O2 UK LTD Supporting Statement

Cell Reference:	40098		
Site Address:	Markfield Lane, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT		
Easting:	450947	Northing:	306583
Description of Development:	The installation of a radio base station consisting of a 12.5 metre imitation telegraph monopole supporting three 2G antennae with equipment cabinet at ground level and ancillary apparatus thereto.		

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1.0 General Introduction & Site Details

This supporting statement forms part of an application for prior approval on behalf of O2 UK Ltd. The application relates to the installation of a radio base station consisting of a 12.5 metre imitation telegraph monopole supporting three 2G antennae with equipment cabinet at ground level and ancillary apparatus thereto located on Markfield Lane, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT. This supporting statement aims to assist the planning authority in the evaluation of telecommunications proposals, stating clearly the facts and issues surrounding this planning application.

2.0 Technical Justification

2.1 Compliance with Other Regulations

'Please accept this letter and its enclosures as a notification in accordance with regulation 5 of The Electronic Communications Code (Conditions and Restrictions) Regulations 2003 as required by the Communications Act 2003. No fee is required for this notification. O2 UK Ltd is obliged, under regulation 6(2) to give one calendar month's notice, in writing, to the planning authority of its intention to install electronic communications apparatus. The apparatus to be installed consists of a 12.5 metre imitation telegraph monopole supporting three 2G antennae with equipment cabinet at ground level and ancillary apparatus thereto. The apparatus will be installed on Markfield Lane, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT.

2.2 Technical Justification

PPG8 states that local planning authorities should not question the need for the telecommunications system, which the proposed development is to support (paragraph 6). However, paragraph 5 of PPG8 highlights that in making an application for telecommunications development operators may be expected to provide evidence regarding the need for the proposed installation.

The proposed installation is needed to provide 2G coverage to the following areas:

- The primary coverage objective is to provide coverage along Markfield Lane.
- Secondary coverage objective to improve coverage in Ratby.
- Secondary coverage objective to provide continuous coverage along M1.

The coverage plots and technical justification, enclosed in appendix A, provide an explanation of the operation of the network and the technical constraints on siting. O2 has identified a coverage requirement along Markfield Lane within the town of Ratby, the coverage plots illustrate the projected radio coverage provided by the sites surrounding the proposal site if they were all operational. It can be seen from the plots that the coverage is not contiguous and therefore a site is required to fill a gap in coverage. These plots clearly show how the proposed installation would fill an existing coverage gap to enable continuous coverage to be achieved in the area and along Markfield Lane.

The search area within which an installation needs to be established in order to meet the coverage requirement is constrained by the location and extent of the coverage provided by existing installations in the surrounding area. An installation located outside of this search area would not allow O2 UK Ltd to provide the desired level of coverage and would therefore not adequately fill the current coverage gap. Sites within the search area can also be constrained by man-made and topographical features therefore preventing the projection of the required signal from within the search area.

3.0 Site Selection Process

3.1 Annual Rollout Consultation

Date of last annual rollout information/submission:	October 2007
Name of contact:	Chief Planning Officer
Main issues/outcome: No known response	

3.2 Database Searches

Was the mast register of the authority responsible for planning used to check for suitable sites by the operator or the authority?		No
if no explain why: No mast register identified.		
Was the industry site database checked for suitable sites by the operator?	Yes	
if no explain why:		

3.3 Pre-application Consultation

The Government strongly encourages pre-application discussions between operators and local planning authorities in order to find the optimum solution for the development requirements. Paragraphs 9 – 13 of PPG8 go on to advise that pre-application discussions should also be carried out between operators and other organisations with an interest in the proposed development as well as people likely to be affected by the proposals including schools.

In order to explore the possibilities with regard to this proposal a pre-application consultation exercise has been undertaken. This proposal was given an Amber rating when it was assessed against the Traffic Light Rating Model, further details of the Traffic Light Rating Model can be found in Annex D to the Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Development.

An initial pre-application consultation exercise was undertaken with the local planning authority on 21st January 2008 with a letter sent to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council planning department. As of writing this report no known response has been received from the Local Planning Authority.

A community consultation exercise was undertaken with local ward councillors, pre-application letters and enclosures were sent on 21st January 2008 to Ward Councillors C. W. Boothby and L. J. P. O'Shea. As of writing this report no know response has been received to either of these letters.

3.4 Alternative Sites Considered

In accordance with the licence obligations and advice in PPG8 and the Code of Best Practice the applicant's network rollout team undertook an inspection of the area of search, which investigated the following siting and design options using this sequential approach to site selection:

- Upgrading their own existing base stations;
- Using existing telecommunications structures belonging to another communications operator. I.e. Mast and/or site sharing, co-location;
- Installations on existing high buildings or structures including National Grid pylons;
- Using small scale equipment; and finally
- Erecting a new ground based mast site – (1st) Camouflaging or disguising equipment. (2nd) A conventional installation e.g. a lattice mast and compound.

The applicant's site selection strategy is to keep the overall environmental impact to a minimum. Mast sharing is always progressed where it is technically and legally possible and where it is the local planning authority's preferred environmental solution. New 'Greenfield' sites are only developed where there are no viable or accessible alternatives or it is the local planning authority's preferred approach. The feasibility of the acquisition, build and maintenance of the site also needs to be taken into account.

A number of sites have been considered prior to the proposal site being selected. These were given careful consideration with regard to the impact of development at each location in terms of visual and residential amenity, other planning issues as well as the technical suitability of each site to O2. In selecting the site and design of the proposed installation the views that have been received as a result of the consultation exercise have been taken into account. The location considered most acceptable in terms of all these factors was then selected.

