

Petition No. 1107
Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Orange, Connecticut
Staff Report
July 2, 2014

On June 5, 2014, the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) received a petition from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) for a declaratory ruling that no Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need is required for the installation of a rooftop wireless telecommunications tower on an existing building located at 58 Robinson Boulevard in Orange, Connecticut. Council member Dr. Barbara Bell and staff members Robert Mercier and Fred Cunliffe visited the site on June 23, 2014 to review the proposal. Joey Lee Miranda, Esq., and Rachel Mayo of Robinson & Cole LLP represented Cellco.

On June 3, 2014, Cellco provided notice to all abutting property owners and Town officials in Orange, Milford and West Haven. No Town officials or abutters attended the field review. Two abutters contacted Cellco for more information but did not comment on the proposal.

Cellco proposes to install a 35-foot tall tower on the roof of an 82,000 square foot industrial building. The 25-foot high building is located in the Marsh Hill Industrial Park in the southeast corner of Orange. The tower would be constructed on the north side of the building. The tower would support 12 panel antennas mounted on a platform at the top of the tower. A professional engineer has certified that the roof can support the proposed tower and antennas. The tower would not be designed to support other carriers.

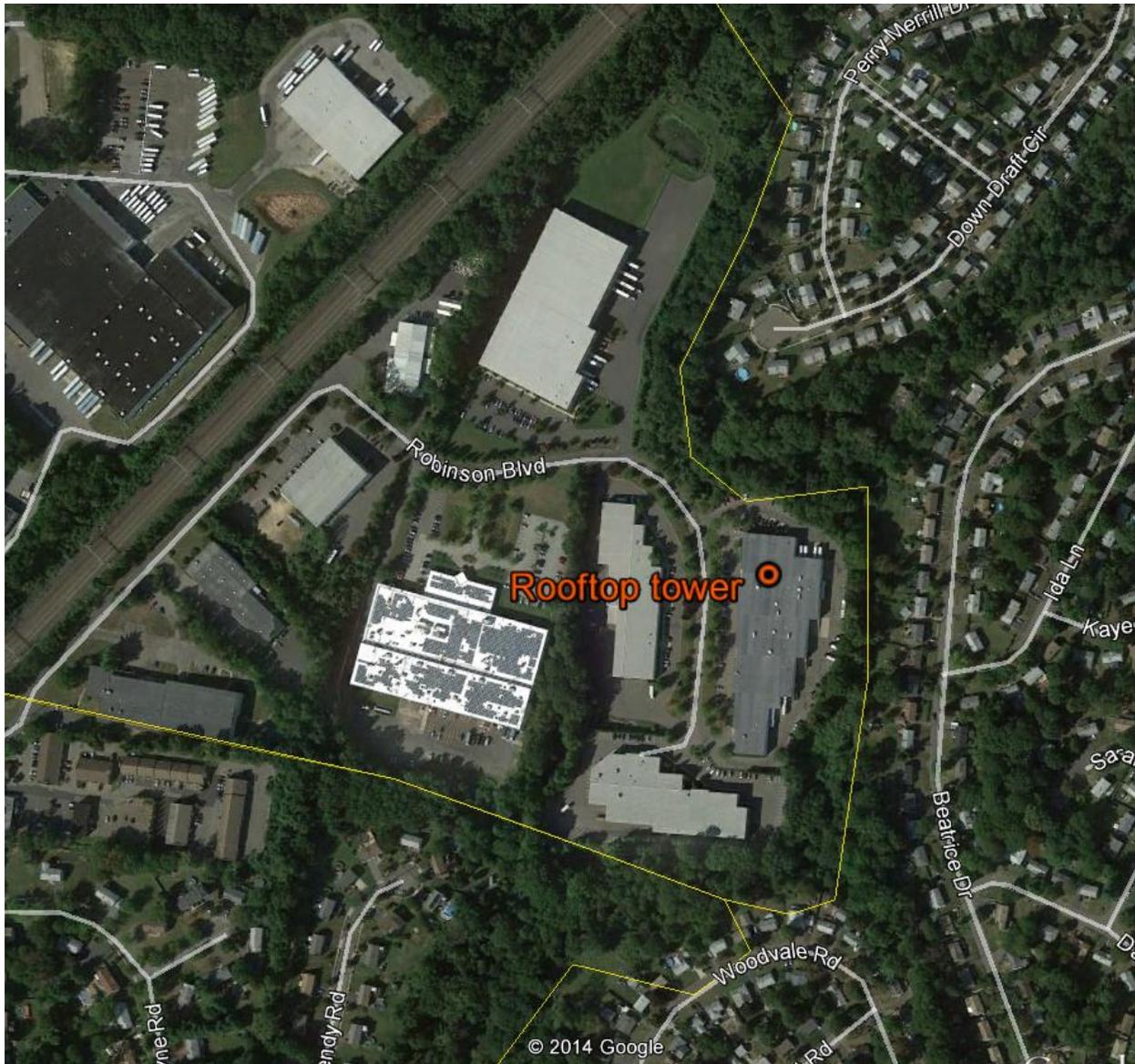
Cellco would install a 12-foot by 24-foot equipment shelter in a paved and grassy area on the north side of the building. The shelter would contain a natural gas fueled emergency generator. The shelter would extend slightly into an existing parking lot and Cellco would install bollards for vehicle protection. No fencing or landscaping is proposed.

The power density of the proposed antennas would be approximately 20.6% of the Federal Communications Commission's maximum permissible exposure at the base of the building.

The proposed facility would provide capacity relief in the area where the Orange, Milford and West Haven town lines meet. The proposed site would offload wireless traffic from adjacent Cellco facilities at 668 Jones Road in West Haven, 185 Research Parkway in Milford, and 100 Red Cedar Road in Orange, all of which are approximately 1.1 miles from the proposed site.

A 100-foot tower at the United Illuminating (UI) campus at 100 Marsh Hill Road in Orange (Docket 406) is not viable due to its location 0.6 miles north of the proposed service area. The UI facility was designed primarily for use by UI, although co-location is possible at a tower height of 60 feet.

Surrounding land use consists of residential to the east, north and south and industrial to the west. Visibility of the tower will be limited by its relatively low height and mature deciduous trees present throughout the surrounding neighborhoods and along the edges of the industrial park. Several abutting residences along Beatrice Road would have views of the tower through trees or during leaf-off conditions.



Site Location at 58 Robinson Boulevard, Orange.