

Aliant Telecom

**Cellular Communication Tower
Bear Head Road (Dancing Point), Corner Brook, NL
Registration Pursuant to
Section 49 of
The Environmental Protection Act
(Part X Environmental Assessment)**

**Aliant Telecom
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August 21, 2003

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Environmental Assessment Registration
Communication Tower, Corner Brook, NL, TF08718
Aliant Telecom
August 21, 2003

REGISTRATION FORM

Pursuant to Section 49 of *The Environmental Protection Act*

NAME OF UNDERTAKING

Communication Tower, Bear Head Road
(Dancing Point), Corner Brook, NL.

PROPOSER

(i) Name of Corporate Body

Aliant Telecom Inc

(ii) Address

P.O. Box 2110
St. John's, NL, A1C 5H6

(iii) Chief Executive Officer

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1.0 THE UNDERTAKING

1.1 NATURE OF THE UNDERTAKING

Aliant Communications propose to construct a 30 metre (m) high communication tower along the Humber River, more specifically Bear Head Road (Dancing Point) in Corner Brook, Newfoundland. Because this undertaking will occur within 200 meters of the high water mark of the Humber River an Environmental Registration, as per the Environmental Assessment Regulations, is required.

The nature of this project generally involves the erection of a communication tower, construction of a small electronics building, construction of a small access road and parking area, placement of concrete foundation for tower and building structures, and installation of a fenced compound. Appendix A provides photographs of the proposed site and tower and building that will be constructed. A number of similar projects are ongoing or have been carried out throughout the province by Aliant.

1.2 NEED FOR THE UNDERTAKING

This particular project is needed to provide enhanced digital cellular coverage to the lower elevations of the Corner Brook, NL area. Dancing point provides the most suitable location for the communication tower.

2.0 DESCRIPTION OF THE UNDERTAKING

2.1 GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION

The site plans are provided in Appendix B and show the proposed location of communication tower site. The site is located on Bear Head Road (Dancing Point) within the city limits of Corner Brook, NL (see Figure 2).The area is located in an Environmental Protection Zone under the City's development plan. The lands adjacent to the proposed tower site are mostly developed with residential properties.

2.2 PHYSICAL FEATURES

The communication tower site will involve the construction of a self-supporting tower, an electronics building, a small access road, fenced compound, parking area and drop pole. A descriptions of these features are included below:

- a) self support tower:* The tower is of steel construction , 30 m in height, and will be bolted to a concrete slab.
- b) electronic building:* The electronics building (3m x 7m) is pre assembled and is constructed of metal siding.

c) access road: The proposed access road will extend from the existing Bear Head Rd. into the proposed site. It would be approximately 10 m in length, and 5 m in width and would require the placement of a 600 mm culvert for roadside drainage.

d) fenced compound: A 12 m x 14 m chain link fence would be installed around the perimeter of the proposed site.

e) parking lot: the access road will lead into the parking area, which will be large enough to allow for two service vehicles.

f) drop pole: A drop pole will be located in front of building.

The proposed site lies on the upward ledge of the Humber River banks. It is composed of glacial fluvial terrace, consisting of sands and gravels. The landscape consists of rolling hills and mixed forest stands (see Appendix A).

2.3 CONSTRUCTION

2.3.1 Construction Period

It is expected that site preparation, construction of road, parking lot, fence, tower and building and commissioning of all facilities will take approximately one month.

The proposed construction start date is October 15th, 2003.

2.3.2 Potential Sources of Pollutants

Below is a list of activities required for the construction of the tower and building. A brief description of the activities, potential environmental issues and the mitigative actions required to provide environmental are discussed below.

2.3.2.1 Site Preparation

Description:

Before any work may proceed, all vegetation and the rootmat within the project footprint will have to be removed and disposed. The footprint is expected to be approximately 600 m² (20m x 30m). Figure 3 in Appendix B shows a generic site layout for a typical self support tower.

Environmental concerns:

- Wildlife displacement
- Temporary unstable soil conditions
- Risk of fire

Mitigation:

Appropriate permits will be obtained before any vegetation removal commences. Clearing and removal of trees will be restricted to the minimum areas needed. Because the footprint is small in area, the effects on soil stability and forage for wildlife will be minimal.

