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August 15, 2024

Via Electronic Mail and Federal Express

Melanie A. Bachman, Esq.
Executive Director/Staff Attorney
Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: **Docket No. 513 – The Towers, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction, Maintenance and Operation of a Wireless Telecommunications Facility Off Mason Hill Road in Litchfield, Connecticut**

Dear Attorney Bachman:

On behalf of The Towers, LLC, enclosed please find the original and fifteen (15) copies of the Applicant's responses to Council Development & Management Plan Interrogatories for Docket No. 513. Electronic copies of these responses have also been sent to the Council today.

If you have any questions or need any additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kenneth C. Baldwin

Enclosure

30169075-v1

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:	:	
	:	
THE TOWERS, LLC CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY OFF MASON HILL ROAD, LITCHFIELD, CONNECTICUT	:	DOCKET NO. 513
	:	AUGUST 15, 2024

RESPONSES OF THE TOWERS, LLC TO CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT PLAN INTERROGATORIES

On August 2, 2024, the Connecticut Siting Council ("Council") issued Development & Management Plan Interrogatories to The Towers, LLC ("The Towers"), relating to Docket No. 513. Below are the Applicant's responses.

Notice

Question No. 1

Has Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Cellco) committed to installing equipment at the site? When will equipment installation occur?

Response

Yes, Cellco will be the anchor tenant on the Litchfield SE tower site.

Question No. 2

Provide a timeframe for site construction.

Response

Assuming a September D&M Plan approval, and 30 days for issuance of the Building Permit, The Towers expects to release the site to its construction team in December of 2024 with a February 2025 target for completion. In accordance with Condition No. 13, The Towers will

provide the Council with written notice at least two weeks prior to the start of construction of the facility.

Question No. 3

The geotechnical report indicates the presence of shallow bedrock at the site and that blasting may be required. Does The Towers intend to conduct blasting at the site? If yes, submit a blasting plan that includes work procedures and municipal notifications.

Response

Yes. The Applicant will prepare a Controlled Blasting Plan for the Project and will apply for a Blasting Permit from the appropriate local authority. A copy of a Controlled Blasting Plan and the Blasting Permit will be submitted to the Council prior to commencing construction activities described in the D&M Plan.

Question No. 4

The geotechnical report (p. 7) recommends an engineer be on-site to monitor the foundation excavation and preparation. Does The Towers intend to follow this recommendation?

Response

Yes.

Question No. 5

Condition 2(c) of the Council's June 22, 2023, Decision and Order requires a yield point on the tower to ensure that the tower does not encroach upon the adjacent Eversource Energy electric transmission line right-of-way. The tower structural design prepared by Sabre Industries does not include the yield point information. Clarify.

Response

Please see the attached letter provided by Sabre Industries, the tower designer.

Question No. 6

The tower structural design prepared by Sabre Industries shows dish antennas at the 64-foot level of the tower. What entity may locate dish antennas at this level?

Response

The tower structural design includes a dish at the 64-foot level as a precaution in case Verizon or another carrier needs the antenna for backhaul purposes.

Question No. 7

D&M Plan Site Plan Sheet C-3 indicates the entire access drive will be paved. What is the reason gravel cannot be used on the lower portion, as originally contemplated?

Response

The entrance of the access drive off of Mason Hill Road is fairly steep. Paving the access drive will allow for easier access road maintenance. The lower portion, being less steep, has the option to be gravel.

Question No. 8

D&M Site Plan C-2 depicts erosion and sediment control barriers extending onto the Eversource right-of-way. Would clearing and grubbing occur in this area? Is consultation with Eversource required for this work?

Response

Yes, clearing and grubbing will occur in this area, and will ultimately be restored to its original condition once work is complete. The Towers will coordinate with Eversource for any work within its transmission line right of way.

Question No. 9

What is the estimate of cut and fill in cubic yards for the project? If there is excess cut, where will it be disposed of?

