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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 519

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Application for a Certificate of Environmental
Compatibility and Public Need for the Construction,
Maintenance, and Operation of a Telecommunications
Facility Located at 11 Chamberlain Road, East
Windsor, Connecticut.

Zoom Remote Council Meeting (Teleconference),
on Tuesday, February 27, 2024, beginning at 2 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e:

JOHN MORISSETTE, Member and Presiding Officer

1 **A p p e a r a n c e s :**

2 **Council Members:**

3 **JOHN MORISSETTE, (Hearing Officer)**

4
5 **BRIAN GOLEMBIEWSKI,**

6 **DEEP Designee**

7
8 **ROBERT SILVESTRI**

9 **DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.**

10 **DR. THOMAS NEAR**

11 **CHANCE CARTER**

12
13 **Council Staff:**

14 **MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,**

15 **Executive Director and Staff Attorney**

16
17 **ADAM MORRONE,**

18 **Siting Analyst**

19
20 **LISA FONTAINE,**

21 **Fiscal Administrative Officer**

22
23 **DAKOTA LAFOUNTAIN,**

24 **Administrative Support**

25

1 **A p p e a r a n c e s:(cont'd)**

2 **For CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON WIRELESS:**

3 **Robinson & Cole, LLP**

4 **280 Trumbull Street**

5 **Hartford, Connecticut 06103**

6 **By: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQ.**

7 **KBaldwin@rc.com**

8 **860.275.8345**

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1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Good afternoon, ladies and
2 gentlemen. Can everyone hear me okay?

3 Very good. Thank you.

4 This public hearing is called to order this
5 Tuesday, February 27, 2024, at 2 p.m. My name is
6 John Morissette, member and Presiding Officer of
7 the Connecticut Siting Council. Other members of
8 the Council are Brian Golembiewski, designee for
9 Commissioner Katie Dykes of the Department of
10 Energy and Environmental Protection; Robert
11 Silvestri; Daniel P. Lynch, Jr.; Dr. Thomas Near,
12 and Chance Carter.

13 Members of the staff are Executive Director
14 Melanie Bachman, Siting Analyst Adam Morrone, and
15 Administrative Support Lisa Fontaine and Dakota
16 Lafountain.

17 If you haven't done so already, I ask that
18 everyone please mute their computer audio and/or
19 telephones now.

20 This hearing is held pursuant to the
21 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General
22 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative
23 Procedure Act upon an application from Cellco
24 Partnership doing business as Verizon Wireless for
25 a certificate of environmental compatibility and

1 public need for the construction, maintenance, and
2 operation of a telecommunications facility located
3 at 11 Chamberlain Road, East Windsor, Connecticut.

4 A complete application was received by the
5 Council on December 28, 2023. The Council's legal
6 notice of the date and time of this public hearing
7 was published in the Journal Inquirer on January
8 6, 2024.

9 Upon this Council's request, the Applicant
10 erected a sign in the vicinity of the proposed
11 site so as to inform the public of the name of the
12 applicant, the type of the facility, the public
13 hearing date, and contact information for the
14 Council, including the website and phone number.

15 As a reminder to all, off-the-record
16 communication with a member of the Council or a
17 member of the Council's staff upon the merits of
18 this application is prohibited by law.

19 The parties and interveners to the proceeding
20 are as follows. The Applicant, Cellco
21 Partnership, d/b/a Verizon Wireless; its
22 representative, Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esquire, of
23 Robinson & Cole, LLP.

24 We will proceed in accordance with the
25 prepared agenda, a copy of which is available on

1 the Council's Docket Number 519 webpage, along
2 with a record of this matter, the public hearing
3 notice, instructions for public access to this
4 public hearing, and the Council's citizen's guide
5 to Siting Council procedures.

6 Interested persons may join any session of
7 the public hearing to listen, but no public
8 comment will be received during the 2 p.m.
9 Evidentiary session. At the end of the
10 evidentiary session, we will recess until 6:30
11 p.m. for the public comment session.

12 Please be advised that any person may be
13 removed from the evidentiary session or public
14 comment session at the discretion of the Council.

15 The 6:30 p.m. public comment session is
16 reserved for members of the public who have signed
17 up in advance to make brief statements into the
18 record. I wish to note that the Applicant,
19 parties, and interveners, including their
20 representatives, witnesses, and members, are not
21 allowed to participate in the public comment
22 session.

23 I also wish to note for those who are
24 listening in for the benefit of your friends and
25 neighbors who are unable to join us for the public

1 comment session, that you or they may send written
2 statements to the Council within the 30 days of
3 the date hereof, either by mail or by e-mail, and
4 such written statements will be given the same
5 weight as if spoken during the public comment
6 session.

7 A verbatim transcript of this public hearing
8 will be posted on the Council's Docket 519 webpage
9 and deposited with the East Windsor Town Clerk's
10 office for the convenience of the public.

11 The Council will take a 10 to 15-minute break
12 at a convenient juncture at around 3:30 p.m.

13 We'll now move on to administrative notices
14 taken by the Council. I wish to call your
15 attention to those items shown on the hearing
16 program, marked as Roman numerals 1B, items 1
17 through 84.

18 Does the Applicant have an objection of these
19 items that the Council has administratively
20 noticed?

21 Good afternoon, Attorney Baldwin.

22 MR. BALDWIN: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette.

23 We have no objection.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Baldwin.

25 Accordingly, the Council hereby administratively

1 notices these existing documents.

2 We'll now continue with the appearance of the
3 Applicant. Will the Applicant present its witness
4 panel for the purposes of taking the oath? We
5 will have Attorney Bachman administer the oath
6 when you're ready.

7 Attorney Baldwin?

8 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. Morissette. Good
9 afternoon, everyone. Again, Kenneth Baldwin with
10 Robinson & Cole on behalf of the Applicant Cellco
11 Partnership, doing business as Verizon Wireless.

12 Our witness panel is listed in the hearing
13 program. It consists of five professionals. To
14 my far left is Elizabeth Glidden. Ms. Glidden is
15 a real estate and regulatory specialist with
16 Verizon Wireless.

17 To my immediate left is Mark Brauer,
18 radiofrequency engineer with Verizon Wireless.

19 To my right is Mr. Carlo Centore, a
20 professional engineer with Centek Engineering, the
21 project engineers for the Broad Brook re-lo site.

22 To his right is Brian Gaudet, the project
23 manager with All-Points Technology Corporation.

24 And to Brian's right is Matt Gustafson, a
25 wetland scientist and professional soil scientist,

1 also with All-Points Technology Corporation.

2 And we offer them to be sworn as witnesses in
3 this afternoon's proceeding.

4 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Thank you, Attorney Baldwin.

