



Department of Economic and
Community Development

State Historic Preservation Office

October 8, 2021

Ms. Maureen A. Bowman
EBI Consulting
21 B Street
Burlington, MA 01803

Subject: Phase I Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey
Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility
222 Clintonville Road
North Branford (Northford), CT
Homeland Towers, LLC
ENV-22-0268

Dear Ms. Bowman:

The State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) has reviewed the Cultural Resources Reconnaissance Survey prepared by ACME Heritage Consultants (ACME), dated April 23, 2021, as part of the larger submittal for a proposed telecommunications facility. The proposed activities are subject to review by this office pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act and in accordance with Federal Communications Commission regulations. SHPO understands that the proposed undertaking includes the installation of a 110 foot tall monopole or brown monopole, topped with a 24 foot tall omnidirectional antenna, to be located within a 75 foot by 57 foot chain-link equipment compound, located in the eastern portion of the Subject Property. The compound is to contain an equipment pad and shelter, generator on concrete pad, ice bridge to monopole from the equipment shelter, and three additional lease spaces. Access is to be through a new gravel access road, originating from an existing paved driveway.

Four previously identified archaeological sites are located within 1 mile of the project area; however, none will be impacted by the proposed undertaking. Three properties listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Northford Center Historic District (NR# 02001629), and the Fourth District School (NR# 85001917) are located within 1 mile of the project area; however, intervening topography and tree cover will prevent the installation from being seen from the district and school the majority of the time, and will not adversely impact the resources.

Phase I of the reconnaissance survey consisted of pedestrian survey, review of historic maps, review of soil maps, and subsurface testing of areas deemed to have moderate to high archaeological sensitivity, and that would be subject to ground disturbing impacts as part of the

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proposed undertaking. While the pedestrian survey identified a single stamped brick, it was determined to be related to a mid-20th century house on the property, and is not historic. A total of 3 of 3 planned shovel tests were excavated successfully throughout the proposed work area. No prehistoric or historic period cultural artifacts or features were identified during the survey.

As a result of the information submitted, SHPO concurs with the findings of the report that additional archeological investigations of the project area are not warranted. Based on the information provided, the proposed undertaking will have no adverse effect to sites listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, with the following conditions:

1. The monopole, generator, fencing, and utilities will be designed and installed to be as non-visible as possible, and
2. if not in use for six consecutive months, the telecommunications equipment shall be removed by the telecommunications facility owner. This removal shall occur within 90 days of the end of such six-month period.

Additionally, this office would recommend that the installation consist of a monopole, rather than monopine.

The State Historic Preservation Office appreciates the opportunity to review and comment upon this project. These comments are provided in accordance with the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. For further information please contact Marena Wisniewski, Environmental Reviewer, at (860) 500-2357 or marena.wisniewski@ct.gov.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Kinney
Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer

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