayne WARKENTIN**  
PLUMBING, HEATING AND AIR CONDITIONING

**CALL NOW FOR A FREE ESTIMATE**

**733-5832** 147 LANSDOWNE AVE., KINGSVILLE **733-4751**

**WE DO PLUMBING TOO!**  
Two licensed plumbers available 24/7