5 Attorney Bachman, please administer the oath.

6 **MS. BACHMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

7 **E L I Z A B E T H G L I D D E N,**

8 **B R I A N G A U D E T,**

9 **M A R K B R A U E R,**

10 **C A R L O F. C E N T O R E,**

11 **M A T T G U S T A F S O N,**

12 called as witnesses, being first duly sworn
13 by the EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, were examined and
14 testified under oath as follows:

15
16 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Thank you, Attorney Bachman.

17 Attorney Baldwin, please begin by verifying
18 all the exhibits by the appropriate sworn
19 witnesses.

20 **MR. BALDWIN:** Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

21 The exhibits that we'd like to have admitted
22 into the record in this proceeding are listed in
23 the hearing program under Roman two, section B
24 items one through five. They include the
25 application and, through our bulk file exhibits as

1 listed, the Applicant's affidavit of publication
2 in the Hartford Courant; our signed protective
3 order documents; our responses to the Council's
4 interrogatories dated February 14, 2024; and then
5 the Applicant's sign posting affidavit dated
6 February 14, 2024.

7 For verification purposes I'll ask our
8 witness panel, did you prepare or assist in the
9 preparation, and are you familiar with the
10 information contained in those exhibits?

11 Ms. Glidden?

12 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.

13 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Brauer?

14 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes.

15 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?

16 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.

17 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gaudet?

18 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): Yes.

19 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

20 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

21 MR. BALDWIN: Do you have any corrections,
22 modifications or amendments to offer to any of the
23 information contained in those exhibits?

24 Ms. Glidden?

25 THE WITNESS (Glidden): I do not.

1 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Brauer?
2 THE WITNESS (Brauer): No.
3 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?
4 THE WITNESS (Centore): No.
5 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gaudet?
6 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): No.
7 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?
8 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No.
9 MR. BALDWIN: Is the information contained in those
10 exhibits true and accurate to the best of your
11 knowledge? Ms. Glidden?
12 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.
13 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Brauer?
14 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes.
15 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?
16 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.
17 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gaudet?
18 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): Yes.
19 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?
20 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.
21 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt the information
22 contained in those exhibits as your testimony in
23 this proceeding. Ms. Glidden?
24 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.
25 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Brauer?

1 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes.

2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Centore?

3 THE WITNESS (Centore): I do.

4 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gaudet?

5 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): Yes.

6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

7 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

8 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morissette, I offer them as full
9 exhibits.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Baldwin. The
11 exhibits are hereby admitted.

12 We will now begin with cross-examination of
13 the applicant by the Council, starting with
14 Mr. Morrone, followed by Mr. Silvestri.

15 Good afternoon, Mr. Morrone.

16 Please continue with your cross-examination.

17 MR. MORRONE: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette. Thank
18 you very much. I'd like to start with some
19 questions regarding the existing facility.

20 Was the existing water tank
21 telecommunications facility approved by the Town?

22 THE WITNESS (Centore): I do not know. I'm sorry.

23 MR. MORRONE: Okay. And what are the dimensions of the
24 existing equipment compound that are currently on
25 the property?

1 THE WITNESS (Centore): This is Carlos Centore with
2 Centek Engineering. I may not have the
3 information at the tip of my fingers, but if you
4 give me a moment, I can -- I can look that up.

5 I should have it here in my file.

6 MR. MORRONE: Okay.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. If we could continue
8 with cross-examination and when that information
9 is available, or after the break, it could be
10 provided -- but please continue, Mr. Morrone.

11 MR. MORRONE: Let's see. Then we'll move on to, in
12 reference to the response to the Council's
13 interrogatory number six, if requested by the
14 property owner, would Cellco remove the abandoned
15 water tank?

16 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yeah. For the record, this is
17 Liz Glidden with Verizon Wireless. If requested,
18 yes, we would remove the water tank.

19 MR. MORRONE: Okay. And what would the approximate
20 cost of removal be?

21 THE WITNESS (Glidden): I don't -- I don't have those
22 numbers.

23 MR. MORRONE: Okay. Let me see.

24 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morissette, perhaps -- and
25 Mr. Morrone, perhaps we can take the cost estimate

1 as a homework assignment to answer that later in
2 the proceeding.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good, that would be great.

4 Thank you.

5 MR. MORRONE: All right, let's --

6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morrone. Excuse me, I'm sorry. We
7 have an answer to the prior question about the
8 size of the existing compound.

9 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah, the existing fence
10 compound is 43 by 34 feet. And the tank that's
11 housed within the compound is 123 feet tall.

12 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): And Mr. Morrone --

13 MR. MORRONE: Thank you very much.

14 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): -- I have a response for your
15 first question. It looks like the original
16 approval for the site was through the Town
17 Planning and Zoning Commission in 1995.

18 MR. MORRONE: Thank you very much.

19 THE WITNESS (Centore): And Mr. Morrone, I have one
20 more dimension for you on that compound that will
21 help you with what I believe you're looking for
22 there -- and the base of that tower is 30 feet by
23 30 feet. That's the footprint of the tank
24 structure itself.

25 MR. MORRONE: Okay. Then moving on to my next

1 question. If the property owner is not interested
2 in having the tower dismantled, would Verizon be
3 removing the compound in its entirety, assuming
4 that T-Mobile would also relocate?

5 MR. BALDWIN: I think given Ms. Glidden's prior
6 response about the removal of the tank, the
7 question is somewhat moot.

8 But if you think otherwise, we're happy to
9 expand on that, Mr. Morrone.

10 MR. MORRONE: No, I believe you're correct. Thank you.

11 All right. Then moving on in reference to
12 the response to council interrogatory four, it's
13 stated that Cellco would perform a geotechnical
14 survey of the tower site.

15 What types of actions would be required for
16 the geotechnical investigation?

17 THE WITNESS (Centore): This is Carlos Centore with
18 Centek Engineering. We'd have to do some minor
19 clearing to get a track-mounted rig, if not a
20 wheel-mounted rig up to the location of the tower
21 site. We would drill a hole at the center of the
22 compound to refusal and to find ledge.

23 And once we found ledge, we would drill into
24 that five feet to determine the quality of ledge
25 if, in fact, it's there. And we would also drill

1 four probes at the four corners of the compound to
2 refusal to determine the profile of ledge in the
3 area. And we would use that for -- for the tower
4 designer to use in the foundation design of the
5 tower.

6 MR. MORRONE: Thank you.

7 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah.

8 MR. MORRONE: And how long would the activity take
9 place at the site for the survey?

10 THE WITNESS (Centore): I typically allow for a day for
11 that type of activity. It's usually somewhat less
12 than a day, but it's a day's worth, worth a day's
13 work between setup and breakdown, and taking the
14 core borings.

15 MR. MORRONE: And what is the expected timing of that
16 type of survey?

17 THE WITNESS (Centore): As soon as we get authorization
18 to proceed with D and M plans, we would schedule
19 that. And that's typically a week to two weeks
20 out from that point.

21 MR. MORRONE: Thank you.

22 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah.

