



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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INTERVENOR STATUS REQUEST FORM

Docket/Petition No.

Town/City

Date

517

Redding

11/12/2023

Name:

Jason Jaffee

Street Address:

125 Picketts Ridge Road

City, State, Zip:

Redding, CT, 06896

Contact Number:

203-240-7040

E-mail:

jason.jaffee12@gmail.com

1. Manner in which intervenor’s participation is in the interests of justice and will not impair the orderly conduct of the proceedings:

As a local resident who lives less than a half mile from the proposed cell tower site, and having spent the last 30 years in the area, I am concerned about the negative impacts associated with the construction of this cell tower. I also do not believe this tower is necessary given the available cell coverage already in place.

2. Manner and extent to which intervenor proposes to participate:

Staying up to date on all communication and participating in meetings to ensure all interested parties are informed, as well as sharing my first hand experience living within a half-mile of the proposed tower site.

3. Statutory authority for intervenor request:

None

4. Nature of evidence intervenor intends to present:

Research that demonstrates the negative impact associated with the construction of a cell tower, and first hand experience proving that the tower is not needed based on existing cell coverage living in the immediate vicinity.

Copies of this request are required to be electronically mailed to all participants on the service list of a **pending** matter, which can be found on our website in Pending Matters under the appropriate docket or petition number.

Signature

Date

Jason Jaffee



11/12/2023

Dear CT Sitting Council,

My name is Jason Jaffee. I reside at 125 Picketts Ridge Road in Redding, CT. I am writing to file as an intervener for the proposed cell tower at the Boy Scouts of America Camp Hoyt, at 3 Marchant Road in Redding, CT by MCM Holdings, LLC.

I want to begin by stating that, while I agree everyone should have access to cell service, I do not believe that the dark zones lacking cell service in West Redding are as widespread and prevalent as the filings in Docket No. 517 would lead one to believe. As the crow flies, I live a half mile from the proposed tower site. With Verizon as my carrier, I have excellent cell service. I drive on the local roads everyday and rarely run into issues with service. In the very few select zones where I do receive spotty service my wife, who has AT&T as her carrier – maintains excellent service. I point this out to disprove the notion that residents in the area lack options when it comes to receiving cellular service.

With 42 towers within a 3-mile radius of the proposed site<sup>1</sup>, I question why Verizon cannot place their antennas and other telecommunications equipment on one of the existing towers in the area? Outside of wanting to be the anchor tenant on the property with their own infrastructure and economics that come with it, what is stopping them from utilizing the existing infrastructure? Per the filings in this Docket, this proposed tower has the capacity to host multiple carriers. Certainly, other towers in the region must offer this same optionality.

One must appreciate the irony in placing a 150-foot-tall cell tower on Boy Scout reservation land. A tract of forestland where youth go to hike, camp, and unplug from the same conveniences this tower provides. I should know – growing up I attended summer camp at the Hoyt Scout preserve. I recall learning how to shoot a bow and arrow and the art of making a great campfire, among other fond memories right on the very tract of land this tower would sit. To the imagination of a boy hiking through those woods, it was easy to transport yourself deep into a far away wilderness! Fortunately, there was no 150-foot tower to stumble upon, the sight of which would have undeniably impaired the experience for myself and many others. Of course, there are also the obvious safety concerns that must be considered when placing the tower in a location that children will frequent at all hours of the day and night given that campsites are located just a short walk away. I would not trust a mere fence to keep the tower protected from infringement and the potential for serious injury.

It is worth noting that directly adjacent and bordering the proposed tower site, one will find the Saugatuck River (the source for the namesake reservoir that provides clean drinking water to hundreds of thousands of people in Fairfield County, CT<sup>2</sup>, New Pond Farm Education Center (a cherished working farm providing environmental education and outdoor recreation opportunities for all ages), the Marchant Farm (an equestrian center also providing seasonal fruits, vegetables, and honey to local residents) as well as various Redding Land Trust conservation lands (such as Poliak Pond and Lotte Fields Bequest). Per the Visibility Analysis provided in this Docket, the proposed cell tower will remain at least partially visible to users of these lands for a minimum of the 6-months of the year without leaf cover, an unnecessary visual blemish to those who seek out these beautiful places.

Redding is a rural town known for its natural beauty and bucolic landscape. Referred to as “The Vermont of Connecticut<sup>3</sup>” it is this idyllic landscape that gives the town its charm, and the reason so many of its residents elect to live and raise their families here. I oppose the construction of this tower on the merits that it is both unnecessary, as well as an environmental and safety risk given its planned location within a scout camp and directly bordering farm and public conservation lands.

Sincerely,

Jason Jaffee

125 Picketts Ridge Road

Redding, CT 06896

203-240-7040

jason.jaffee12@gmail.com

Sources:

<sup>1</sup><https://www.antennasearch.com/HTML/search/search.php?address=+288+Simpaug+Turnpike%2C+Redding%2C+CT++06896%2C+United+States>

<sup>2</sup>[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/water/watershed\\_management/wm\\_plans/saugatuckrwpactionplanpdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/water/watershed_management/wm_plans/saugatuckrwpactionplanpdf.pdf)

<sup>2</sup>[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saugatuck\\_Reservoir](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saugatuck_Reservoir)

<sup>3</sup><https://www.nytimes.com/2018/03/21/realestate/living-in-redding-connecticut.html>