

Petition No. 1131
Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
80 Lonetown Road, Redding, Connecticut
Staff Report
February 19, 2015

On January 7, 2015, 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 expansion of an existing compound at an existing telecommunications facility located at 80 Lonetown Road in Redding, Connecticut. Council member Dr. Barbara Bell, Council staff member Robert Mercier, and Kenneth Baldwin representing Cellco visited the site on February 11, 2015 to review the proposal.

Cellco notified the Town of Redding and abutting property owners of the proposed project. No abutters or Town officials attended the field review and no comments regarding the project were received.

The existing facility was constructed in 1993 and consists of a 100-foot lattice tower located approximately 100 feet northwest of an existing residence on the property. Cellco is located at the 90-foot level of the tower and has an equipment shelter within an approximate 810 square foot compound. Cellco currently does not have emergency backup power at the site. No other telecommunication carriers or entities are located on the facility.

Cellco proposes to expand the compound and lease area by 508 and 580 square feet respectively, to accommodate a new propane-fueled 100 kw generator and an associated 1,000 gallon propane tank. The existing 10-foot tall wood stockade fence would be expanded to enclose the new limits of the compound. The new generator would supply emergency power to Cellco's installation and the lessor's residence. One apple tree would be removed during construction.

Implementation of the emergency back-up power generator is consistent with the Council's Docket 432 feasibility study of back-up power requirements for telecommunications towers pursuant to Public Act 12-148 and complies with CTIA – The Wireless Associations' Business Continuity Network Recovery Program.

According to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies §22a-69-1.8, noise created as a result of, or relating to, an emergency, such as an emergency backup generator, is exempt from the State Noise Control Regulations.

The proposed project would not have a substantial adverse environmental effect. Staff recommends approval.