As required for a cutting and burning permit, appropriate fire fighting equipment will be provided at site.

2.3.2.2 Grubbing

Description:

Removal of the top layer of vegetation to allow for the construction of the proposed facilities. It is expected that approximately 100 cubic metres of this material will have to be removed and disposed of accordingly.

Environmental concerns:

- Although there is approximately 50 metres of undisturbed vegetation between the footprint of this project and the river, there is a remote possibility that some siltation could occur during heavy and continuous rainfalls.

Mitigation:

Grubbing in the area will comply with the requirements and approvals of the Department of Environment and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. Grubbing will be kept to a minimum and organics and topsoil will be stockpiled in a well drained area, where it may be used for rehabilitation purposes afterward. The majority of the organics will be removed from site, as crushed stone and blast rock fill with low fines contents will be used to construct the access road and proposed site.

Prior to grubbing operations a silt fence will be installed along the southern boundary of the site to prevent any turbid water from entering the river during the chance event of a heavy rainfall.

2.3.2.3 Excavating

Description:

Excavation activities will be minimal once grubbing is complete. Posts for the fence and areas for concrete placement of the tower and building will have to be excavated with backfilling to occur immediately following removal of formworks used in concrete placement.

Environmental concern:

The areas to be excavated are minimal with subsequent backfilling; therefore there are no environmental concerns.

Mitigation:

Mitigation used for grubbing will also be adequate for excavation activities.

2.3.2.4 Heavy Equipment Use

Description:

Earth moving activities and erection of the tower and building will require the use of heavy machinery such as excavators, back hoes, and boom trucks. There will be no fording of the river required.

Environmental concerns:

- Improper use of larger equipment can cause physical damage to vegetation
- Accidental spills and leaks of fuel and lubricants may contaminate watercourses
- Air emissions emitted from heavy machinery

Mitigation:

Equipment will be inspected regularly and maintained in good operating condition. Oil absorbent pads and drip pans will also be provided on site. Heavy equipment will not be re-fueled or serviced onsite,

2.3.2.5 Solid Waste Disposal

Description:

There will be some debris associated with the construction phase of the proposed project. This includes workers bringing lunches and heavier debris resulting from the construction (e.g. wire, paint cans, cardboard)

Environmental concerns:

- Fire hazard
- Unsightly

Mitigation:

Kitchen garbage and construction debris will be taken away from site daily.

Solid waste disposal practices will comply with the Environmental Protection Act and associated regulations.

2.4 POTENTIAL RESOURCE CONFLICT

The project site is within 200 m of the Humber River. This river is well known for its aesthetic appeal and fishery resources. These and other resource conflicts are listed below:

2.4.1 Fish and Fish Habitat

Construction activities will be conducted in such a manner to prevent the release of deleterious materials into the water, as discussed in Section 2.3.

Fish populations within the Humber River normally include Atlantic salmon, land locked salmon, brook trout and arctic char. By following the construction practices as described in Section 2.3, no interference with fish and fish habitat is expected.

2.4.2 Aesthetics

The tower is 30 m in height and will be noticeable within the surrounding area. However, the project's footprint is small and there are no operational issues that will conflict with local resource use such as hunting and fishing.

Transport Canada requires that a lighting beacon be install on the top of the tower.

A self support tower has been proposed for this site over the less costly guy tower configuration. Self support towers in general are more aesthetically pleasing, require less land development (smaller footprint), and have fewer obstructions.

The proposed footprint is approximately 50 m from the rivers edge with an undisturbed vegetated buffer zone. This buffer zone is to be maintained as previouslt mentioned in Section 2.3.2.

2.4.3 Wildlife

Moose, foxes, song birds, ducks, hawks, muskrat, mice and voles are common in the Corner Brook area.

The footprint of the project is small and is not considered to significantly affect wildlife population or habitat within the area.

2.4.4 Water Quality

As noted in section 2.3, appropriate mitigation measures will be employed to ensure water quality is maintained.

2.5 OPERATION

The operational phase will not provide any significant risks of pollutants or resource conflicts. The building will be remotely operated with electronic technicians visiting only when necessary.