23 MR. MORRONE: All right. In reference to the response
24 to the Council's interrogatory number 36, Cellco
25 has stated that no stealth tower designs were

1 considered.

2 Is there any option for painting the tower
3 that would decrease the visibility at the site?

4 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): This is Brian Gaudet with
5 All-Points. You know, looking at, you know, your
6 traditional stealth tower options here -- you
7 mentioned painting, so I'll address that first.

8 The treeline is not incredibly high here. So
9 the near views where you're going to see the
10 structure, I can point you to photo three in
11 attachment eight, which is the visibility
12 analysis. You can see it extends a decent amount
13 above the treeline, so painting it there would
14 make it stick out more than -- than your
15 traditional steel monopole.

16 That being said, the views are relatively
17 limited. It's -- they don't extend beyond a mile.
18 So there's not a tremendous need to stealth it
19 here just from the fact that it's such a low
20 visual impact as is.

21 We did discuss, you know, kind of your other
22 options. Would a monopine work? There's not
23 really any coniferous trees there. Again, at 120
24 feet, while it's relatively below tower profile,
25 the trees in that area are about 60 feet. So

1 you'd be extending the monopine, you know, well
2 above the treeline where it is visible.

3 I know I can anticipate Mr. Silvestri asking
4 about some other stealth options like the water
5 tank here. And I think the -- the footprint, you
6 know, looking at that would require a much larger
7 footprint for a compound and foundation. And
8 again, while the water tank might fit in this
9 agricultural area, it would certainly create a
10 much more distinct visual impact in terms of a
11 much wider structure, just much more to -- to pull
12 the eye in.

13 So it's -- it's not -- there's nothing that
14 could be done to really stealth this one other
15 than traditional steel monopole.

16 MR. MORRONE: Thank you.

17 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): You're welcome.

18 MR. MORRONE: All right. Referring to the Connecticut
19 Airport Authority comments and attachment 15 of
20 the application, would Cellco coordinate with the
21 air navigation facilities listed as possibly
22 impacted?

23 THE WITNESS (Brauer): This is Mark Brauer from
24 Verizon. The -- as far as coordination with the
25 specific facilities, I would have to look into

1 whether we do that or not, but we would coordinate
2 with the FAA, which typically that information is
3 available to all those facilities.

4 **MR. MORRONE:** Okay. Then moving on, my next question
5 is going to reference several attachments from the
6 application that have to do with distances from
7 the site to the wetland areas.

8 The distance from wetland one to the
9 northwest of the site and the approximate wetland
10 area to the southeast of the site, as shown in
11 attachment one, sheet C3, are listed as 232 feet
12 and 35 feet respectively. And in attachment ten,
13 the wetland inspection map, these same distances
14 are listed as 260 feet and 65 feet respectively.
15 And additionally, in attachment ten the vernal
16 pool analysis map shows the distance from wetland
17 one to be 238 feet.

18 Could you please explain the discrepancies
19 between those distances?

20 **THE WITNESS (Gustafson):** Sure. For the record,
21 Matthew Gustafson. I think I'll start by
22 correcting which one should be the accurate
23 distances.

24 From wetland one to the nearest compound
25 corner is 232 feet, and the distance from the

1 offsite wetland to the nearest point on the access
2 road is 35 feet.

3 Some of the other erroneous calculations are
4 from documents that were earlier in the process
5 when the design of the facility was shifting
6 around. So some of those calculations obviously
7 were modified during that design process as things
8 were finalized.

9 So again, those, the two numbers I listed are
10 the -- the final correct numbers -- as long as
11 Carlo agrees.

12 **THE WITNESS (Centore):** I do.

13 **THE WITNESS (Gustafson):** Hope that answers the
14 question. Thank you.

15 **MR. MORRONE:** Yes, that's very helpful. Thank you.

16 And I believe that brings my questions to an
17 end for today. Thank you for your answers.

18 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Thank you, Mr. Morrone.

19 I'll continue cross-examination of the
20 Applicant by Mr. Silvestri followed by
21 Mr. Golembiewski. Good afternoon, Mr. Silvestri.

22 **MR. SILVESTRI:** Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette. And
23 good afternoon, all.

24 And Mr. Gaudet, thank you for anticipating my
25 question about a water tank design.

1 Let me begin with the site schematic that's
2 in the very beginning of the application. It's
3 labeled as Roman numeral four. And that schematic
4 shows a bend in the proposed access road towards
5 the east, yet when you start looking at the
6 drawings under tab one, it doesn't have a bend.

7 So could you explain possibly what was
8 originally proposed with the bend, and what
9 changed?

10 **THE WITNESS (Centore):** What happens when these sites
11 stick around for too long -- this is Carlo, Centek
12 Engineering. Well, I do know that the -- the
13 access drive that's in the Siting Council -- the
14 plans that were filed for the Siting Council,
15 dated September 13, 2023, are based on the
16 topography of the area and the grading design for
17 the road.

18 I -- I -- the only thing I can venture on is
19 that that drawing was done from a schematic set of
20 site plans, so that we didn't have all the
21 contours in the area to do the road design and
22 direct drainage design as well.

23 **MR. SILVESTRI:** So to clarify, the bend that I see on
24 Roman numeral four site schematic is an error, if
25 you will, and the true road would be in the

1 drawings that actually come below it on tab one?

2 THE WITNESS (Centore): That is correct.

3 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you.

4 THE WITNESS (Centore): You're welcome.

5 MR. SILVESTRI: Then if you look at interrogatory
6 number 32, Cellco comments that it would implement
7 a wetland, comma, vernal pool and aquifer
8 protection area protection program.

9 My question, would that include a low level
10 oil alarm for the transformer?

11 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): So currently that is not a
12 part of the protection plan. However, if the
13 Council wished to see that, that certainly could
14 be included.

15 MR. SILVESTRI: Very good, thank you.

16 And did Cellco consider using a propane tank
17 for the generator instead of the diesel that's
18 proposed?

19 THE WITNESS (Centore): We were -- we were told that
20 the generator being used here is a diesel
21 generator. To -- to limit the amount of space in
22 the compound the propane tank was not used on this
23 particular site.

24 I'll ask Verizon, if you don't mind, to see
25 if there's a reason for not going with propane

1 here other than site space?

2 **THE WITNESS (Glidden):** I believe it was -- for the
3 record, this is Liz Glidden. I believe it was
4 site space, but Carlo is correct in that it's a
5 250 gallon diesel tank that is proposed.

6 **MR. SILVESTRI:** So propane wasn't considered because
7 you'd have to add a propane tank as well, and
8 you're looking at a spatial consideration or a
9 spatial restraint. Correct?

10 **THE WITNESS (Centore):** Correct.

11 **THE WITNESS (Glidden):** Yes.

12 **MR. SILVESTRI:** Okay. Thank you.

13 This is kind of related, at least in my mind,
14 on power generators. If you go back a couple days
15 to February 22nd, was Verizon in Connecticut
16 affected by the same outage as AT&T?

