



Checklist for Municipal Codes Addressing Small Cell Installations

1. The code requires applicants to document possession of liability insurance which **does not** exclude coverage for health claims due to radiofrequency (RF) radiation exposure (in insurance lingo, a “pollution exclusion”). The insurance must be issued to the parent company (e.g., Verizon), not the contractor, agent or company subdivision. Self-insurance should not be accepted.
2. The code specifies preferred areas for installation of antennas (usually industrial, then commercial, then residential). The applicant must provide written documentation of significant effort to place antennas in non-residential areas, away from schools and daycare centers, and proof that such alternate sites will not result in adequate coverage before a permit is issued.
[Note: Somehow T-Mobile is able to transmit its signals from far-away towers, while AT&T and Verizon insist on placing powerful antennas near homes, apartments and schools.]
3. The code requires applicant to post conspicuous signs of pending applications at proposed sites, and notify all property owners within 500 feet of the proposed antenna installation notification by certified mail within 5 days of application submission.
4. The code requires applications and permits for all types of RF antennas, including free-standing, pole mounted and strand-mounted antennas.
5. The code permits the municipality to hire an RF engineer to conduct random, unannounced RFR emission testing of any or all antenna installation(s) at the expense of the operator, and provides for substantial penalties for violations.
6. The code requires that RF radiation emission limits apply to the aggregate emissions of all co-located equipment, not just emissions of single antennas. In the event such aggregate emissions exceed FCC guidelines, all antennas must be turned off until the emissions are lowered to acceptable limits.
7. The code requires applicants to certify that the company is subject to all local state and federal laws, including the Americans with Disabilities Act, and that the operation of the antennas will not jeopardize the health and well being of any citizens.

This information is intended for educational purposes only. It is not intended to offer and should not be construed as legal advice. Please consult with qualified legal experts for applications and restrictions in your state.