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STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Docket No. 529

Application from Homeland Towers, LLC, and Cellco
Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for a Certificate
of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for
the Construction, Maintenance, and Operation of a
Telecommunications Facility and Associated Equipment
Located at Parcel No. 65-002-1, Old Chester Road
North, Haddam, Connecticut.

Zoom Remote Council Meeting (Teleconference),
on Thursday, March 13, 2025, beginning at 2 p.m.

H e l d B e f o r e :

JOHN MORISSETTE, Member and Presiding Officer

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

Councilmembers:

JOHN MORISSETTE (Hearing Officer)

BRIAN GOLEMBIEWSKI,

DEEP Designees

QUAT NGUYEN,

PURA Designee

CHANCE CARTER

KHRISTINE HALL

BILL SYME

Council Staff:

MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQ.,

Executive Director and Staff Attorney

ROBERT MERCIER,

Siting Analyst

DAKOTA LaFOUNTAIN

Administrative Support

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

2 **For HOMELAND TOWERS, LLC:**

3 **ROBINSON & COLE, LLP**

4 **280 Trumbull Street, TE 19**

5 **Hartford, Connecticut 06103**

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

7 **KBaldwin@rc.com**

8 **860.275.8345**

(Begin: 2:00 p.m.)

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

Great, thank you.

This public hearing is called to order this Thursday, March 13, 2025, at 2 p.m. My name is John Morissette, Member and Presiding Officer of the Connecticut Siting Council.

Other members of the Council are Brian Golembiewski, designee for Commissioner Katie Dykes of the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; Quat Nguyen, designee for Chairman Marissa Paslick Gillett of the Public Utilities Regulatory Authority; Chance Carter, Christine Hall, Bill Syme, and Elin Katz.

Members of the staff are Executive Director Melanie Bachman, Siting Analyst Robert Mercier, and Administrative Support Lisa Fontaine.

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

This hearing is held pursuant to the provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative

1 Procedure Act upon an application from Homeland
2 Towers, LLC, and Cellco Partnership, doing
3 business as Verizon Wireless, for a certificate of
4 environmental compatibility and public need for
5 the construction, maintenance, and operation of a
6 telecommunications facility and associated
7 equipment located at Parcel Number 65-002-1 on Old
8 Chester Road North in Haddam, Connecticut.

9 This application was received by the Council
10 on January 10, 2025. The Council's legal notice
11 of the date and time of this public hearing was
12 published in the Hartford Courant on February 12,
13 2025.

14 Upon this Council's request, the Applicants
15 erected a sign in the vicinity of the proposed
16 site so as to inform the public of the name of the
17 Applicant, the type of the facility, the public
18 hearing date, and contact information for the
19 Council, including the website and phone number.

20 As a reminder to all, off-the-record
21 communication with a member of the Council or a
22 member of the Council's staff upon the merits of
23 this application is prohibited by law.

24 The parties and intervenors of the proceeding
25 are as follows; the Applicants, Homeland Tower,

1 LLC, and Cellco Partnership, d/b/a Verizon
2 Wireless; its representatives, Kenneth C.
3 Baldwin, Esquire, and Jonathan Schaefer, Esquire,
4 of Robinson & Cole, LLP.

5 We will proceed in accordance with the
6 prepared agenda, a copy of which is available on
7 the Council's website, along with a record of this
8 matter, the public hearing notice, instructions
9 for public access to this public hearing, and the
10 Council's Citizens Guide to Citing Council
11 Procedures.

12 Interested persons may join any session of
13 this public hearing to listen, but no public
14 comments will be received during the 2 p.m.
15 evidentiary session. At the end of the
16 evidentiary session, we will recess until 6:30
17 p.m. for the public comment session. Please be
18 advised that any person may be removed from the
19 evidentiary session or the public comment session
20 at the discretion of the Council.

21 The 6:30 p.m. public comment session is
22 reserved for the members of the public who have
23 signed up to make brief statements into the
24 record. I wish to note that the Applicants,
25 parties, and intervenors, including their

1 representatives, witnesses, and members are not
2 allowed to participate in the public comment
3 session.

4 I also wish to note those who are listening
5 and for the benefit of your friends and neighbors
6 who are unable to join us for the public comment
7 session that you or they may send written
8 statements to the Council within 30 days of the
9 date hereof, either by mail or by e-mail, and the
10 written statements will be given the same weight
11 as if spoken during the public comment session.

