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### **Cellular One Adds Annapolis Tower, 2<sup>ND</sup> New Tower in 2 Days**

AUGUST 26, 2010. Cellular One has turned on the second area cell site in two days with the completion of a new tower just west of Annapolis Thursday.

The new 350-foot tower enhances service for customers in Annapolis and the surrounding area. With a new tower at Palestine turned on Wednesday and a Hutsonville site completed in January, three new cell sites have added in eastern Crawford County in 2010.

The Crawford County cell sites are among the first to be completed in a major cell site build out planned by Cellular One, according to Cassy Carter, CEO/GM of Cellular One of East Central Illinois.

“The company has initiated an investment of over \$2 million to enhance service for customers in our 11-county service area,” Carter reported.

Cellular sites were completed in the Toledo and West Liberty/Dundas areas in the last two weeks. Five more sites are in various stages of the building process, from obtaining government permit approvals through tower construction.

The Toledo, West Liberty, Palestine and Annapolis sites are partially funded with dollars available to Cellular One as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier (ETC), Carter said. The funding is provided through the Universal Service Fund (USF) fees assessed on all landline and cellular phone bills to help improve telecommunications services in rural areas of the country.

“Our company went through an extensive, multi-year application process to be eligible to bring these federal dollars back to east central Illinois.” Carter reported. “Not only are dollars spent for the cell site construction and leasing, the towers will result in additional revenues for the cities and counties in which they are located via property taxes and additional telecommunications excise tax receipts.”

Cellular One initiated service in 1991 and is the only wireless carrier based in and dedicated exclusively to serving east central Illinois.

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