It should be recognised that a typical cell search area may contain a number of locations where a streetworks type proposal could be installed. Streetworks style installations consist of a slim line pole and an equipment cabinet and are predominantly found on areas of adopted highway land such as a grass verge or pedestrian footpath. However, there are a number of common parameters regardless of the visual prominence of the site that prevent sites from being suitable for streetworks installations. When considering locations for possible streetworks installations it is imperative that the parameters below are given full and proper consideration.

The following parameters have a direct influence over the locations at which a streetworks installation can be proposed, if any one parameter is compromised then the location is unsuitable:

- Land Ownership – It is necessary to have the agreement of the landowner to install equipment on their land. Most land immediately adjacent to a highway will be adopted highway. However, this is not always the case and therefore it would be necessary to seek the consent of the landowner;
- Underground Services – The presence of underground services (such as water and gas pipelines or electricity and telecommunications cables) restrict the ability to install equipment due to the depth of the root foundation required for the pole, which must avoid these services. In addition it is necessary for the utility companies to maintain access to these services;
- Proximity to Overhead Services and existing lighting columns – Sites for streetworks installation can be restricted due to the presence of overhead cables (such as overhead telephone and electricity cables) and the proximity of existing lighting columns. Sufficient vertical and horizontal separation is required to allow the proposed antenna to comply with ICNIRP requirements;
- The Width of Footpath that will be remaining once the equipment is installed – Once the cabinet is installed sufficient space must remain to allow pedestrians to pass safely and without having to step into the adjacent road. Typically, local highways authorities will require 1.8 metres of footpath to allow pedestrians, push chairs and wheel chairs to pass safely;
- Access Requirements – Equipment must not obstruct access to driveways, cycle lanes and pedestrian crossings;
- Visibility Splays – Equipment must be sited in order that it does not have a detrimental impact upon the visibility splays of traffic emerging from road junctions and other access routes.
- Parking for maintenance vehicles – Sufficient space must exist adjacent to a site to allow a hydraulic platform vehicle, often referred to as a 'cherry picker', to park safely. This vehicle is required to allow the antennas at the top of the pole to be accessed and maintained.

The proposed site meets all of the above criteria and is therefore deemed technically suitable for the implementation of telecomm apparatus. The impact of this proposal upon visual amenity and the local environment is also considered to be appropriate and the optimum site available to O2 within this locality. The details of alternative sites considered prior to selecting the proposed site and design are contained in the list below and are plotted on the map attached to Appendix A:

List of Sites Considered

Site Type	Site Name and address	NGR	TLM Rating	Reason for Rejection
ETS	T-Mobile installation reference 95198, Groby Road, Ratby, Leicestershire	451663, 306408	Green	This is an existing small scale (8 metre) streetworks installation erected by T-Mobile UK Ltd. The redevelopment of this structure is not possible in a street side position as this would necessitate a much bulkier monopole to support the associated equipment. Such a monopole would not meet highways regulations which require street furniture to crumple when struck by a vehicle. A second pole in this position was technically feasible but the site would have been located outside of O2's search area, thereby not providing the necessary coverage to the primary search targets. This site is positioned to the east of Markfield Lane and continuous coverage cannot be provided from this location along the entirety of Markfield Lane.
ETS	T-Mobile and Vodafone installations references 69917 (T-Mobile) and 5397 (Vodafone), off Markfield Lane, Leicestershire	449396, 307345	Green	This site is located to the western end of Markfield Lane 1500 metres from the western most edge of Ratby. The implementation of telecomm apparatus in this location would not meet the technical requirements of O2 as coverage would not be provided through Grey Lodge Wood and along the necessary route of Markfield Lane.
ETS	O2 installation reference 10162, to the side of the A46, Leicestershire	452733, 305680	Green	This site is an existing O2 installation comprising antennae on an existing electricity pylon. The potential height of the antennae is determined by the height of the existing pylon and the location of equipment on the pylon. The antennae on this pylon cannot be raised any higher and therefore the coverage from the equipment cannot be increased. Notwithstanding the above it would not be possible to upgrade the equipment on this site to provide the necessary coverage due to the distance of this site from the search area.
GF	Markfield Lane DNS Option 1, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT	451043, 306484	Amber	This site is located central to the search area and would provide optimum coverage to the target area. This site has been discounted due to its proximity to residential properties. Unlike the proposed site, residential dwellings around this installation would directly view the installation from close proximity; therefore any installation would form a prominent and incongruous feature within direct views from residential

				properties. The implementation of a telecomm installation in this position was considered to have an unacceptable impact upon residential amenity and therefore this proposal has been discounted.
GF	Markfield Lane DNS Option 3, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT	451301, 306140	Amber	This option utilises a site on a busy and open road junction providing ample space for the implementation of telecomm apparatus. The trees around this junction provide a degree of screening and the distance of dwellings from the junction minimise adverse impact upon residential amenity. This site has not been chosen because the installation would be sited outside of the search area to the east, the required signal could not be projected from this location into the western parts of the search area and therefore an additional base station would be required to complete this coverage. It is considered that a single installation in the proposed location is preferable to the implementation of two separate base stations.
GF	Access to Martinshaw Lodge, off Markfield Lane, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 OLT	450989, 306628	Green	A site on this access road would have provided a much less prominent structure, which would have been set back from the road side and further away from residential properties. Unfortunately this site is situated to the east of Grey Lodge Wood which would prevent the transmission of any signal from an acceptable size of base station to the west. The site is also located within an area designated within the local plan as an Area of Particularly Attractive Countryside and Area of Separation. The implementation of a base station in this location would therefore be against planning policy which aims to protect the open countryside. Finally, because this site was deemed unsuitable from an environmental and technical perspective the landowner has not been approached and the site may not be acquirable for O2's use. This site has therefore been discounted for technical, environmental and availability reasons.