12 A verbatim transcript of this public hearing
13 will be posted on the Council's website and
14 deposited at the Haddam Town Clerk's Office for
15 the convenience of the public.

16 I just want to go back. The Council's legal
17 notice of the date and time of this public hearing
18 was published in the Hartford Courant on February
19 12, 2025.

20 Upon this Council's request, the Applicants
21 erected a sign in the vicinity of the proposed
22 site so as to inform the public of the name of the
23 applicant, the type of the facility, the public
24 hearing date, and contact information for the
25 Council.

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

3 We have one motion to take care of before we
4 start the hearing. We have one motion, Homeland
5 Towers, LLC, motion for protective order of the
6 lease agreement financial terms dated February 20,
7 2025. Attorney Bachman may wish to comment.

8 Attorney Bachman?

9 ATTORNEY BACHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

10 Pursuant to General Statute Section 16-50o
11 and an interrogatory presented by Council's staff,
12 Homeland Towers submitted a motion for protective
13 order for the lease agreement financial terms,
14 which are exempt from public disclosure under the
15 Freedom of Information Act. And therefore, staff
16 recommends the motion be granted.

17 Thank you.

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Bachman.

19 Is there a motion?

20 MS. HALL: I'll make a motion to approve the protective
21 order.

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Ms. Hall.

23 Is there a second?

24 MR. CARTER: I'll second.

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

1 We have a motion by Ms. Hall to approve the
2 motion for protective order. We have a second by
3 Mr. Carter. We'll now move to discussion.

4 Mr. Nguyen, any discussion?

5 MR. NGUYEN: I have no discussion. Thank you.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

7 Mr. Golembiewski?

8 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: I have no discussion. Thank you.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

10 Mr. Carter?

11 MR. CARTER: No discussion. Thank you.

12 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

13 Ms. Hall?

14 MS. HALL: No discussion. Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

16 Mr. Syme?

17 MR. SYME: I have none.

18 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

19 And I have no discussion. We'll now move to
20 the vote.

21 Mr. Nguyen, how do you vote?

22 MR. NGUYEN: I vote to approve.

23 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

24 Mr. Golembiewski?

25 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: I vote to approve. Thank you.

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

2 Mr. Carter?

3 MR. CARTER: I vote to approve. Thank you.

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: And Ms. Hall?

5 MS. HALL: I vote to approve. Thank you.

6 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

7 Mr. Syme?

8 MR. SYME: Vote approval.

9 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. And I vote approval.

10 We have an unanimous decision. The motion
11 for protective order is approved.

12 We will now move on to administrative notices
13 taken by the Council. I wish to call your
14 attention to those items on the hearing program
15 marked as Roman numeral 1D, items 1 through 89.

16 Do the Applicants have an objection to the
17 items that the Council has administratively
18 noticed?

19 Attorney Baldwin, good afternoon -- or
20 Attorney Schaefer.

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

22 Ken Baldwin for the Applicant.

23 No objection. Thank you.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

25 Accordingly, the Council hereby

1 administratively notices these existing documents.

2 We'll move on to the appearance of the
3 Applicant. Will the Applicant present their
4 witness panel for purposes of taking the oath?
5 And we will have Attorney Bachman administer the
6 oath.

7 Attorney Baldwin?

8 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

9 Again, Kenneth Baldwin with Robinson & Cole
10 on behalf of the Applicant, Homeland Towers and
11 Cellco Partnership, doing business as Verizon
12 Wireless.

13 We have a witness panel that includes six
14 professionals. Unfortunately, Mike Libertine is
15 having some technical difficulties getting into
16 the Zoom. So I'll introduce the others with the
17 hope that Mike will join us shortly.

18 To my left, your right at the witness table
19 is Robert Burns, a professional engineer with
20 All-Points technology and the project engineer for
21 the Haddam South facility.

22 My immediate left is Ray Vergati, the
23 regional manager for Homeland Towers, LLC.

24 To my right is Mr. Wesley Stevens. He's the
25 radiofrequency engineer responsible for the Haddam

1 South facility.

2 To Mr. Stevens' right is Elizabeth Glidden.
3 Ms. Glidden is as also with Verizon Wireless,
4 responsible for real estate and project
5 development.

6 And then the far right, your left side of the
7 table is Matt Gustafson, a wetland scientist with
8 All-Points Technology.

9 And I will offer them all to be sworn at this
10 time. And hopefully, shortly we'll have Mike
11 Libertine, who you know is also with All-Points
12 technology as their project manager. But I guess
13 we'll have to swear him in, Mr. Morissette, when
14 he gets here.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll do. Thank you, Attorney
16 Baldwin.