Properly stored dry cell batteries will be located in the electronics building. There will be no other potential contaminants on site.

3.0 OCCUPATIONS

During the construction phase of the project there will be a combined total of approximately 16 personnel on site. The following table lists the occupations (according to the National Occupational Classification 2001) for the construction and operational phases of the work.

Construction Phase Occupations

NOC Code	# of Personnel	Description of Occupation
0711	1	Construction Manager
7264	4	Structure Metal Erector
7246	4	Telecommunications installation and repair
7271	2	Carpenter
7611	4	Construction trades helpers and labourers
7421	1	Heavy Equipment Operator

Contract forces will carry out the majority of the work conducted during the construction phase of the project.

Operational Phase Occupation

NOC Code	# of Personnel	Description of Occupation
7246	2	Telecommunications installation and repair

During operation Aliant personnel will conduct servicing and repair of the site on a regular and as needed basis. In general the site will be unoccupied and remotely monitored.

4.0 PROJECT RELATED DOCUMENTS

There are presently no related documents available.

5.0 APPROVAL FOR THE UNDERTAKING

The permits approvals, and authorizations, which may be necessary for the undertaking, include:

Permits, approvals or authorizations for the proposed project.

PERMIT, APPROVAL OR AUTHORIZAITION	ISSUING AGENT
• Approval for the undertaking	Minister of Environment
• Certificate of approval	Water Resources Division, Department of Environment
• Authorizations for Works or Undertakings Affecting Fish Habitat	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
• Permit to cut Crown Timber	Department of Forest Resources and Agrifoods
• Operating Permit / Fire Season	
• Crown Lands Applications	Department of Government Services and Lands
• Associated Approval from Municipality	The City of Corner Brook

The proposed site is located on Crown Land. An application has been sent to the provincial Government Services Centre to lease this land from the Crown. Municipal approval has been received from the City of Corner Brook to carry out this project. As part of the municipal approval process public consultation was conducted with the proposed project advertised in local newspapers.

6.0 SCHEDULE FOR RELEASE FROM ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Construction of this project is scheduled to begin mid October of 2003, therefore it is hoped that release from the Environmental Assessment Process can be completed as soon as possible.

7.0 FUNDING

Aliant Communications will be providing the funding for this project. Capital costs of the undertaking will be in the order of \$200 000.00