[redacted] O_2

Search area features and restrictions:

Sites have been considered all along Markfield Lane, which is the primary coverage target. The chosen site benefits from a gap in residential properties along the northern side of this road, allowing for the implementation of a telecomm structure which is not sited in direct views from close residential properties. Land to the north east of Markfield Lane consists of open countryside and the M1 motorway, this land is not available for the implementation of telecomm apparatus and is designated within the local plan as an Area of Particularly Attractive Countryside and an Area of Separation. Land to the south of Markfield Lane consists of small scale roads and a high density of residential properties. It is considered that an installation within this area would be out of character with the smaller scale street furniture, appear much more prominent when viewed from residential properties and form a much more dominating and incongruous feature within the street scene.

4.0 Visual Considerations

Given the makeup of the area and lack of alternative sites, it was established that an imitation telegraph monopole would be the only viable solution which could provide coverage to this area.

The proposed imitation telegraph monopole will appear appropriate sited in the context of existing telegraph poles and trees to the rear of the site. The texture of the pole will ensure that it blends back into the vegetation, while appearing integrated into the environment when viewed from close quarters. The monopole will be set back from the street edge but within the context of the existing streetlight sequence along Markfield Road. Within this sequence the monopole will appear as an ancillary feature within the streetscape, its height and design replicated in other nearby structures.

Street furniture monopoles can take the form of basic slim line monopoles and imitation streetlights. The basic slim line monopole has not been implemented in this instance as it was considered the imitation telegraph monopole would be less prominent, while the wood texture and colour of the pole would make most effective use of the vegetation to the rear of the site. The imitation streetlight was not deemed appropriate in this position as the monopole has to be set back and out of the existing streetlight sequence, this would set such a structure out as dissimilar to the existing streetlights.

The height of this monopole is led by a technical need to project a signal above and beyond surrounding attenuating features such as residential properties and trees. This installation has been maintained to the minimum possible height while meeting technical requirements. The surrounding properties are approximately 9 metres in height and allow for the projection of a signal into the surrounding area without undue propagation of the signal. The trees to the northwest of the site (Grey Lodge Wood) are much taller then this installation, thereby reducing the apparent scale of this installation when viewed within their context.

Properties to the south of the installation will view the mast in the context of Grey Lodge Wood, it is considered that the presence of the wood and the colour and texture of the monopole will effectively minimise the prominence of this structure to an appropriate level when viewed from properties to the south. Due to the width of the road, associated grass verges and depth of front gardens the nearest property to the south of the installation will view the monopole from a total distance of approximately 45 metres. It is considered that this distance is sufficient to further diminish the impact of the installation.

Properties to the northeast and northwest of this installation are located at such an angle to not be directly affected by this proposal. Any views directly out of the southern aspects of these properties are acceptably maintained.

It should be recognised that the general cell area is predominantly residential in character and constrained by the flat topography. The chosen location minimises any impact on residential amenity by siting the installation within an area of low density residential properties central to the search area. This allows the maximum distance to be provided from residences and the implementation of the smallest possible monopole. It is acknowledged that residential properties can be found in the vicinity; however, given their orientation within the street scene and the positioning of apparatus, it is considered that the proposal would not significantly affect the outlook from these properties.

It is appreciated that the site will be visible to pedestrians and road users; however it is considered that the monopole and equipment cabinets will soon be seen as a utilitarian feature not uncommon in such a street scene and it will in time be accepted as part of the urban fabric of the area. It is considered that road users will not have their visibility impaired by the proposed monopole or equipment cabinets owing to the base stations positioning set back from the highway. The cabinets and monopole have been sited on a section of grass verge, whereby they are positioned off the pavement so as not to impede pedestrian movements.

The technical requirements of mobile communication operators are well documented within PPG8 and this policy guidance is clear that telecommunications development may not always reflect immediate land uses. PPG8 recognises that it is the technical requirements of the telecommunications operator that dictate the height of some proposed installations. It would therefore be unrealistic of the Council to expect that an installation could mimic exactly other linear forms in the area; such as street lighting columns or existing telecommunications installations facilitated by other operators.

In address of the appearance of the proposal, it is believed that the scheme takes a form which is sympathetic within the context of its immediate street scene which includes existing telegraph poles and lighting columns. Aware that some standard mast designs can appear incongruous, it is highlighted that the antennas would be concealed within an in-line cylindrical shroud and would be integral to the upper most section of the pole. It is considered that the column is relatively slender whereby the shroud element is true with the pole. Furthermore the inclusion of mock climbing runs, coupled with a cladding effect would help camouflage the pole. This design is considered to be an appropriate solution and shows the applicants efforts to help mitigate the proposals impact on the visual amenity.

It should be recognised that the use of shrouded antennas would eliminate the large number of bracing components associated with other more prominent and conventional telecommunications installations. Similarly, the applicant has opted to connect the site into the national network via an underground transmission link rather than relying on a transmission dish, which the appellant judged might affect the linear nature of the scheme. It is considered that the mock telegraph design is an appropriate solution as it is camouflaged in appearance and is of the same height as lighting columns that are found in the locality.

