



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 28, 2023

Melanie Bachman, Executive Director
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051
Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov

PETITION NO. 1590 – TowerNorth Development, LLC and New Cingular Wireless, PCS d/b/a AT&T (Petitioners) petition for a declaratory ruling for the proposed replacement of an existing municipal communications tower located at 13 Pomeroy Avenue, Meriden, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Bachman,

The Council on Environmental Quality (Council) offers the following comment regarding Petition 1590.

Wetlands

The Petitioners state that “multiple wetland features have been identified and flagged on the site associated with the Willow Brook and tributaries”, but that no direct effects to the wetland features are anticipated because “best management practices are proposed to be employed during construction to ensure stormwater runoff does not carry construction related debris into any nearby wetland features”. The Council notes that the construction of the proposed tower and facility compound would be approximately twelve feet from the on-site wetlands. The Council recommends that the Petitioners assess the possibility of relocating the proposed facility to the eastern side of the existing paved parking area to increase the separation distance between the proposed facility and the mapped inland wetland boundary. The Council also recommends that the Petitioners provide more information regarding the “best management practices” to be employed during construction and clearly identify the methods and location for controlling erosion and sedimentation, consistent with the 2002 Connecticut Guidelines for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control and the Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual, as amended.

The Council’s comment above addresses only certain elements of the materials provided by the Petitioners at the time of the filing. Additional information can become evident through comments offered by other parties and during the Siting Council’s administrative hearing process. The absence of comment(s) by this Council about any Petition or Application, or any aspects thereof, may not be interpreted as an endorsement of a proposed project, or its components or that this Council might not have comments or concerns on more specific issues raised during the hearing process.

Keith Ainsworth
Acting Chair

Alicea Charamut

Christopher Donnelly

David Kalafa

Kip Kolesinskas

Matthew Reiser

Denise Rodosevich

Charles Vidich

William Warzecha

Paul Aresta
Executive Director

Thank you for your consideration of the Council's comment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Aresta". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Paul Aresta
Executive Director