



# STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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Petition No. 141

Department of Environmental Protection  
Field Review of September 25, 1985

Robert Erling of the Siting Council met John Spellacy of the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) for a field review of Petition No. 141. The DEP is petitioning the Council that no certificate of environmental compatibility and public need is necessary for the establishment of eight microwave sites in the towns of Oxford, Cornwall, Hartford, Sterling, Ledyard, and Colchester, Connecticut. Other state agencies presenting this petition include the Department of Public Safety's Division of State Police, and Office of Civil Preparedness, and the Department of Health Services' Office of Emergency Medical Services. These state agencies, with DEP, seek to implement the Connecticut Nuclear Emergency Communication System. This system, as required by the Federal Emergency Management Administration (FEMA) would provide the state agencies listed above with the capability of managing a radiological emergency which could result from a failure at either the Millstone or Haddam Neck nuclear power generating plants. The proposed system would allow the four state agencies to maintain direct radio communications with the nuclear plants at Millstone and Haddam Neck and with their respective headquarters in Hartford, as well as to maintain radio communications with their own field units.

Staff visited the eight proposed microwave sites with Mr. Spellacy. He explained that each of the proposed microwave sites would use an existing state-owned antenna or facility, and that no new tower construction would be necessary.

At the proposed Colchester site, a 4' parabolic dish would be added at the 98' level of a 100' self-supporting tower adjacent to the Troop K Headquarters of the Connecticut State Police.

In Sterling, DEP proposes to utilize the existing 70' Ekonk Hill Fire Tower. The cab section would be replaced with a new 10' section, and two 8' dishes would be added at the 65' level of the tower.

In Ledyard, a State Police owned 180' self-supporting tower on Vinegar Hill would be utilized. Two 8' and one 4' microwave dish would be added at the 176' and 90' levels respectively. There is a 6' cable television microwave dish at the 110' level of this tower.

Hartford would be the site of three microwave facilities. One 4' dish would be added to the elevator penthouse of the State Police Headquarters at 100 Washington Street. There is presently a 60' tower at this location. Four antennas, measuring 6', 4', 6' and 4' would be added to the roof top

elevator penthouses of the State Office Building. There is an existing DEP antenna located on one of these penthouses. Two of these dishes would face west, one would face east, and one would face south. One 4' dish would be added to the roof top at the east wing of the State Armory Building. The Armory has five existing antennas on its roof.

In Cornwall, the existing 180' self-supporting Regional Emergency Medical Services tower on Mohawk Mountain would have two 8' dishes added, one at the 75' level, and one at the 105' level. There is a 6' dish, currently unused, at the 172' level of this tower.

A converted fire tower in Oxford would be modified by removing its cab section and replacing it with a tower section 10' in height. This reconfiguration would result in a self-supporting tower 84' in height. An 8' dish would be added at the 80' level of this tower. One whip antenna would also be added to this tower for low band frequencies.

In a telephone conversation with the Director of DEP's Planning and Development Bureau, Richard D. Couch, Staff confirmed that the proposed system would cost \$1,200,000 and would have been a valuable asset during the recent hurricane. The proposed system would also provide microwave channels for a consortium of police departments in the Hartford area.

No expansion of the sites themselves would be necessary, nor would new access roads be needed. The addition of the proposed microwave facilities would not increase the total radio frequency electromagnetic radiation power densities at the proposed facility site boundaries to or above .1 milliwatt/Cm<sup>2</sup>.

Robert K. Erling  
Siting Analyst

RKE/cp