The proposed equipment cabinet is considered small for a telecommunications development and will be located alongside the monopole. The equipment cabinet has an appearance similar to other communications and electrical service boxes found in the street scene. The proposed equipment cabinet can be painted to the requirements of the LPA, further reducing its prominence. It is considered that the ground based development will not have any detrimental impact upon the visual amenity of the area.

In light of O2's efforts to design the best solution for this particular site so as to minimise the impact of development on the environment, it is considered that the appearance of a replica telegraph pole would not seriously impact upon the visual amenity of the area, nor would it form an obtrusive feature in the street scene.

It is considered that the proposal before you strikes a good balance between environmental impact and operational considerations. The proposed height and design represents the best compromise between the visual impact of the proposal on the surrounding area and meeting the technical coverage requirement for the site. Taking all matters into account it is considered that the proposal would not appear out of place at the application site. It is considered that the proposal has been sited in a position which respects the character of the cell as a whole and the general setting of the immediate area.

5.0 Planning Policy

5.1 National Policy

National guidance contained within planning policy guidance notes and Governmental circulars have been determined to be material considerations in determining planning appeals. In this instance, it is our opinion that the following advice is material:

PPG 8 – Telecommunications (2001)

PPG8 'Telecommunications is the national planning document offering guidance to local authorities in the formulation of local plan policy and evaluation of telecommunications developments.

Overall aim of PPG8 is to allow for the growth of new and existing telecommunications networks in conjunction with environmental considerations. Paragraph 1 of PPG8 emphasises the Governments' generally positive approach to telecommunications: -

> *"The Government's policy is to facilitate the growth of new and existing telecommunications systems whilst keeping the environmental impact to a minimum. The Government also has a responsibility for protecting public health." PARA 1, PPG8, 22 August 2001*

> *"The aim of telecommunications policy is to ensure that people have a choice as to who provides their telecommunication service, a wider range of services from which to choose and equitable access to the latest technologies". PARA 2, PPG8, 22 August 2001*

Paragraph 7, advises that each telecommunications system have different antenna types, siting needs and other characteristics. *"Planning Authorities should have regard to any technical constraints on the location and proposed development."*

PPG8 acknowledges the commercial pressures placed of mobile telecommunications systems and that basis of demand for such services, confirming that: -

> *"These systems are demand-led. Increase in the use of mobile phones has meant that operators are continually expanding their networks to accommodate customer requirements of service and quality. The greatest need for base station sites is usually in built-up areas where there is the greatest density of mobile users, and within a mile or two of the main roads, where the demands on network capacity are greatest." PARA 22, PPG8, 22 August 2001*

With reference design PPG8 confirms that operators should be innovative in their design solutions and should attempt to find solutions that minimise potential amenity and intrusion issues, stating that: -

> *"The telecommunications industry is encouraged to continue to develop innovative design solutions, in terms not only of the structure of masts and antennas but also the materials and colouring. A number of different design solutions are currently available. These include masts designed to look like trees or street furniture, and the redevelopment or restoration of existing properties to incorporate telecommunications apparatus. Authorities may wish to discuss with operators different design and camouflage options in connection with development proposals. Operators are encouraged to provide examples of different design solutions. It should be borne in mind that some designs may not be suitable for future sharing. Where it is agreed that a site is suitable for future mast sharing, it may be appropriate to install a mast specifically designed to facilitate its redevelopment for sharing." Para 77, PPG8, August 2001*

In this regard O2 UK Ltd have utilised a slim line replica telegraph pole design that can be easily integrated into the surrounding landscape and is designed to differ from traditional bulky telecommunications installations. The pole will be coloured and textured to assist in it blending effectively with its backdrop of trees.

5.2 Code of Best Practice on Mobile Phone Network Development

The Code of Best Practice was published in November 2002 and produced jointly by all Mobile Phone Operators, and representatives of Central and Local Government. It provides clear and practical advice to ensure that delivery of significantly better and more effective communication and consultation between operators, local authorities and local residents.

Paragraphs 140 - 145 identify general design principles in which camouflaging or disguising equipment is considered materially appropriate. In reducing the environmental and visual impact of a ground based installation the Code of Best Practice promotes the use of simple and uncomplicated designs. Paragraph 148 recognises that *"Masts which have complex designs are more likely to dominate and be in discord with the landscape and have adverse visual impacts."*

Concerning the erection of new ground based masts, paragraph 148 provides examples of where the environmental and visual impact of the mast can be greatly reduced. Paragraph 148 states:

- *Placing the mast near similar structures. For example, industrial and commercial premises, road signs and lamp posts;*
- *Using simple and unfussy designs. Masts which have complex designs are more likely to dominate and be in discord with the landscape and have adverse visual impacts; and*
- *Appropriate colouring.*

5.3 Local Policy

Section 38 (6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 states that "If regard is to be had to the development plan for the purpose of any determination to be made under the planning Acts the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise"

The development plan framework is provided by the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Plan. The plan was adopted by the Council on 11th January 1994, the plan period ran until 2006 but most policies have been 'saved' until they are superseded by policy with Local Development Framework Documents. Policy BE23 – Telecommunications is the policy of most relevance to this proposal, this policy has been saved and it is considered that this proposal accords with the provisions of the plan for the following reasons.