Date

Signature of CEO

APPENDIX A
SITE PHOTOGRAPHS



Photo 1 – Proposed tower location



Photo 3 – Area of proposed site from opposite side of river



Photo 2 – Typical tree cover on proposed site



Photo 4 – River bank at proposed tower site

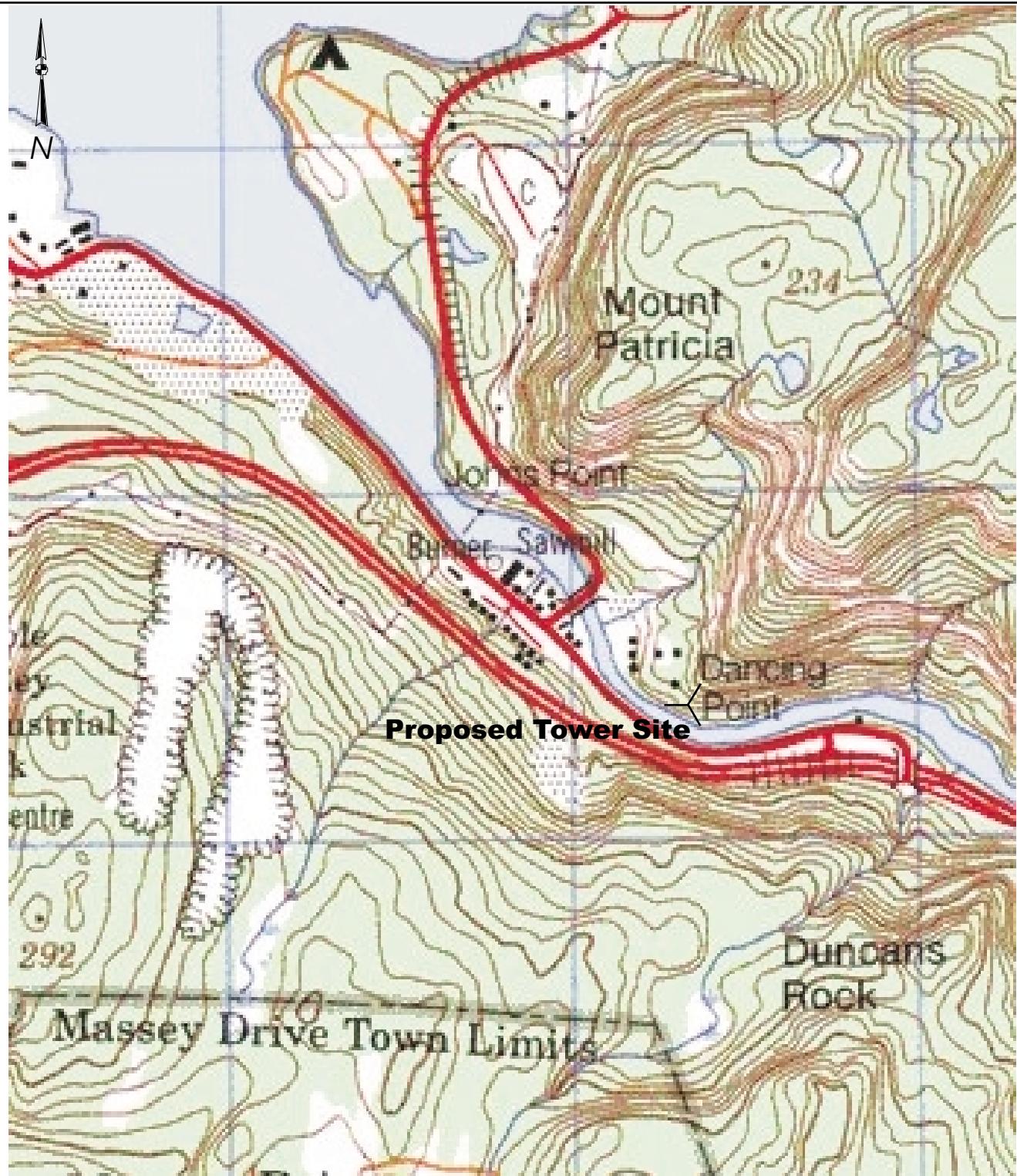


Typical Light Weight 30 m Self Supporting Communication Tower



Typical Electronics Building (3 m x 7m)