17 **THE WITNESS (Brauer):** This is Mark Brauer. I do not
18 believe we were. At least there was -- there was
19 nothing that I knew of.

20 **MR. SILVESTRI:** Very good. Thank you.

21 Okay. Then moving on, under attachment one
22 to the interrogatories, the protection program
23 states that maintenance of the facility during the
24 winter months shall minimize the application of
25 chloride-based de-icers/salt, and use more

1 environmentally friendly non-chloride
2 alternatives.

3 A couple questions for you. What's an
4 example of a non-chloride alternative?

5 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): For the record, Matthew
6 Gustafson. Typical road sand that does not
7 include that salt mixture is a proven alternative.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you.

9 And related to that, if the project is
10 approved, can that more environmentally friendly
11 de-icer be exclusively used?

12 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes. If the Council would
13 wish to see that, we can make that adjustment in
14 the protection plan of when it gets included in
15 the D and M plans.

16 MR. SILVESTRI: Very good. Thank you. Thank you.

17 All right. Moving on, how many trees would
18 be removed for the proposed access way and
19 compound?

20 THE WITNESS (Centore): We have -- Carlos Centore with
21 Centek Engineering. We have a total of eight
22 trees to be removed along the access drive, and
23 ten trees within the compound area. Those are all
24 trees eight inches in diameter or greater.

25 MR. SILVESTRI: Eight and ten, very good. Thank you.

1 And kind of related to that, could the proposed
2 facility be shifted kind of towards the southwest?
3 And again, I'm looking at that site schematic,
4 possibly closer to what appears to be either a
5 cleared area or a less forested area in the
6 southwest -- and kind of avoid some tree removal?

7 THE WITNESS (Centore): So into the -- Carlos Centore
8 with Centek Engineering again. That area that
9 you're referencing to the southwest, I'm assuming
10 it is just above that clear area. That's, I'll
11 say, to the northeast of the build -- upper most
12 building on site.

13 MR. SILVESTRI: Yeah, basically correct. Yeah.

14 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah, so that that's a pretty
15 steep embankment there. It doesn't show up on
16 the -- on the aerial image that's shown, that we
17 have here.

18 But we stayed away from that, number one,
19 because the steepness of the hill, and then there
20 were ledge outcroppings in that area as well that
21 we were concerned with.

22 MR. SILVESTRI: Understood. Thank you.

23 Then if you could turn to the coverage plots,
24 I want to make sure that I understand these. And
25 I'll just focus on the 700 megahertz coverage

1 plots. The first one that's in the package is
2 labeled as existing Verizon wireless 700 megahertz
3 coverage without Broad Brook CT facility.

4 Is that what exists if you took the tower
5 that exists on the property away?

6 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Mark Brauer with Verizon. Yes,
7 that's correct.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay.

9 THE WITNESS (Brauer): That that plot shows what it
10 would look like if that facility was removed.

11 MR. SILVESTRI: Gotcha. Okay. Then if you look at the
12 second one, existing Verizon wireless and
13 surrounding areas, that would be with the existing
14 tower setup. Correct?

15 THE WITNESS (Brauer): That is correct, yes.

16 MR. SILVESTRI: All right. And then the third one in
17 the series would be the towers removed and your
18 coverage is based on the relocated facility.

19 Also correct?

20 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes, that is correct.

21 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. So there's a little bit of
22 change with that last one with the proposed new
23 facility, and I'm going to assume that slight --
24 slightly greater coverage is coming about because
25 of the slightly taller height that the antennas

1 would be located. Would that also be correct?

2 **THE WITNESS (Brauer):** Yes, that is correct because
3 the -- the ground elevation increases from where
4 our existing facility is by approximately 35 feet.
5 I believe it's 35 and some change, but it's --
6 it's right around 35 feet.

7 So we -- we gain that extra ground elevation,
8 which enhances our coverage footprint.

9 **MR. SILVESTRI:** Understood. Thank you.

10 And Mr. Morissette, that's all I have.

11 And I thank you, and I thank the panel.

12 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

13 We'll now continue with cross-examination of
14 the Applicant by Mr. Golembiewski followed by
15 Dr. Near. Mr. Golembiewski, good afternoon.

16 **MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI:** Good afternoon. Thank you,
17 Mr. Morissette.

18 I do have a few questions. My initial ones
19 may be a little repetitive, but I wanted to be
20 clear about exactly why the water tower no longer
21 is an acceptable tower -- found structure for
22 Verizon.

23 **THE WITNESS (Centore):** I'll give it my best shot.

24 Good afternoon again. Carlos Centore from
25 Centek Engineering.

1 Back in 2021, Centek was retained to do an
2 analysis of that existing tank and do a condition
3 assessment. What we -- what we found is that it's
4 substantially under designed to act as a tower
5 because it's used to being filled with water, and
6 we have overturning concerns without that
7 additional dead weight of the water in the tank,
8 which is no longer being used for water storage.

9 We did some exploratory work of the
10 foundation and found the -- the base plates and
11 the anchor bolts to be in pretty bad condition,
12 deteriorated, and there was a bunch of
13 deterioration on the -- on the tank itself.

14 We proceeded to -- to do some cost estimating
15 on behalf of Verizon to see what it would cost to
16 bring the -- the tank structure into conformance.
17 We were able to get some estimates for that work,
18 and I'm trying to pull those up as we go.

19 Bear with me.

20 And what -- what limited and made the project
21 more difficult to do any type of restoration work
22 there, or repair work to the foundation and the
23 foundation base plates was the -- the fact that
24 the Sprint equipment was at the base of the tank,
25 T-Mobile's equipment was there and Verizon's

1 shelter was also there, congesting the area with
2 conduits and cables and equipment, so rendering
3 any kind of restoration work or repair work
4 difficult and costly.

5 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. All right. That makes sense.

6 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yeah.

7 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: I had a question about T-Mobile. In
8 the record, I believe there was a statement that
9 T-Mobile has shown some interest in relocating
10 from the water tank to the new tower.

11 Is that correct?

12 THE WITNESS (Glidden): This is Liz Glidden.

13 Yes, they've expressed interest.

14 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: So I don't like playing scenarios,
15 but what if they choose to stay on the water tank?

16 THE WITNESS (Glidden): They've committed.

17 They've committed to move.

18 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Oh, they've committed to move?

19 Okay.

20 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.

21 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. So you're saying there will
22 be no providers on the water tank provided --

23 THE WITNESS (Glidden): That's correct.

24 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. All right. Well, that makes
25 things easier.

1 So again, I guess I'm -- so the one thing I'm
2 looking for is not to have the tank standing once
3 we have a new antenna. And clearly that's, you
4 know, the host property, you know, decision.

5 But you believe at this point that the
6 property owner, since it's not a functioning water
7 tank, would not object to its removal?

8 THE WITNESS (Glidden): That's correct.

9 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: All right. Thank you. I guess we
10 can end that, end that line of questioning.