The proposed development has a minimal impact upon the environment of the area by means of its small scale and inconspicuous siting. Other potential sites throughout the area have been considered including existing telecomm mast but none are technically feasible or have a lesser impact upon visual and/or residential amenity.

The site is not located upon land nationally or locally designated and therefore its impact upon the natural environment is minimal. The town of Ratby is surrounded by countryside designated as an 'Area of Particularly Attractive Countryside' and as a strategic gap between conurbations. Grey Lodge Wood to the northwest is also designated as ancient 'replanted' woodland. Sites which carry such designations have been avoided and some have been added to the list of sites considered and discounted.

6.0 Health & Safety

Recent court cases have confirmed that the *public perception* of health risks can be a material consideration within the land-use planning system. The weight to be attached to this issue has to be determined accordingly in each case by the decision maker. It has been generally held, and widely established at planning appeal, that health concerns are not a sufficient basis alone for withholding planning permission providing it has been demonstrated that the proposed installation will comply with the ICNIRP guidelines.

The most recent government advice regarding mobile telephone technology and health issues is outlined within the revised PPG8 (2001) which states:

> *"it is the Government's firm view that the planning system is not the appropriate mechanism for determining health safeguards. It remains central government's responsibility to decide what measures are necessary to protect public health. In the Government's view, if a proposed development meets the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure it should not be necessary for a local planning authority, in processing an application for planning permission or prior approval, to consider further the health aspects and concerns about them."* (Paragraph 98)

In this instance, O2 UK Ltd believes that it is not necessary to consider health effects further, as recommended by PPG8. O2 UK Ltd is committed to ensuring that all new and existing installations are ICNIRP compliant, and consequently it is considered that there is no basis for this application to be refused on health and safety grounds or for reasons relating to public concerns about health and safety. An ICNIRP compliance certificate is enclosed in appendix B. If required, additional information regarding the operation of mobile telephone base stations and health and safety considerations can be provided.

7.0 Summary

To summarise the case in favour of the proposals the following points are of relevance:

- With specific regard to telecommunications development, the appellants considers that the proposal accords fully with PPG 8, the Code of Best Practice and Policy ** of the ***
- Site selection was progressed in accordance with the appellants licence obligations, advice in PPG 8 and the Code of Best Practice and represents the least environmentally intrusive, technically suitable, available option;
- O2's site selection strategy is to keep the overall environmental impact to a minimum through the use of site shares wherever possible. Site sharing is progressed where it is technically and legally possible and the preferred environmental solution. With regards to this nominal, every attempt has been made to accommodate O2 equipment on existing facilities, however no suitable masts were identified within the required coverage area;
- Existing buildings and high structures have been investigated, although there were no appropriate buildings or structures within the vicinity that could be acquired by O2;
- It is of note that the height of the mast (at 12.5 metres to the top) has been kept to the absolute operational minimum to clear the immediate buildings and provide adequate 2G coverage to the cell area;
- It is considered that the use of a 12.5 metre high, slim-line monopole with shrouded antennas would eliminate the large number of bracing components associated with other more prominent and conventional telecommunications proposals;
- O2 have opted to connect the site into the national network via an underground link rather than rely on a transmission dish, which O2 judged might affect the linear nature of the design and increase its prominence;

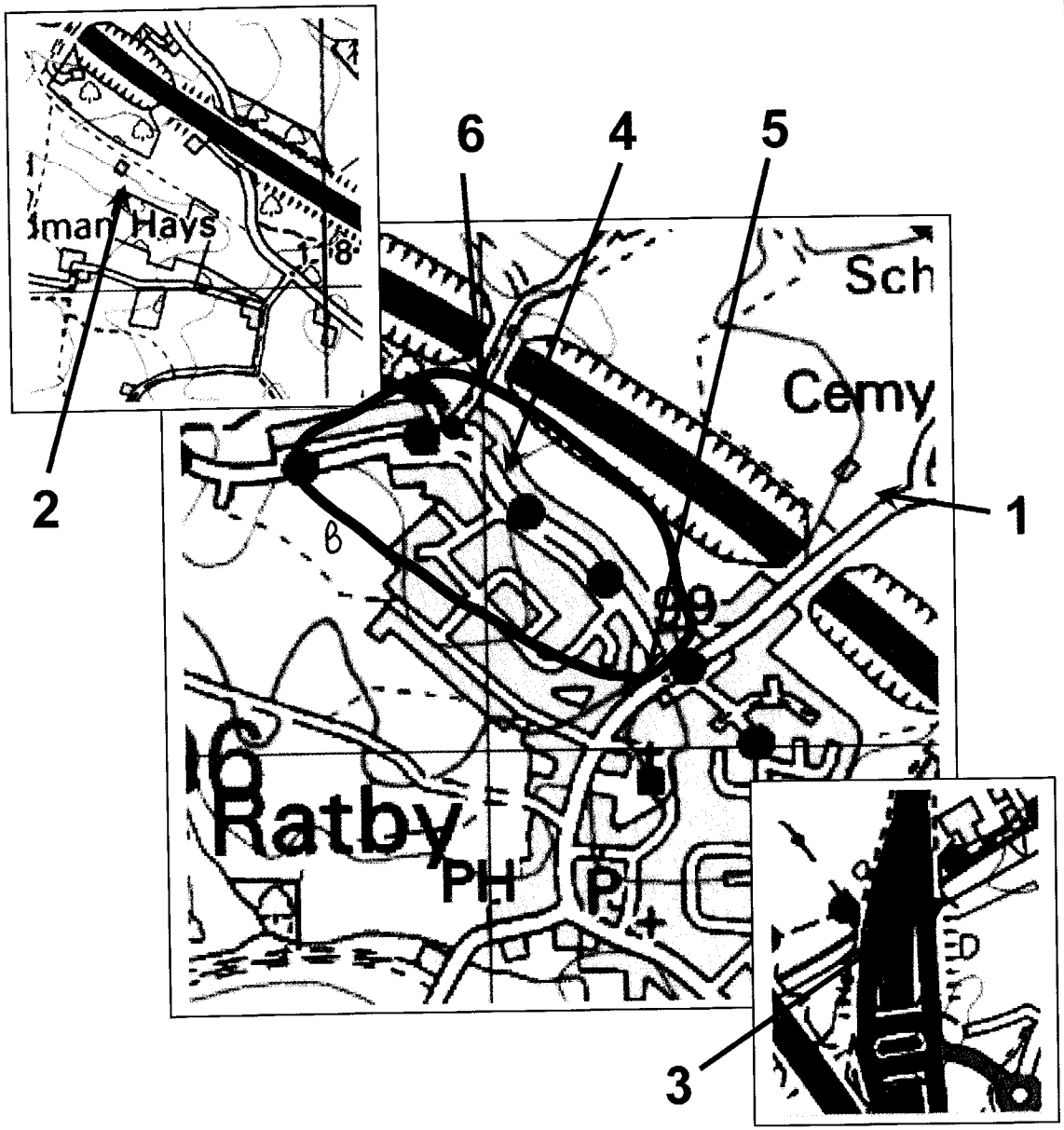
APPENDIX A – TECHNICAL JUSTIFICATION
PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF A