APPENDIX B
DRAWINGS



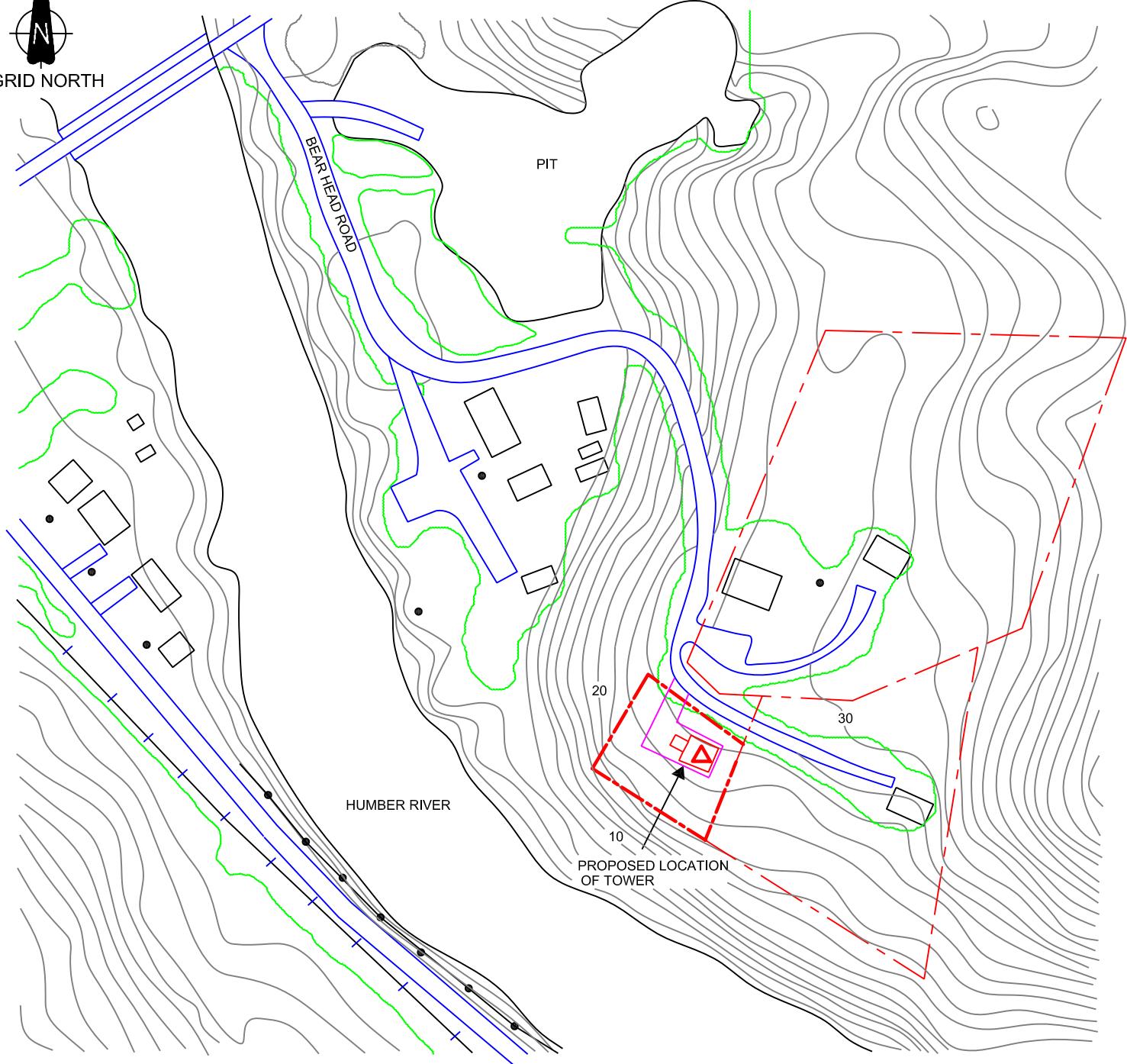
ALIANT TELECOM INC.



DRAWN	JJY	PROJECT	ALIANT COMMUNICATIONS TOWER DANCING POINT, NEWFOUNDLAND		
CHECKED	CPM	DRAWING	SITE LOCATION PLAN		
FILENO.	Tf08718	SCALE	NTS	DATE	Feb 12/03
				DWG. NO.	REV.



GRID NORTH



LEGEND:

- ● TRANSMISSION LINE
- + ABANDONED RAILWAY
- ■ TREE LINE
- - - PROPERTY BOUNDARY

NOTES:

1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS.
2. DO NOT SCALE FROM DRAWING.
3. SITE PLAN DEVELOPED FROM 1:2500 BASE MAPS.

4. ALL LOCATIONS, DIMENSIONS, AND ORIENTATIONS ARE APPROXIMATE.
5. THIS DRAWING SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN THOSE OUTLINED ABOVE.
6. THIS DRAWING CONTAINS INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY OF ALIANT TELECOM AND MAY NOT BE REPRODUCED OR COPIED WITHOUT THEIR WRITTEN CONSENT.

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 **Aliant**

DRAWN

JJY

PROJECT

PROPOSED COMMUNICATIONS TOWER - DANCING POINT

CHECKED

CPM

FIGURE

SITE PLAN

FILE NO.

