

ATTACHMENT 10



445 Hamilton Avenue, 14th Floor
White Plains, New York 10601
T 914 761 1300
F 914 761 5372
cuddyfeder.com

Lucia Chiocchio
lchiocchio@cuddyfeder.com

December 14, 2021

VIA OVERNIGHT MAIL

Kevin Moynihan
First Selectman
Town of New Canaan
Town Hall
2nd Floor
77 Main St.
New Canaan, CT 06840

Re: Homeland Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS LLC (“AT&T”)
Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Tower Facility
1837 Ponus Ridge Road, New Canaan, Connecticut

Dear First Selectman Moynihan:

This letter is submitted to you on behalf of Homeland Towers, LLC (“Homeland Towers”) and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (“AT&T”) with respect to the above referenced matter involving a proposed wireless telecommunication tower facility to be located at 1837 Ponus Ridge Road in the Town of New Canaan. The purpose of this letter is to commence a formal consultation process with you and other Town officials prior to any application being filed by Homeland Towers and AT&T with the Connecticut Siting Council. Enclosed you will find a detailed Technical Report prepared by Homeland Towers and AT&T which includes information on AT&T’s need for the new tower, alternatives evaluated, and the environmental effects of the project as identified at this time.

Background and Need for the Tower

Homeland Towers is an innovative company that provides wireless infrastructure solutions to meet the wireless communication needs of communities. Homeland Towers works closely with municipalities, commercial wireless carriers and public safety agencies and has installed numerous facilities (communications towers, antennas, and supporting equipment shelters and other infrastructure) throughout Connecticut, New York and New Jersey. As you know, Homeland Towers recently constructed the wireless telecommunications facility on Soundview Lane which AT&T will use to provide reliable wireless service to the northeastern portion of Town. Similar to the Soundview Lane project, this specific project is also the result of years of review by both Homeland Towers and AT&T to provide reliable wireless services to the northwestern portion of the Town.

As you probably know through your own experience, the exponential growth in consumer use of mobile data and overall network demands requires the development of additional wireless infrastructure to reliably serve the public. Indeed, as you may recall, the December 2014 Wireless Market Study for the Town of New Canaan, CT prepared by Centerline Solutions concluded that while the major wireless service providers maintain coverage footprints within

the Town, coverage gaps in reliable service still exist.¹ As shown in the Technical Report materials including data from AT&T, this proposed tower facility would provide reliable 4G LTE service to over 1,000 residents in the area and several miles of main and secondary roads. Also included in the enclosed Technical Report are maps prepared by Verizon Wireless demonstrating their need to provide reliable wireless services to this area of Town.

The Tower Project

For this project, Homeland Towers collaborated with AT&T and is proposing a new tower at 1837 Ponus Ridge Road to meet AT&T's, Verizon's and other FCC wireless carriers' need for new infrastructure to reliably serve the public in the immediate area. Homeland Towers would own, maintain and operate the tower facility subject to any approval the Connecticut Siting Council may issue for the project. The project as currently proposed would consist of a 110' tall monopine structure with faux branches extending another 5' above the top of the monopine within a fenced compound in the central portion of the approximately 5.16 acre parcel.

AT&T's antennas would be placed at a centerline height of 106' with equipment installed at grade within the compound. The proposed Facility will also be used by the Town of New Canaan for emergency communications. As noted in the letters included in the Technical Report, the Town of New Canaan Fire Department, the Town of New Canaan Office of Emergency Management and the Town of New Canaan Police Department all need the proposed Facility to provide reliable emergency communication services to the community. This need is supported by the Town of New Canaan Community Emergency Response Team. The tower and fenced compound are designed to support the antennas and equipment of Verizon and other FCC licensed wireless carriers. The facility will be unmanned with no sanitary or water facilities and will generate an average of one vehicle trip per month by each carrier at the site, consisting of a service technician in a light duty van or truck.

State Siting Council - Balance Of Need With Environmental Impact

Connecticut State policy generally recognizes the need for new towers to serve the public and has designated the Connecticut Siting Council as the state agency with responsibility for reviewing and approving specific tower proposals. The Siting Council will evaluate this project once an application is filed with the agency. The Siting Council's evaluation is focused on balancing the need for a tower on a case by case basis with any significant adverse environmental impacts. Jurisdiction over any proposed cellular telecommunications facility rests exclusively with the Siting Council and would be in lieu of local zoning, wetlands and other types of municipal land use review and approvals.

Town Input & Procedural Next Steps

Homeland Towers and AT&T are providing the enclosed Technical Report to the Town of New Canaan and adjacent municipalities within 2,500 feet of the site in accordance with Section 16-

¹ Wireless Market Study for the Town of New Canaan, CT, prepared by Centerline Solutions, December 1, 2014, pages 5-6.



December 14, 2021
Page 3

501 of the Connecticut General Statutes. The statute requires consultation with a municipality in which a tower facility is proposed prior to submission of an application with the Siting Council. The purpose of the local consultation is to give the municipality in which the facility has been proposed an opportunity to provide the prospective applicant with any recommendations or preferences it may have prior to the filing of an application with the Siting Council.

Upon review of Section 16-501(g) of the Connecticut General Statutes, you will note that municipalities also have the option of conducting a noticed public information session on any proposed wireless telecommunications tower facility. State law requires any such information session to be held by the Town during the first 60 days of the 90-day period afforded to the municipalities for consultation with a prospective Siting Council applicant. As such, should New Canaan elect to conduct a public information meeting regarding this project, it should occur on or before February 14, 2021. For such public information sessions, our typical practice is for introductions to be made by a municipal official, have the project team make a presentation (usually a power point) and then respond to public questions moderated by a local official or agency.

In advance, we thank you for your consideration and will follow this correspondence with a call to your office to discuss next steps regarding the municipal consultation process. We look forward to meeting with you further on this project and learning more about New Canaan's interests, concerns and any recommendations prior to filing an application with the Siting Council.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Lucia Chioocchio".

Lucia Chioocchio

Enclosure

cc: New Canaan Planning & Zoning Commission
Mayor Caroline Simmons, City of Stamford
City of Stamford Land Use Bureau
Manuel Vicente, Homeland Towers
Raymond Vergati, Homeland Towers
Harry Carey, AT&T
Matthew Boles, AT&T
Project Consultant Team