As indicated in the supporting statement appendix A contains coverage plots illustrating the operational affect of and the technical requirement for the proposed installation.

Appendix A also includes a map that indicates the extent of the area in which an installation is required for O2 UK Ltd. The search area within which an installation needs to be established in order to meet the coverage requirement is constrained by the location and extent of the coverage provided by existing installations in the surrounding area. An installation located outside of this search area would not allow O2 UK Ltd to provide the desired level of coverage and would therefore not adequately fill the current coverage gap.

The sites considered in section 3.4 above are also plotted on the attached map.

40098 – Markfield Lane



Option	Address
1	T-Mobile installation reference 95198, Groby Road, Ratby, Leicestershire
2	T-Mobile and Vodafone installations references 69917 (T-Mobile) and 5397 (Vodafone), off Markfield Lane, Leicestershire
3	O2 installation reference 10162, to the side of the A46, Leicestershire
4	Markfield Lane DNS Option 1, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT
5	Markfield Lane DNS Option 3, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT
6	Access to Martinshaw Lodge, off Markfield Lane, Ratby, Leicestershire. LE6 OLT

Key: -

●	Markfield Lane, Ratby, Leicestershire, LE6 0LT (Application Site)
⬭	Search Area

O2 (UK) Limited
Northampton Equipment Site
5 Reynoldstone Close
Brackmills Industrial Estate
Northampton
Northants
NN4 7BX

07 February 2008

O2 Cell Site ID 040098 Leicester Ratby. Markfield Lane Street Furniture

Please find enclosed radio coverage plots in respect of proposed O2 Cell Site 040098. All information shown has been calculated using O2 planning tools.

Note that that the information shown on the plots is only a prediction. Plots do not demonstrate user traffic capacity.

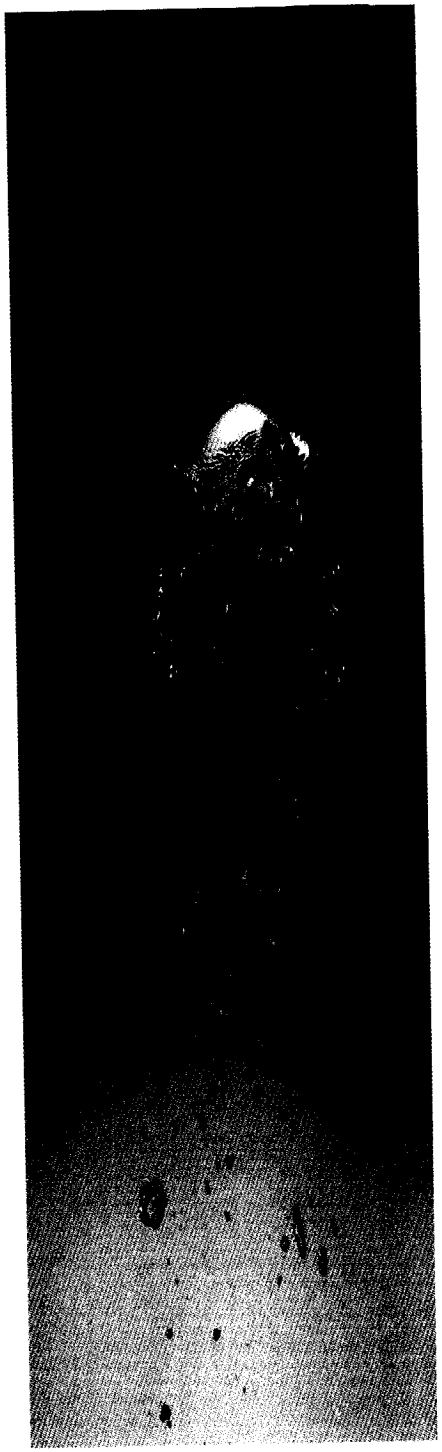
040098 is a new O2 cell site designed to improve 2G mobile telephone service to the town of Ratby. Proposed is a 12.5m street furniture pole designed to match existing telegraph poles at the location. Internal antenna will be at a centre height of 11.3metres and are multi technology to avoid changes to the appearance of the site should future upgrade be required.