Response

There will be no excess cut to be disposed of, please see approx. cut and fill values below:

- Estimated Cut: 25 Cubic Yards
- Estimated Fill: 219 Cubic Yards
- Net Fill: 194 Cubic Yards

Question No. 10

Referencing D&M Plan Site Plan Sheet C-5:

a. General Construction Sequence note 3 describes a soil stockpile. Where will the stockpile be located?
b. Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Sequence note 5, will the Town be signing off on site stabilization? If not, who will verify the site has been stabilized?
c. How will the infiltration basin filter media be protected from sedimentation during tower foundation and compound construction? Describe procedures for cleaning the filter media.

Response

(a) With the Eversource ROW to the West, and Wetland Buffer Enhancement Area to the South, we believe the ideal location of any stockpile would be directly east of the site entrance. If that northeastern portion of the parcel is unable to contain the entire stockpile, the site contractor has the option to remove and store the excess stockpile material off-site temporarily.

(b) Formal compliance reporting will be the responsibility of the project's Environmental

Monitor, Dean Gustafson, Senior Wetland Scientist with All-Points Technology Corporation. Notes on sheet N-1 of the D&M Drawings outline all aspects of environmental inspection monitoring and reporting inclusive of erosion and sedimentation controls and earthwork stabilization.

(c) We will add the language below as an additional phase of the construction sequence and include these additional notes pertaining to the infiltration maintenance and upkeep in the Construction Documents.

- Areas that are disturbed shall be immediately stabilized by temporary and permanent seeding and mulching to eliminate uphill erosion potential.
- The site will be inspected daily and any temporary berms, drains, ditches, silt fences, filter socks, and sediment traps shall be reconstructed as needed. Additional silt fence and filter socks along slopes and stone check dams within drainage swales shall be installed upstream of proposed rip rap infiltration basin to prevent sediment from flowing into the basin. If during daily soil erosion control inspection sediment is observed in the swale or infiltration basin, then it shall be removed immediately and proposed materials re-installed.
- Initially, the basin will be excavated down to within 1 foot of the bottom and temporarily stabilized with seed. Once the uphill areas have been stabilized then the basin will be completed by removing the remaining 1 foot of soil and any trapped sediment down to the proposed basin bottom, then filter media and rip rap installed per the design details.

August 7, 2024

Christopher Molloy
Vertical Bridge REIT, LLC
750 Park of Commerce Drive, Suite 200
Boca Raton, FL 33487

RE: Proposed 110' (extendible to 130') Sabre Monopole for Litchfield SE, CT

Dear Mr. Molloy,

Upon receipt of order, we propose to design and supply the above referenced Sabre monopole for an Ultimate Wind Speed of 115 mph with no ice and 50 mph + 1" ice, Risk Category II, Exposure Category "Site-Specific", and Topographic Category 1, in accordance with the Telecommunications Industry Association Standard ANSI/TIA-222-H, "Structural Standard for Antenna Supporting Structures and Antennas".

When designed according to this standard, the wind pressures and steel strength capacities include several safety factors, resulting in an overall minimum safety factor of 25%. Therefore, it is highly unlikely that the monopole will fail structurally in a wind event where the design wind speed is exceeded within the range of the built-in safety factors.

Should the wind speed increase beyond the capacity of the built-in safety factors, to the point of failure of one or more structural elements, the most likely location of the failure would be within the monopole shaft, above the base plate. Assuming that the wind pressure profile is similar to that used to design the monopole, the monopole will buckle at the location of the highest combined stress ratio within the monopole shaft. This is likely to result in the portion of the monopole above leaning over and remaining in a permanently deformed condition. ***Please note that this letter only applies to the above referenced monopole designed and manufactured by Sabre Towers & Poles***. This would effectively result in a fall radius equal to 30' at ground level.

Sincerely,

Robert E. Beacom, P.E., S.E.
Engineering Manager