

January 12, 2024

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Connecticut Siting Council
10 Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: MCM Holdings, LLC
Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Tower Facility
288 Simpaug Turnpike (Parcel 12-29), Redding, CT
Docket 517

Intervenor Danielle Caldwell Testimony Addendum:

Dear Connecticut Siting Council Members,

As an addendum to my original testimony submitted to you on November 13, 2023, I wish to share the following information. In 2018, the Redding Planning Commission prepared the *Town Plan of Conservation and Development*. This 135-page document was designed as a guide to the policies and principles of land use in Redding. It was adopted May 26, 2020 and became effective June 12, 2020. Following is an excerpt from the Town Plan which I present as evidence. I believe it is in direct contrast to the proposal of a 150-foot cell tower in Redding:

"On first arriving to take up residence in Redding, in June 1907, Mark Twain exclaimed "How beautiful it all is! I did not think it could be as beautiful as this." A generation later in the depths of the Great Depression, the Emergency Relief Commission's Connecticut Guide commented "Redding consists of beautiful hill country, and is rich in mineral specimens. ..." The guide goes on to describe Redding as the "jewel at the heart of Fairfield County". Redding's unique blend of hills, valleys, streams, picturesque meadows, winding lanes and traditional homes has evoked accolades from residents and visitors alike.

The Connecticut Guide also noted the many illustrious persons who have chosen to make their home in Redding, following (sometimes literally) Mark Twain's footsteps to be surrounded by Redding's scenic landscape unspoiled character. Now at the beginning of the twenty-first century Redding continues to attract those who value the quality of the town's environment.

Since Mark Twain's time, Redding has continued to benefit from the efforts of residents who marvel at the town's unique character and are willing to work at preserving it. And this effort has extended beyond a postcard presentation of Redding. Connecticut Magazine, looking beyond the town's beauty to a broader statistical examination of Quality of Life issues, has several times awarded Redding its "Best Small Town in

Connecticut” designation.

As a result of dedication and foresight, Redding's policies and actions over the past half century have been highly effective in:

- *Securing more than a third of the town's land area as permanently dedicated open space, in addition to privately held open space,*
- *Enacting land use policies and standards, rigorously enforced, to protect public water supply watersheds and sensitive lands,*
- *Protecting "the view from the road" through a scenic road ordinance and a policy that limits road widening,*
- *Advancing efforts to protect historic buildings and sites,*
- *Adopting award-winning Smart Growth policies to plan a walkable, transit-oriented village on the site of the Gilbert & Bennett factory.*

Maintaining Redding's uniqueness is a continuing challenge, and this Town Plan is intended to serve as a source of policy in sustaining a path toward long-held goals."

With this in mind, I sincerely hope you can appreciate our profound desire to preserve Redding as "the jewel at the heart of Fairfield County". Please help us keep our town a unique setting by denying MCM's and Verizon's request to construct a cell tower on the Hoyt Scout Reservation. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Danielle Caldwell

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