A calculation of electromagnetic radiation levels is attached. This calculation is based on the maximum possible transmit powers with maximum equipment installation. The calculation demonstrates radiation levels at less than 0.2 percent of ICNIRP recommended public safety levels at the optimum distance.

O2 (UK) Limited certifies that the proposed equipment and installation is designed to be in full compliance with the requirements of the radio frequency (RF) public exposure guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionising Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), as expressed in EU Council recommendation of 12 July 1999 (Reference: 199/519/EC) "on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0Hz to 300GHz)".

Yours sincerely,

Colin Roberts
Radio Network Planner
Central England & Wales Region
O2 (UK) Limited



PROPOSED NEW CELL

040098
LEICESTER RATBY

2G COVERAGE

COLIN ROBERTS

RADIO PLANNER
CENTRAL ENGLAND AND WALES
O2 UK

2G COVERAGE LEVEL KEY



In Building Coverage Urban



In Building Coverage Suburban

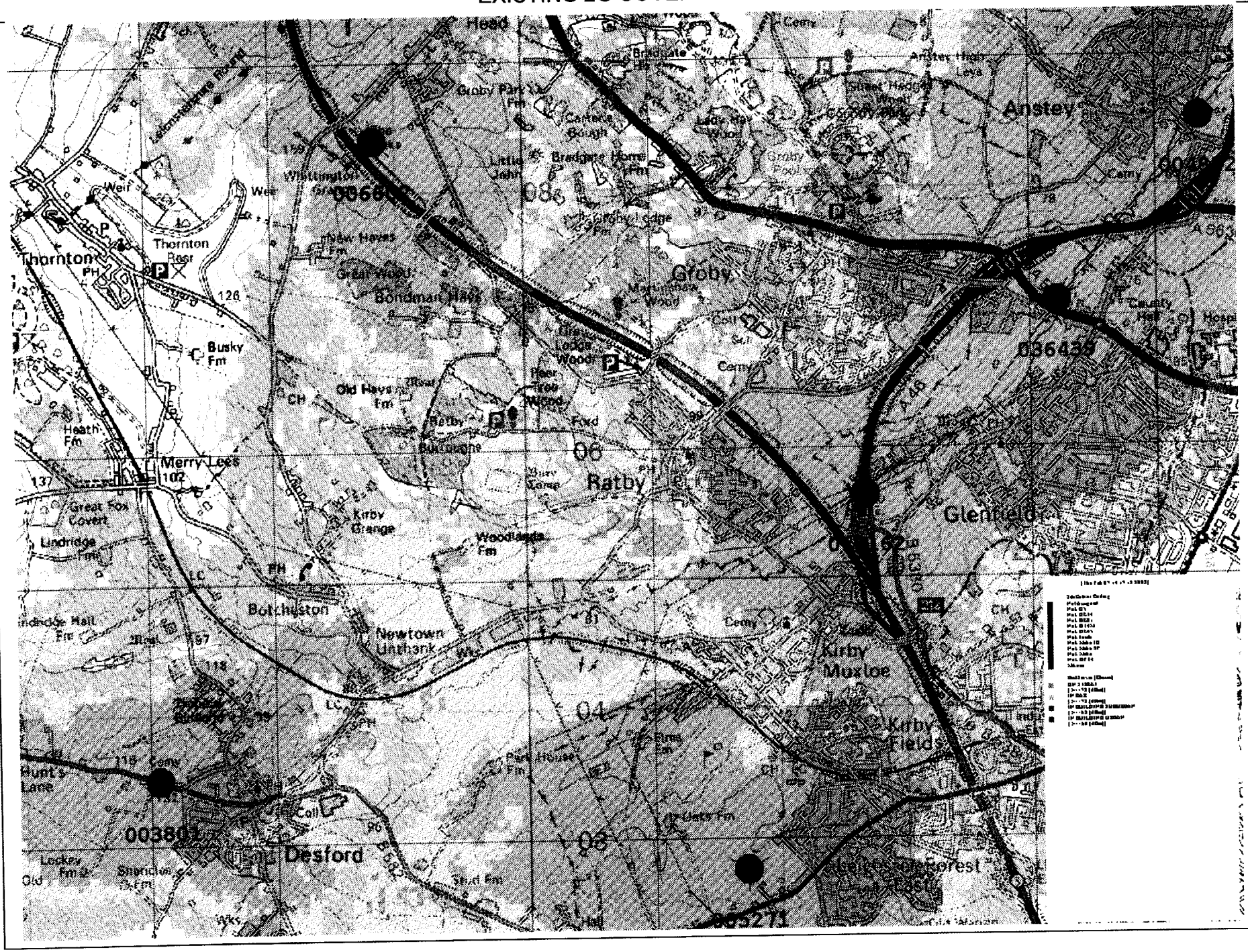


In Car Coverage

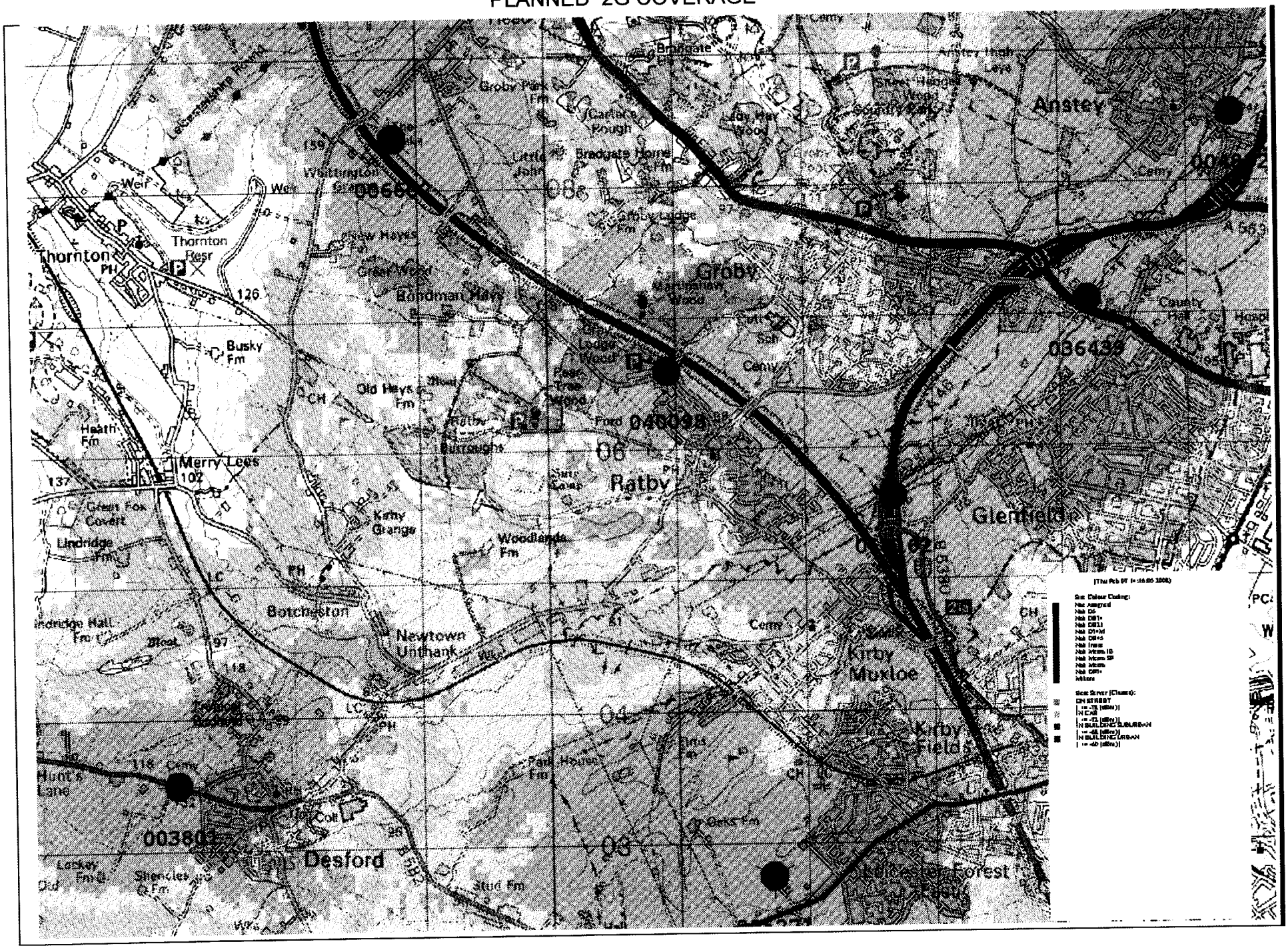


On Street Coverage

EXISTING 2G COVERAGE



PLANNED 2G COVERAGE



APPENDIX B – ICNIRP COMPLIANCE STATEMENT
PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF A

Appendix B contains the ICNIRP Certificate relating to the proposals.

As indicated in the supporting statement national planning policy guidance note PPG8 offers advice to Local Planning Authorities in the determination of telecommunications proposals and the formulation of local plan policies. With reference to health and safety issues PPG8 confirms that the recommendations of the Stewart Report (Published in May 2000) should be adopted in the evaluation of telecommunications developments.

