

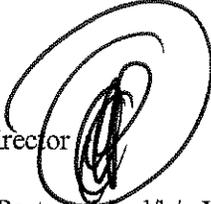
Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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July 2, 2008

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director 

RE: **DOCKET NO. 362** - Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 165 Elmwood Hill Road, Putnam, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

This application is from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment at 165 Elmwood Hill Road in the Town of Putnam, Connecticut. The site is within 2,500 feet of Town of Thompson.

Verizon proposes to construct a 150-foot monopole on a mostly wooded 22-acre parcel south of Elmwood Hill Road. The parcel contains a single family residence. Access would be from a 1,195-foot gravel drive extending from Elmwood Hill Road, a majority of which would utilize an existing logging road. A 50-foot by 50-foot fenced equipment compound would be constructed at the base of the tower.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, a description of the proposed site, project costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

The applicant has stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in the Norwich Bulletin on May 12 and May 13, 2008.

IV. Procedural

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of an application. The Council must also appoint a custodian of the docket and designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends designating Jessica Brito as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Putnam on Tuesday, August 5, 2008, and depositing the transcript in the Putnam Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	May 15, 2008
Completeness review	June 26, 2008
Pre-hearing Questions	<i>(Tentative Dates)</i>
• Set-One Filed	June 30, 2008
• Set-One responses due	July 16, 2008
• Set-Two Filed	July 18, 2008
• Set-Two responses due	July 29, 2008
Pre-hearing conference 10:00 a.m.	July 16, 2008
Pre-filed testimony due	July 29, 2008
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	July 29, 2008
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	August 5, 2008
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	August 5, 2008
Close of Record	September 4, 2008
Draft Findings of Fact	September 11, 2008 <i>(tentative)</i>
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	September 25, 2008 <i>(tentative)</i>
Deadline for Decision	November 11, 2008
180-day extension date	May 11, 2009

Siting Analyst: Robert Mercier