



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 28, 2023

Danielle Caldwell
10 Fire Hill Lane
Redding, CT 06896
dcaldwell29@gmail.com

RE: **DOCKET NO. 517** – MCM Holdings, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at the Boy Scouts of America Camp Hoyt, 288 Simpaug Turnpike (Parcel No. 12-29), Redding, Connecticut. **Request for Intervenor Status.**

Dear Danielle Caldwell:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of your letter of August 25, 2023, requesting Intervenor status in Docket No. 517.

Your request will be placed on the next available meeting agenda, a copy of which will be sent to you. Your attendance is welcome, but is not required. You will be notified of the Council's determination immediately thereafter.

While your request is pending, information regarding Party/Intervenor Status may be accessed on the Council's website at the following link: <https://portal.ct.gov/CSC/Public-Participation/Public-Participation/Public-Participation-Information-Links>

Copies of the application are available at the Redding Town Hall. All documents filed to date are available at the Council's office or on our website under pending matters.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MB/RDM/laf

c: Service List, dated August 15, 2023

From: Danielle M. Caldwell <dcaldwell29@gmail.com>
Sent: Friday, August 25, 2023 2:21 PM
To: CSC-DL Siting Council <Siting.Council@ct.gov>; DEEP Adjudications <DEEP.Adjudications@ct.gov>
Subject: Intervenor Status Request Form & Letter

INTERVENOR STATUS REQUEST FORM

Docket/Petition No. 517
Town/City: Redding, CT
Date: 8/25/23
Name: Danielle Caldwell
Street Address: 10 Fire Hill Lane
City, State, Zip: Redding, CT 06896
Contact Number: 201-725-6494
E-mail: dcaldwell29@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 nearly 19-year resident of Redding, CT and as Director of Westbrook Nature School in West Redding, I am deeply concerned about the negative effects the construction of a cell tower will cause including a loss of habitat for the local wildlife, destruction of flora and fauna, pollution of the Saugatuck River (which runs through Westbrook's property), and health hazards to residents, students, farm animals and honeybees. In addition, we do not have a need for improved cell service in our area.

2. Manner and extent to which intervenor proposes to participate: Staying up to date on all communication and participating in meetings to ensure that all interested parties are informed of our perspective. Also, sharing of evidence-based research.

3. Statutory authority for intervenor request: None

4. Nature of evidence intervenor intends to present: Research that demonstrates the negative impact the construction of a 150-foot cell tower would have on the health of residents, students, wildlife, plants, insects, plants, and rivers.

Dear CT Siting Council,

My name is Danielle Caldwell. I reside at 10 Fire Hill Lane in Redding, CT and serve as the Director of Westbrook Nature School at 7 Long Ridge Road in West Redding, CT. I am writing to file as an intervenor for the proposed cell tower at 3 Marchant Road in Redding, CT by MCI Holdings.

The proposed location for the cell tower at the Hoyt Boy Scout property is in close proximity down the road from Westbrook Nature School, a nature-based preschool for young children. Our mission of helping children build an authentic relationship with nature is in direct contrast to this proposal. We aim to help children connect with nature and *disconnect from technology*. We model to children the importance of respecting all living things including plants, animals, and humans. Constructing an unnecessary cell tower, adjacent to New Pond Farm, another environmental educational organization, does the opposite; it will in fact cause a loss of habitat for the local wildlife, destroy flora and fauna, pollute the Saugatuck River (which runs through Westbrook's property), and present a health hazard to nearby residents, students, farm animals and honeybees.

Given that this proposed cell tower would be constructed within less than one mile from our home, my husband and I have deep concerns about how it may negatively impact our health as well as the health of our three children. According to the Environmental Health Fund, "*Cell towers have wireless antennas that emit radio frequency (RF) non-ionizing radiation. When these antennas are close to our homes and schools, our daily exposure to RF radiation is increased. RF radiation is considered a new form of environmental pollution. Effects from RF [documented in scientific research](#) include increased cancer risk, cellular stress, headaches, sleep issues, genetic damage, changes to the reproductive system, memory*

deficits, and impacts to the nervous system." Furthermore, "Children are [more vulnerable to RF radiation](#) as they absorb it deeper into their brains and bodies. Even if the radiation absorption were the same as in adults, the effects in children can be far more serious. A child's developing brain and organ systems are more sensitive to environmental stressors." "Hundreds of scientists are urging that our exposure to cell towers, cell phones, and other wireless radiation emissions be reduced due to the scientific evidence showing effects at legally allowable levels."

Finally, as a nearly 19-year resident of Redding, my family and I have never experienced the need for improved cell service. Constructing a 150-foot tower with multiple antennas is simply unnecessary and will serve as environmental pollution. MCM Holding's claim there is a need in our community is false and unproven and should disqualify their proposal.

Redding has been called the "Vermont of Connecticut" by *The New York Times* because of its bucolic and plentiful open spaces. Please allow us to maintain this natural setting. Redding residents take great pride in our protected land and natural beauty. We are "Small Town, Big Outdoors" and vehemently oppose the construction of an unnecessary and harmful cell tower. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Danielle Caldwell

Danielle Caldwell
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Redding, CT 06896
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Director
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