11 I did have some questions about the vernal
12 pool. The one concern I had is that the area, the
13 roadway and the compound could be -- I guess my
14 question is, could that be adult frog habitat when
15 they're not utilizing the vernal pool?

16 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): For the record, it's Matthew
17 Gustafson.

18 Yes -- the simple answer is that the areas
19 that are proposed for development occur within
20 mature upland forest habitat within the hundred to
21 750-foot critical terrestrial habitat buffer. As
22 such, these areas are suitable habitat for the
23 wood frogs that are currently utilizing the pool.

24 However, the increase in development within
25 the CTH consists of less than 1 percent, looking

1 at about approximately .4 acres of the total
2 terrestrial habitat. So even though there will be
3 some loss of habitat, there has been -- there is
4 sufficient hab, supporting habitat in other areas
5 both on and off site to the north to fortify this
6 population to continue using.

7 Furthermore, we do have -- or are proposing a
8 protection plan to mitigate for potential
9 mortality during construction. Some of those
10 elements are contractor awareness so that they're
11 aware of what kind of species are utilizing the
12 area, the sensitivity of the activities in
13 proximity to the vernal pool and wetlands, as well
14 as establishment of a restrictive barrier and
15 sweeps by a trained professional to ensure that
16 any amphibians caught within the work areas after
17 the exclusion fence has been established are moved
18 outside the work areas.

19 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. So we have BMPs during
20 construction. And then I guess if I paraphrase,
21 the loss of that habitat would not have a
22 significant impact on the wood frog population in
23 their success in using that vernal pool?

24 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes, I'd agree with that
25 assessment.

1 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: All right. Good. So I did notice
2 there, in the project area, there are some prime
3 farmland soils. I believe I read 0.16 acres.

4 I want to confirm, at least based on what's
5 in the file, that there is no current agricultural
6 use on those soils?

7 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Matt Gustafson.

8 That is correct.

9 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: And how likely, if this project were
10 not to go forward, would this area be farmed?

11 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): It's a difficult question to
12 answer, but due to the slopes as of the areas that
13 we are proposing to develop for the facility,
14 these would certainly be more challenging areas to
15 farm.

16 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. I think someone touched upon
17 the Connecticut Airport Authority comment. Can
18 you explain to me what form FAA 7460-1 is? And
19 does that relate to attachment 15 in the
20 application, which is entitled Federal Airways and
21 Airspace Summary Report?

22 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes. This is Mark Brauer from
23 Verizon. So I believe that -- I'm not a complete
24 expert on the FAA process, but I believe that was
25 just -- when I looked it up, that was just a

1 notification, a requirement of notification.

2 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. And so when you fill out this
3 form and submit it to FAA, is it primarily to find
4 out if you need to put lighting, or some type of,
5 you know, power? It's not that FAA would say, no,
6 that you can't put this here?

7 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes. Well, when -- when -- the
8 Federal Airways Airspace Report is -- when we run
9 it, that's based on the same rules that the FAA
10 uses to determine things like marking, lighting.
11 It goes farther in to see if there's AM radio
12 station disruption, things like that.

13 And typically, when we see it's only a
14 notice, it is more than likely that it will not
15 require it to be lit, but -- however I can't say
16 that with 100 percent certainty. But usually when
17 there's marking and lighting involved, there's a
18 lot more -- if you look at the notice criteria,
19 there's many that -- notice not required, not
20 required, notice not required.

21 You -- you'll start to see different hits in
22 various places where it would lead you to believe
23 that there may be many additional factors that the
24 FAA would come back with. But in this case, with
25 this report, with so many notice not required, and

1 only a filing to the FAA, it shouldn't need
2 anything extra in my experience.

3 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. All right. Great.

4 Appreciate that.

5 I'm jumping around a little bit, but so I did
6 notice that the project will be a net cut of 1212
7 cubic yards. Is that all that material being
8 proposed to be removed from the site?

9 THE WITNESS (Centore): It is unless there's some
10 reason that the property owner needs fill on their
11 property that the -- the contractor could make
12 some arrangements with, but the intention is to
13 take it off site.

14 It's a difficult site to balance there.

15 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Yeah. So it would be at least
16 outside of your project area?

17 THE WITNESS (Centore): Correct.

18 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. Great.

19 Let's see. I noticed that the facility will
20 be in an aquifer protection area. A cell tower,
21 is that a regulated activity under the aquifer
22 protection program?

23 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): Can you -- I'm not sure I
24 understand the question.

25 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: I guess, is there anything

1 associated with your facility that would need to
2 be registered under that program?

3 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): So as part of the normal
4 process, the -- the Connecticut Department of
5 Public Health is -- is consulted as part of our
6 application process. Beyond their advisement, I'm
7 not aware of any requirements to gain approval
8 from the local or from the -- the aquifer
9 protection area, in this case, a well field
10 aquifer protection area.

11 However, we will be making notifications to
12 them prior to the start of the construction to
13 ensure if they have any particular requests or
14 concerns, that they're addressed prior to the
15 start of the construction.

16 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: So your petroleum material storage
17 and spill prevention essentially does address, I
18 guess, those concerns then?

19 THE WITNESS (Gaudet): That is what we've typically
20 seen on past projects.

21 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: And then the diesel fuel you'll be
22 storing on site will have some type of spill
23 containment, like a secondary containment system?

24 THE WITNESS (Centore): Carlo Centore with Centek.

25 Yes, the generator being supplied by Verizon has a

1 secondary containment on the tank, the double-wall
2 tank, and it has a pan for -- as the form of
3 secondary containment. And it also has spill
4 protection built in, primary and secondary spill
5 protection for when filling the tank.

6 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. All right. Great.

7 I don't know if I missed it, but I know that
8 there are some stormwater drainage measures.
9 There's some swales, ripraps, splash pads,
10 infiltration basins, level spreaders. I didn't
11 notice any report in the record.

12 Did I -- is that something I missed, or?

13 THE WITNESS (Centore): I just got it in my hands
14 yesterday. So there is a report. I'm sure we can
15 put it in as a supplemental filing or as part of
16 the D and M. Or --

17 MR. BALDWIN: If the Council feels it's necessary to
18 have that in the record, we can certainly do that.
19 We can speak to the drainage elements,
20 Mr. Golembiewski.

21 I think knowing Mr. Morissette's dislike for
22 late-file exhibits, I would ask if we could
23 address some of those drainage elements for you in
24 our testimony, rather than submit the full report.
25 We're happy to submit the full report if it's

1 required, but I think we can address your
2 questions on the drainage elements through
3 testimony.

4 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Sure. And then the D and M plan
5 could also include supporting. Okay. Great.

6 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes.

7 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: As my overall question is -- the
8 design of them is consistent with general
9 engineering practices, whether it's the DOT
10 drainage manual, and DEEP's stormwater water
11 quality manual?