In relation to the increased public perception of risk PPG8 offers the following guidance:

"However, it is the Government's firm view that the planning system is not the place for determining health safeguards. It remains central Government's responsibility to decide what measures are necessary to protect public health. In the Government's view, if a proposed mobile phone base station meets the ICNIRP guidelines for public exposure it should not be necessary for a local planning authority, in processing an application for planning permission or prior approval, to consider further the health aspects and concerns about them." Paragraph 98, PPG8, DTLR

Declaration of Conformity with ICNIRP Public Exposure Guidelines

("ICNIRP Declaration")

O2 (UK) Limited
Northampton Equipment Site
5 Reynoldstone Close
Brackmills Industrial Estate
Northampton
Northants
NN4 7BX

O2 (UK) Limited certifies that the proposed equipment and installation as detailed in the attached planning / GPDO application at:

CSR 040098
Markfield Lane
Ratby
Leicestershire
LE6 0LT

is designed to be in full compliance with the requirements of the radio frequency (RF) public exposure guidelines of the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP), as expressed in EU Council recommendation of 12 July 1999 * "on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0 Hz to 300 GHz)".

* Reference: 1999/519/EC

Date: 07 February 2008

Name: **Colin Roberts on behalf of mm02 (UK)**
Position: **Radio Planner Central England & Wales**