



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

February 2, 2024

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
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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. **Council Interrogatories to Applicant.**

Dear Attorney Baldwin:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than February 16, 2024.

Please submit an original and 15 copies to the Council's office and an electronic copy to siting.council@ct.gov. In accordance with the State Solid Waste Management Plan and in accordance with Section 16-50j-12 of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies, the Council requests all filings be submitted on recyclable paper, primarily regular weight white office paper. Please avoid using heavy stock paper, colored paper, and metal or plastic binders and separators. Fewer copies of bulk material may be provided as appropriate.

Please be advised that the original and 15 copies are required to be submitted to the Council's office on or before the February 16, 2024 deadline.

Copies of your responses are required to be provided to all parties and intervenors listed in the service list, which can be found on the Council's website under the "Pending Matters" link.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Melanie Bachman".

Melanie Bachman
Executive Director

c: Service List dated October 17, 2023

Docket No. 519
Pre-Hearing Interrogatories
Set One

Notice

1. Referencing Application Attachment 4, of the letters sent to abutting property owners, how many certified mail receipts were received? If any receipts were not returned, which owners did not receive their notice? Were any additional attempts made to contact those property owners?
2. Referencing Application p. 19, has Cellco received any comments since the Application was submitted to the Council? If so, summarize the comments and how were these comments were addressed?

Proposed Site

3. Quantify the amounts of cut and fill that would be required to develop the proposed facility.
4. Would any blasting be required to develop the site?

Proposed Facility and Associated Equipment

5. Would the tower and foundation be designed to accommodate an increase in tower height?
6. Would the existing facility be removed upon construction of the proposed facility?
7. Would a temporary facility be required for continued wireless service during construction? Would there be any lapse in wireless service during construction?
8. Would Cellco use its existing antennas and equipment from the existing site?
9. Referencing page 12 of the Application, T-Mobile has confirmed interest in relocating to the proposed facility. Has Cellco had further discussions with T-Mobile regarding when equipment would be relocated? Has Cellco received any details from T-Mobile regarding antenna and equipment requirements?
10. Is the project, or any portion of the project, proposed to be undertaken by state departments, institutions or agencies, or to be funded in whole or in part by the state through any contract or grant?
11. Referencing Application p. 21, how is the construction cost of the facility recovered?
12. What measures are proposed for the site to ensure security and deter vandalism? (Including alarms, gates, locks, anti-climb fence design, etc.)
13. Identify the safety standards and/or codes by which equipment, machinery or technology that would be used or operated at the proposed facility.
14. Is any portion of the proposed site, including the lease area and access road, currently in productive agricultural use?

15. Referring to Application Attachment 12, how many acres of the total 3.3 acres of the Prime Farmland Soils would be disturbed by the proposed project and access road?
16. Referencing footnote 1 on page 2 of the Application, what are the significant challenges that would occur from reinforcing the existing water tank? What is the estimated cost of such reinforcement?

Proposed Wireless Services

17. Application Attachment 6 indicates other frequencies will be installed in addition to the 700 MHz frequency, Does the 700 MHz frequency act as the “base frequency” of the network where most of the wireless traffic occurs? How do the other frequencies interact in Cellco’s wireless system?
18. What is the signal strength for which Cellco designs its system? For in-vehicle coverage? For in-building coverage?
19. Can coverage objectives be met by installing antennas at a lower tower height? Identify the lowest possible antenna height and describe how this height would affect coverage needs and/or capacity relief within the service area.
20. Does Cellco have any statistics on dropped calls and/or ineffective attempts in the vicinity of the proposed facility? If so, what do they indicate? Does Cellco have any other indicators of substandard service in this area?
21. Application p. 8 provides the overall coverage footprint for different frequencies that would operate at the site. Does this data include areas that are covered by other adjacent Cellco sites and would overlap with coverage from the proposed site? If yes, what is the coverage footprint of new, reliable service from the proposed site?
22. Referencing Application page 8, are sectors of the East Windsor and South Windsor North cell sites near exhaustion? Which sectors and frequencies? Why would the capacity relief be limited?
23. Would the proposed site provide adequate service to the coverage area for other frequencies that Cellco would deploy?
24. Referring to Application p. 12 has the Town of East Windsor or local emergency service providers expressed an interest in co-locating emergency services antennas?
25. Are small cells a feasible alternative to Cellco’s proposed installation? Estimate the number of pole-mounted small cells that would be required for reliable service within the proposed service area. Would certain frequencies be limited through the use of small cells? What would be the cost of each small cell for both the use of existing utility poles and new poles specific for small cells. What type of equipment would be attached to each pole?

Emergency Backup power

26. What would be the run time for Cellco's diesel generator before it would need to be refueled, assuming it is running at full load under normal conditions?
27. Would the backup generator have containment measures to protect against fluid leakage?
28. Could the proposed generator be shared by other carriers that may locate at the proposed facility? What effect would a shared generator have on the run time of the generator if at full load?
29. Referring to Application p. 11, for how long would the proposed back up battery system provide power to Cellco's equipment if the backup generator failed to start?

Public Health and Safety

30. Would the proposed facility support text-to-911 service? Is additional equipment required for this purpose?
31. Would Cellco's installation comply with the intent of the Warning, Alert and Response Network Act of 2006?
32. Is the proposed facility located within a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection designated Aquifer Protection Area or within a public water supply watershed area?
33. Besides the backup power source, what other facility equipment generates noise? Would the noise from this equipment (non-backup power sources) comply with Department of Energy and Environmental Protection noise control standards at the property boundaries?
34. Is lighting required at the facility? If so, for what purpose and what type would be installed?

Environmental Effects and Mitigation Measures

35. Referencing Application Attachment 11, when would Cellco submit the cultural resource study to the State Historic Preservation Office?
36. What, if any, stealth tower design options would be feasible to employ at this site, such as a water tank? What would be the cost of such stealth tower design?
37. Referencing comments received from the Connecticut Airport Authority on January 9, 2024, would Cellco complete and submit a Form FAA 7460-1 to the FAA for approval?
38. Referencing Application Attachment 10, the Wetland Inspection dated July 9, 2023 identifies the on-site vernal pool as a Tier I pool. The Wetland and Vernal Pool Inspection dated September 28, 2023 identifies the vernal pool as a Tier II pool. Clarify.
39. Submit photographic site documentation with notations linked to the site plans or a detailed aerial image that identifies locations of site-specific and representative site features. The submission should include photographs of the site from public road(s) or publicly accessible area(s) as well as Site-specific locations depicting site features including, but not necessarily limited to, the following locations as applicable:

For each photo, please indicate the photo viewpoint direction and stake or flag the locations of site-specific and representative site features. Site-specific and representative site features include, but are not limited to, as applicable:

- a. wetlands, watercourses and vernal pools;
- b. forest/forest edge areas;
- c. agricultural soil areas;
- d. sloping terrain;
- e. proposed stormwater control features;
- f. nearest residences;
- g. Site access and interior access road(s);
- h. tower location/compound;
- i. clearing limits/property lines;
- j. mitigation areas; and
- k. any other noteworthy features relative to the Project.

A photolog graphic must accompany the submission, using a site plan or a detailed aerial image, depicting each numbered photograph for reference. For each photo, indicate the photo location number and viewpoint direction, and clearly identify the locations of site specific and representative site features shown (e.g., physical staking/flagging or other means of marking the subject area).

The submission shall be delivered electronically in a legible portable document format (PDF) with a maximum file size of <20MB. If necessary, multiple files may be submitted and clearly marked in terms of sequence.