to: spectrum.operations@ic.gc.ca

re: changes in antenna siting laws

As a property owner within a pleasant residential neighbourhood I have been shocked recently to discover that one of our neighbours is within his legal right to install a 15 m high structure to support an antenna for his hobby as a short wave radio operator.

I don’t believe that Industry Canada has any place in designating building rights within a residential neighbourhood. A structure of this kind is extremely intrusive and affects many people in the surrounding area. I don’t believe that a person’s backyard is the right place for an antenna tower of this magnitude. Despite Health Canada’s present position that they are perfectly safe we all know that there has not been sufficient passage of time to say with any certainty whether this is so. The aesthetic issue is also extremely important; a tower of this size is impossible to screen with plantings and will remain an eyesore for all forced to endure it. For individuals who wish to pursue this hobby I believe that there are horizontal fixtures that enable the radio to work as effectively, if not more so.

Moving forward I believe that there should be no automatic “rights” to build personal antenna towers and that every application should be subject to public notification.