12 THE WITNESS (Centore): Yes. What we did do is -- what
13 we did do as part of our design is we assured that
14 we wouldn't have any additional runoff on the --
15 off of the property.

16 As a matter of fact, we've reduced by
17 introducing the -- the infiltration, the riprap
18 lined infiltration basin. We've actually reduced
19 the amount of runoff off the property rather than
20 increase it, and we've reduced it significantly by
21 doing so.

22 But I think overall in terms of being able to
23 manage the water on the site, it's -- it turned
24 out a very good design. We don't have anything
25 offsite and we've reduced peak flows as well.

1 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. Well, that's good. I was
2 going to just ask a basic question. The riprap
3 infiltration basins, I think by their name answers
4 the questions, but I would like to get in the
5 record -- they are not intended to hold water?

6 THE WITNESS (Centore): No.

7 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: For anything more than just a storm
8 event? So --

9 THE WITNESS (Centore): Correct.

10 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Yeah.

11 THE WITNESS (Centore): They're designed to -- to let
12 the water slowly leach back out into -- into the
13 ground and into the surrounding area.

14 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: So they would not be decoy basins
15 for, say, wood frogs, wood frog spawning?

16 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Matt Gustafson for the
17 record. That's -- that's correct, as well as part
18 of our protection plan, under section four of that
19 protection plan, through the -- the monitoring
20 during construction those elements will be
21 observed to ensure that through various, whether
22 it was capping of it by siltation that -- that
23 those areas are not -- do not hold water for in
24 excess of 48 hours, so to your point, they do not
25 become decoy pools by accident.

1 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: Okay. Great. All right. That is
2 all I have. Thank you, panel, and thank you
3 Mr. Morissette.

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you Mr. Golembiewski.
5 We'll now continue the cross-examination of the
6 Applicant by Dr. Near, followed by Mr. Carter.
7 Dr. Near, good afternoon.

8 DR. NEAR: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette, and good
9 afternoon all.

10 My question is about the wood frog
11 population. I'd like to revisit that. So one
12 interesting thing about this species that is a
13 little unusual for frogs in this part of the world
14 is they have a high affinity to the ponds of which
15 they were hatched.

16 And so I'm impressed by the answer with
17 regard to mitigating the impact of the
18 construction on the wood frogs that are kind of --
19 they're terrestrial. Once they're, you know, they
20 kind of develop as adults and they kind of revisit
21 their ponds in the winter to lay their eggs.

22 And I guess the question I have is, are there
23 any plans for monitoring? So for example, seeing
24 this spring, are there wood frog masses in the
25 wetland? And then also as the project moves on

1 and construction is passed, are there any plans to
2 assess the impact that construction has had on the
3 wood frog population by looking at egg masses in
4 that pond?

5 Because given the fact the species has this
6 behavioral tendency of visiting the pond of which
7 they were hatched, it seems like that would be a
8 natural way of -- a good way of assessing whatever
9 impacts the construction may have had.

10 **THE WITNESS (Gustafson):** Currently there are not any
11 plans to do extended monitoring of this resource
12 post construction. Certainly during construction,
13 the resource will be monitored and depending on
14 the time of year, you'll be able to get certain
15 observations that will be included in the
16 reporting that is going to be a part of the
17 protection measures.

18 But no, there there's no current plan for
19 post-construction monitoring of this resource.

20 **DR. NEAR:** Okay. Thank you.

21 I have no further questions.

22 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Thank you, Dr. Near.

23 We'll now continue with cross-examination of
24 the Applicant by Mr. Carter, followed by Mr.
25 Lynch. Good afternoon, Mr. Carter.

1 MR. CARTER: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette, and good
2 afternoon, all. And thank you to the panel and my
3 fellow council members. Your questions have been
4 great. So once again, I won't be taking up too
5 much time.

6 Y'all -- the panel sort of got into this
7 earlier around T-Mobile moving to this new
8 proposed tower. And looking back at interrogatory
9 question 28, is there any change now to the
10 proposed size of the generator considering that
11 the tower will be shared based off of what y'all
12 said earlier?

13 THE WITNESS (Glidden): For the record, this is Liz
14 Glidden. Verizon typically does not share their
15 generator. So we would be using our -- the 250
16 diesel is for us. And then when T-Mobile were --
17 would come, they would design their own generator
18 to fulfill their needs.

19 MR. CARTER: Okay. Thank you. And then I had another
20 question about FAA, slash, airplane, slash,
21 airports.

22 I know that we've received comment from the
23 Connecticut Airport Authority, but have you
24 received any comment from any of the other
25 surrounding air facilities that are privately

1 owned?

2 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Mark Brauer.

3 To my knowledge, we have not.

4 MR. CARTER: Okay. Thank you.

5 And Mr. Morissette, thank you. That's all I
6 have.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Carter.

8 We'll continue with cross-examination by
9 Mr. Lynch followed by myself.

10 Good afternoon, Mr. Lynch.

11 MR. LYNCH: Can you hear me, Mr. Morissette?

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes, I can. Thank you.

13 MR. LYNCH: I have -- my question is more of a
14 clarification on some of the previous questions.
15 I have a hard time -- and I apologize to the
16 witness panel for some of their -- it came through
17 very soft and I could barely hear them. So I
18 might want to revisit a couple of things,
19 especially the water tower.

20 I know you described it, you know, a couple
21 of times in the past, but like I say, I have a
22 hard time hearing it. Is the tower -- if you have
23 to replace the tower, who picks up the cost for
24 that?

25 THE WITNESS (Centore): Carlo Centore with Centek

1 Engineering. I'm going to try to answer your
2 question, but it's --

3 MR. LYNCH: Hello?

4 THE WITNESS (Centore): Can you hear me okay?

5 Carlo from Centek.

6 MR. LYNCH: Just barely, but if you speak clearly I can
7 get it.

8 THE WITNESS (Centore): This is Carlo Centore from
9 Centek Engineering. Dan, I'm going to do my best
10 to answer your question, but it's -- I don't know
11 who would pick up the cost to repair that tower,
12 that water tower.

13 I would -- I would assume that would have to
14 be negotiated with the landowner and Verizon,
15 because the tower itself is owned by the
16 landowner.

17 MR. LYNCH: I don't know if I heard you correctly
18 before, but the landowner has no use for the
19 tower -- or if it is removed.

20 Is that -- did I hear that correctly?

21 THE WITNESS (Centore): That is correct. It's no
22 longer functioning as a water tower and it's not
23 in any shape to be able to do so.

24 MR. LYNCH: Okay. Now that we've killed the water
25 tower, I want to go to -- I had the same concern

1 as Mr. Silvestri. And I didn't get your answer to
2 the AT&T outage, whether that impacted Verizon or
3 not.

4 I think if you could just -- wouldn't mind
5 repeating that?

6 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes, of course. Mark Brauer
7 from Verizon. To my knowledge, we did not -- we
8 were not part of that same outage that AT&T had.
9 We didn't see any issues that they did.