TF08718

SCALE

0 m 30

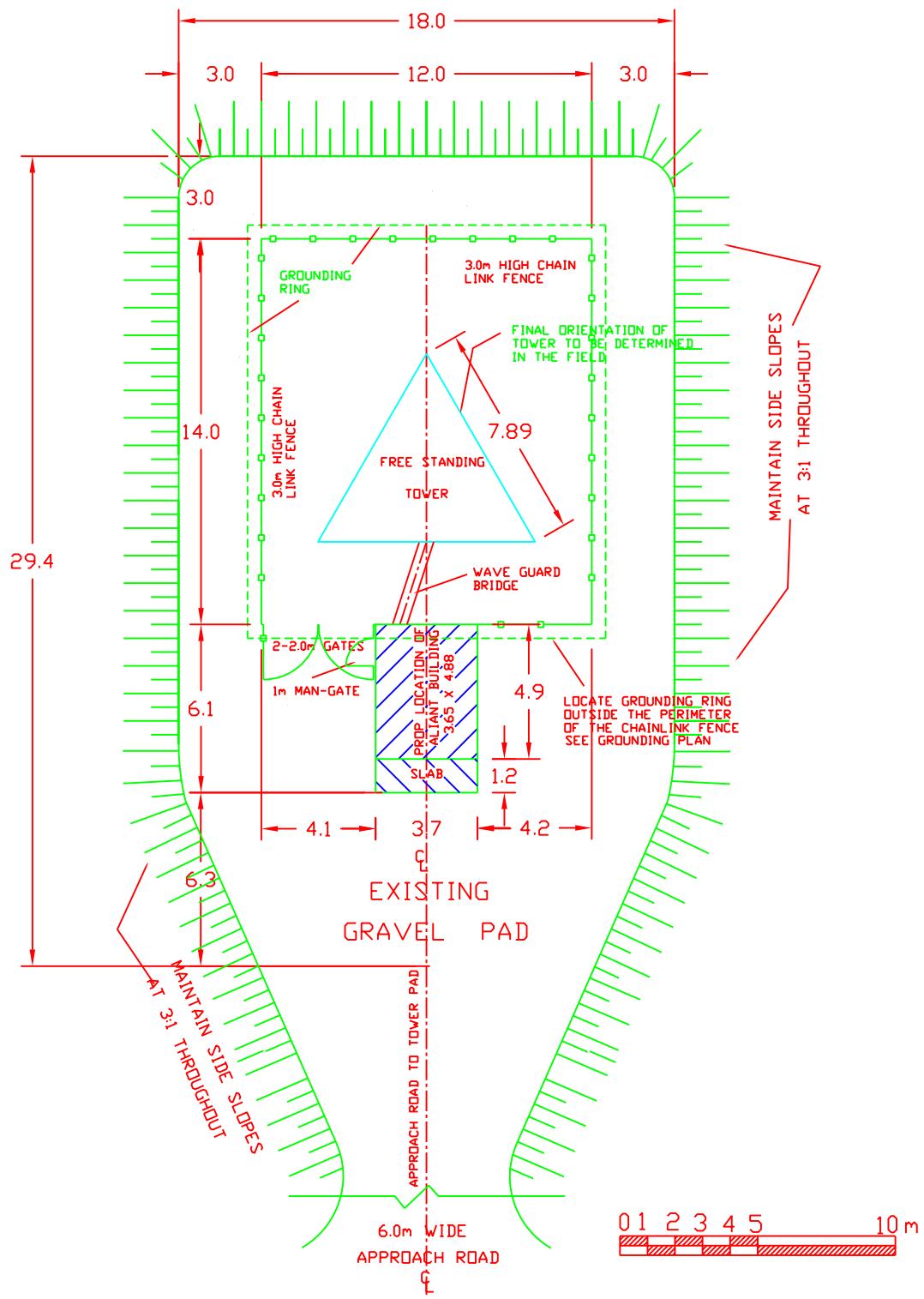
DATE

AUG 19, 2003

FIGURE NO.

2

REV.



NOTES:
 1. ALL DIMENSIONS ARE IN METERS.
 2. DO NOT SCALE FROM DRAWING.
 3. SITE PLAN DEVELOPED FROM 1:2500 BASE MAPS.

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DRAWN	KDP	PROJECT	PROPOSED COMMUNICATIONS TOWER - DANCING POINT		
CHECKED	CPM	FIGURE	GENERIC SELF SUPPORT TOWER LAYOUT		
FILE NO.	TF08718	SCALE	AS SHOWN	DATE	Aug 19, 2003
		FIGURE NO.		REV.	3