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Sent: Wednesday, October 26, 2022 5:25 PM

To: Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>

Cc: Ray Vergati <rv@homelandtowers.us>; CAREY, HARRY C <hc3635@att.com>; Sawabini, Stuart <stuart.sawabini@newcanaanct.gov>; DiFederico, John <john.difederico@newcanaanct.gov>; Bassett, Albert <albert.bassett@newcanaanct.gov>; captain@newcanaanems.org; Mann, Tiger <Tiger.Mann@newcanaanct.gov>; Murphy, Tucker <tucker.murphy@newcanaanct.gov>; TCDistribution <tcdistribution@newcanaanct.gov>; Brooks Avni, Lynn <lynn.brooksavni@newcanaanct.gov>; Goodwin, John <john.goodwin@newcanaanct.gov>

Subject: Docket No. 509 -- Final Comment from Town of New Canaan

Dear Melanie,

Re: Homeland Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC d/b/a AT&T application for telecommunications facility located at 1837 Ponus Ridge Road, New Canaan, CT.

Tomorrow is the close of the public comment period for the above-referenced application by Homeland Towers and AT&T for a proposed public safety/cell tower at 1837 Ponus Ridge Road.

I want to thank you and the Council members for your time and attention to this pending application.

On behalf of the residents of the Town of New Canaan, and as First Selectman, I would like to emphasize to the Council this final comment:

For much of the last decade, the Town of New Canaan has sought to improve public safety radio communications capability (for police, fire, ambulance and DPW) as well as cellular service in the Northwest corner of New Canaan, as the Town currently has only a temporary solution for public safety radio and almost non-existent reliable cell service in much of that part of town.

In 2015-16, the Town proposed building an 80-foot public safety tower on Aquarion Water Company Laurel Reservoir property on Reservoir Road just over the New Canaan line on the City of Stamford side of the reservoir. However, when the City of Stamford asked New Canaan not to proceed because of North Stamford neighbor opposition the project did not proceed.

New Canaan then turned to Homeland Towers to find a location for a public safety/cell tower in the Northwest corner of New Canaan. When the opportunity to lease property at 1837 Ponus Ridge Road presented itself the Town of New Canaan signed a lease agreement with Homeland Towers to construct a public safety tower which the Town was prepared to bring to the Council along with Homeland Towers for approval regardless of whether any cell carrier was willing to join the tower. Fortunately, AT&T as part of their FirstNet commitment to improve public safety communications throughout the nation, stepped to lease space on the proposed tower.

It is important for the Council and the public to understand that public safety communications today requires not only public safety radio capability for first responders but also cellular voice and data that AT&T, Verizon Wireless and T-Mobile cellular macro-sites afford to first responder cell phones and vehicle-based computers and other Internet-based devices that provide important emergency response tools as well as to residents and visitors who may need to make 911 calls in emergencies.

I urge the Council to approve the tower proposed by Homeland Towers and AT&T in the pending application of Docket No. 509 as soon as possible.

Again, I thank you and the Council for your time and kind attention.

Sincerely,

Kevin

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