10 MR. LYNCH: (Unintelligible) -- what happened to
11 AT&T -- is your system protected from --
12 (inaudible).

13 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morissette, I don't know if you heard
14 Mr. Lynch's full question, but he broke up at the
15 end, I think.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Lynch, can you try it again?

17 MR. LYNCH: Could you repeat?

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Repeat your question.

19 MR. LYNCH: Could you repeat that? I didn't hear it.

20 THE HEARING OFFICER: Could you repeat your question
21 please, Mr. Lynch?

22 MR. LYNCH: Oh. The question was, what happened to
23 AT&T with their outages? Is that something that
24 your system and Verizon could happen to, or are
25 you protected from it?

1 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Mark Brauer from Verizon. I'm
2 not sure how AT&T has their system set up, but our
3 switches, our facilities are typically -- we have
4 redundancy in each of our facilities.

5 So I would not anticipate -- I'm not sure the
6 full scope of what happened to AT&T, but Verizon
7 does have some protections in place for failures.

8 MR. LYNCH: All right. Thank you. And I have one
9 question regarding security. I forgot which
10 interrogatory it was, but you talked about someone
11 breaking into the compound and being unable to
12 climb up the tower.

13 And what do I see this morning -- in either
14 the Washington Post or the Wall Street Journal,
15 was some teenage kid crawling up a cell tower. So
16 there is a possibility, knowing teenagers, this
17 becomes an attractive nuisance.

18 Is there any audio alarm that goes off if
19 they break into the compound and somehow manage --
20 I know you took the pegs out, but somehow managed
21 to try to climb the tower? I know it's a long
22 question, but I hope it's a short answer.

23 THE WITNESS (Centore): Carlos Centore with Centek.

24 I've been doing this for a while. I haven't seen
25 any sites alarmed yet. I've seen taller fences

1 put in. I've seen barbed wire fence put in. I've
2 seen the rungs taken off the lower portion of the
3 tower to eliminate the -- the possibility of
4 anyone getting to those climbing rungs, to climb,
5 and I've also seen guards on ladders.

6 But in terms of an alarm system, I don't know
7 that there's anything that we could use. It -- it
8 would be set off by animals and anything else that
9 would go into those unoccupied spaces.

10 So Brian, do you have something on that?

11 **THE WITNESS (Gaudet):** Brian Gaudet. The only thing
12 I've seen in Connecticut, specifically it would be
13 on the state police towers. They do have remote
14 video monitoring for the compound entrance.

15 But those are, again, only for those,
16 primarily police, you know, first responders, the
17 kind of critical infrastructure aspect there.

18 **MR. LYNCH:** An 18-year-old kid climbing it -- it looked
19 like an old radio tower, but he was up pretty far.

20 **THE WITNESS (Gaudet):** Anything is possible. We did
21 see a 200-foot tower was stolen down in Alabama.

22 So anything is possible, I guess.

23 **MR. LYNCH:** Now my last question is more of a curiosity
24 question. I've heard a couple of times being
25 advertised on radio or some -- that someone is out

1 there talking to landowners who have property
2 being leased to cell towers to buy out their
3 lease.

4 How would that impact your operation, if at
5 all?

6 **THE WITNESS (Gaudet):** This is Brian Gaudet. I know,
7 you know, typically for the public or private --
8 private tower owners, you know, American Tower,
9 Crown, SBA, some of the smaller mom-and-pop
10 developers, they certainly go head to head and try
11 and compete for those ground leases.

12 But I've never experienced or seen anything
13 that impacts the carriers themselves in that
14 aspect. It certainly wouldn't affect service or
15 coverage. I don't know if there would be any
16 financial implications, but typically it's just
17 those are -- those are plays to grab the
18 portfolio.

19 **MR. LYNCH:** Just a followup to that, a follow-up
20 question to that. What if the current landowner
21 decides to sell all of his property?

22 Does your lease have an ability to continue
23 on if he does sell the property?

24 **MR. BALDWIN:** Mr. Lynch, if you don't mind? I think
25 I'll take that one, as it really is a legal

1 question.

2 The answer is yes, the lease would continue;
3 the same if an underlying property owner sells his
4 leasehold interest, the lease would continue.
5 Someone else would just be stepping into the shoes
6 of the landlord.

7 MR. LYNCH: That's what I assumed, Mr. Baldwin, but
8 thank you very much.

9 Mr. Morissette, those are all my questions.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Lynch.

11 Okay, well, I want to thank Mr. Silvestri for
12 stealing a couple of my questions concerning the
13 location and improvements of coverage. So we've
14 covered that, but I would like to beat up the
15 airport thing a little bit. And now that we've
16 established that Mr. Brauer is the FAA expert, I
17 would like to go to Exhibit 15.

18 This, this whole section confuses me because
19 I'm not really sure what it says. I know that
20 there are two airports close by. One is Skylark,
21 which is in close proximity to this site, and then
22 we have Ellington. Now, if I go to page 2 --
23 well, let me start from page 1.

24 The VFR traffic pattern aerospace for Skylark
25 begins at the bottom of page 1, and it continues

1 on to page 2. And then following that is the VFR
2 traffic pattern airspace for Ellington.

3 Now it appears that there's no problem with
4 Ellington, however for Skylark they say the
5 structures exceeding the greater of -- I'm not
6 sure what that paragraph means. Could somebody
7 kindly try to explain it to me?

8 THE WITNESS (Brauer): Yes. Mark Brauer, the, ahem,
9 expert.

10 Yes, this -- this paragraph that's in there
11 typically is -- it shows up often, and it's -- I
12 believe it's just part of the -- the report
13 itself. It's just it's giving an informational
14 piece to it. It's -- we certainly did not -- we
15 do not exceed that, that 350 feet.

16 So we're -- we're not -- I guess it's more
17 of -- it's more of an informational piece than
18 anything else because all -- all of our others we
19 did not exceed on anything else.

20 THE HEARING OFFICER: So the bottom line is that
21 there's no problem?

22 THE WITNESS (Brauer): There should not be a problem,
23 that is correct.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Thank you. Thank you for
25 explaining that.

1 Okay. And since we haven't beaten up the
2 water tower enough, I think I'll go back to that.
3 Now the water tower is owned by the property
4 owner. And for the tower to be dismantled, either
5 it needs to be done by the property owner or under
6 separate agreement outside of the proceedings
7 here. Is that correct?

8 **THE WITNESS (Glidden):** Liz Glidden.

9 Yes, that's correct.

10 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** All right. So there is no
11 expectation -- well, there's no -- we will not be
12 in a position of ordering Verizon to dismantle the
13 water tower primarily because it's outside of our
14 jurisdiction and outside of the site, outside the
15 site boundaries.

16 So my interpretation is that that would be
17 totally a business transaction between Verizon and
18 the property owner outside of our domain.

19 Could you confirm that as well?

20 **MR. BALDWIN:** Mr. Morissette, on the legal side, I
21 might -- the Siting Council has approved several
22 modifications to Verizon's facilities on that
23 water tank over the years. And I would assume
24 without, you know, subject to check that they've
25 done the same for T-Mobile.

1 I think there's an argument that could be
2 made that the Siting Council retains jurisdiction
3 over that water tank in its use as a
4 telecommunications facility. I don't think
5 there's a lot of argument that anyone really wants
6 to keep the water tank, whether the Council has
7 the legal authority to tell Verizon to take it
8 down or tell the property owner to take it down.
9 I understand that, your concern there.

10 I certainly think under the circumstances,
11 given your history with that water tank and its
12 use as a telecommunications facility, you
13 certainly can cite a preference. You can
14 certainly make a recommendation if your executive
15 director decides that you don't have the authority
16 to demand that it be removed.

17 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Certainly. Thank you, Attorney
18 Baldwin. We certainly could make a
19 recommendation. I'll ask Attorney Bachman to see
20 if she has an opinion on this matter. I just want
21 to make sure we flesh this out during the hearing
22 so that there's no confusion later on.

23 Attorney Bachman?

24 **MS. BACHMAN:** Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

25 I agree with Attorney Baldwin to an extent,

1 but I'm just going to go back to the response that
2 Mr. Gaudet kindly gave us earlier, that the
3 original facility itself was approved by the Town.

4 We approved a bunch of exempt modifications
5 over the years for Verizon and Sprint, and whether
6 or not those were actually exempt modifications or
7 tower shares, or whether there was water in the
8 tank at any time in the last -- what? 40 years --
9 that is determinative.

10 But I think the fact still remains, the tank
11 itself is owned by the property owner. And
12 certainly we couldn't order him or her to remove
13 that tank.

14 But we could -- and I don't recommend that we
15 do this -- preclude it from being used for
16 telecommunications purposes, which I believe was
17 the point Mr. Marrone was trying to get at about
18 the equipment shelter. If the water tank remains,
19 there's an equipment shelter there for T-Mobile
20 and Verizon. If the property owner would like to
21 retain it, certainly that's his prerogative.

22 But if he didn't want to retain it, and
23 there's telecommunications equipment in that
24 compound area, certainly we could order the
25 equipment to be removed. Thank you.

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you for that clarification,
2 Attorney Bachman. And thank you, Attorney
3 Baldwin. That concludes my line of questioning
4 for this afternoon.

5 We do have one open item, I believe, Attorney
6 Baldwin, relating to the cost to remove the water
7 tank. I believe that's the only thing we have
8 open. Does your list agree?

9 MR. BALDWIN: It does, Mr. Morissette.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. Would you like to take a
11 short break to get the answer?

12 Or do you happen to have it now?

13 THE WITNESS (Centore): I don't have it yet.

14 MR. BALDWIN: If we could take a short break, then
15 hopefully we'll come back with that response?

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. So is 12 minutes good
17 enough, or do you want 15?

18 THE WITNESS (Centore): Let's do 15.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Okay. All right.

20 THE WITNESS (Centore): Thank you.

21 THE HEARING OFFICER: So we will meet back here at --
22 let me see. What do we got? 3:10 -- 3:25. So we
23 will reconvene at 3:25. Thank you, everyone.

24
25 (Pause: 3:10 p.m. to 3:25 p.m.)

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. Thank you, everyone.

2 Is the Court Reporter back with us?

3 THE REPORTER: I am, and we are on the record.

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. Thank you.

5 Attorney Baldwin, how did you make out?

6 MR. BALDWIN: We have a response for you,

7 Mr. Morissette.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. Thank you.

9 MR. BALDWIN: I'll ask Mr. Centore to address the
10 question.

11 THE WITNESS (Centore): So Carlos Centore with Centek
12 Engineering.

13 I'm going to preface this, this budget
14 estimate that it's with pre-2019 numbers that I'm
15 referring back to for some example tank
16 replacement numbers, because the numbers for
17 things are all over the place now. I would
18 recommend to note for the cost for this tank, that
19 a separate estimate be done.

20 But they -- they range. We were able to
21 contact some people we've worked with in the past.
22 There was a tank in Norwalk that ranged about
23 \$400,000 to take down, and there was one in Groton
24 that ranged to about 600 -- 660 thousand dollars
25 to take down.

1 There's environmental abatement associated
2 with it and the removal costs and engineering that
3 go along with it that come into -- into play with
4 that cost. So the short answer, the range is
5 between 400 and 600 thousand is -- is a number to
6 keep in mind to take that tank down and offsite.

7 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Very good.

8 Thank you, Mr. Centore.

9 **THE WITNESS (Centore):** You're welcome.

10 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** With that, we're going to go back
11 through the Council to see if there's any
12 follow-up questions, and specifically Mr. Morrone
13 with the cost of the tank removal.

14 Mr. Morrone, any follow-up questions?

15 **MR. MORRONE:** I have no follow-up questions at this
16 time. Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

17 **THE HEARING OFFICER:** Thank you.

18 Mr. Silvestri, any followup.

19 **MR. SILVESTRI:** A curiosity question, Mr. Morissette.

20 On the estimates that we just heard from 400 to
21 600 thousand, would that include reclaimed costs
22 for the steel?

23 **THE WITNESS (Centore):** That's a good question. I -- I
24 would tend to say no, because the fact that
25 it's -- it's got lead coated paint on it. I'm not

1 sure what the -- the cost to abate that paint to
2 be able to reuse the steel would be or what --
3 what happens there, but.

4 MR. SILVESTRI: No, fair enough. Thank you.

5 Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

7 Mr. Golembiewski, any follow-up questions?

8 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI: I have no follow-up question.

9 Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

11 Dr. Near, any follow-up questions?

12 DR. NEAR: (Inaudible.)

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Mr. Carter, any followup.

14 MR. CARTER: No followup for me. Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good.

16 Mr. Lynch -- I don't see Mr. Lynch. And I
17 have no follow-up question. Thank you. Thank you
18 to the panel for your responses this afternoon,
19 and thank you to the Council for your questions.

20 The Council will recess until 6:30 p.m., at
21 which time we will commence with the public
22 comment session of this public hearing.

23 Thank you, everyone. Have a pleasant dinner
24 and we'll see you at 6:30.

25 (End: 3:27 p.m.)

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 57 pages are a complete and accurate computer-aided transcription of my original verbatim notes taken of the remote teleconference meeting of The Connecticut Siting Council in Re: DOCKET NO. 519, CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON WIRELESS APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY LOCATED AT 11 CHAMBERLAIN ROAD, EAST WINDSOR, CONNECTICUT, which was held before JOHN MORISSETTE, Member and Presiding Officer, on February 27, 2024.



Robert G. Dixon, CVR-M 857
Notary Public
My Commission Expires: 6/30/2025

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