17 And good afternoon, everyone.

18 Attorney Bachman, please proceed with the
19 administration of the oath, please. Thank you.

20 ATTORNEY BACHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

21 Could the witnesses please raise their right
22 hands?

1 R O B E R T B U R N S ,
2 R A Y M O N D V E R G A T I ,
3 W E S L E Y S T E V E N S ,
4 E L I Z A B E T H G L I D D E N ,
5 M A T T H E W G U S T A F S O N ,

6 called as witnesses, being sworn by
7 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, were examined and
8 testified under oath as follows:
9

10 ATTORNEY BACHMAN: Thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Bachman.

12 Attorney Baldwin, please begin by verifying
13 all the exhibits by the appropriate sworn
14 witnesses.

15 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

16 For the sake of efficiency this afternoon,
17 we'll be verifying the exhibits as a panel. There
18 are a total of five exhibits listed in the hearing
19 program under Roman two, section B, items one
20 through five.

21 And I would ask our panel, did you prepare or
22 assist in the preparation of the exhibits listed
23 in the hearing program? Mr. Burns?

24 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

25 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Vergati?

1 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Yes.

2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

3 THE WITNESS (Stevens): Yes.

4 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Glidden?

5 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.

6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

7 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

8 MR. BALDWIN: And do you have any corrections,
9 modifications or clarifications that you want to
10 offer to any of those exhibits at this time?

11 Mr. Burns?

12 THE WITNESS (Burns): No.

13 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Vergati?

14 THE WITNESS (Vergati): No.

15 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

16 THE WITNESS (Stevens): No.

17 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Glidden?

18 THE WITNESS (Glidden): No.

19 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

20 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): No.

21 MR. BALDWIN: And is the information contained in those
22 exhibits true and accurate to the best of your
23 knowledge.

24 Mr. Burns?

25 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

1 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Vergati?

2 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Yes.

3 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

4 THE WITNESS (Stevens): Yes.

5 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Glidden?

6 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.

7 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

8 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

9 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt the information
10 contained in those exhibits as your testimony in
11 this proceeding?

12 Mr. Burns?

13 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

14 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Vergati?

15 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Yes.

16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

17 THE WITNESS (Stevens): Yes.

18 MR. BALDWIN: Ms. Glidden?

19 THE WITNESS (Glidden): Yes.

20 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

21 THE WITNESS (Gustafson): Yes.

22 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morissette, I offer them as full
23 exhibits.

24 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Attorney Baldwin. The
25 exhibits --

1 MR. BALDWIN: I see Mister -- oh, I'm sorry.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: No, go right ahead.

3 MR. BALDWIN: No, I just -- I see Mr. Libertine has
4 joined us remotely. So after you declare them
5 exhibits, maybe we can swear him in.

6 I apologize.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Why don't we have him sworn in
8 before I declare their exhibits, and he can also
9 swear to his verification as well.

10 MR. BALDWIN: Perfect. Thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

12 Mr. Libertine -- Attorney Bachman, could you
13 please swear in Mr. Libertine?

14 Good afternoon, Mr. Libertine.

15 MICHAEL LIBERTINE: Good afternoon. My apologies to
16 everyone for holding things up.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: No problem. Your timing worked
18 out well.

19 Attorney Bachman?

20 ATTORNEY BACHMAN: Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

21 Mr. Libertine, could you please raise your
22 right hand?
23
24
25

1 M I C H A E L L I B E R T I N E,

2 called as a witness, being sworn by

3 THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, was examined and

4 testified under oath as follows:

5
6 ATTORNEY BACHMAN: Thank you.

7 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Thank you.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

9 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine, if you could help us? We
10 just verified the exhibits with the other panel
11 members. But if you could answer the following
12 questions; this is with respect to the exhibits
13 listed under the Applicant's section of the
14 hearing program, Roman two, section B, items one
15 through five.

16 Did you prepare or assist in the preparation
17 of those exhibits?

18 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I did, yes.

19 MR. BALDWIN: And do you have any corrections,
20 modifications or clarifications to offer to any of
21 those exhibits at this time?

22 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I do not.

23 MR. BALDWIN: And is the information contained in those
24 exhibits true and accurate to the best of your
25 knowledge?

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, they are.

2 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt the information in those
3 exhibits as your testimony in this proceeding?

4 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes.

5 MR. BALDWIN: Now, Mr. Morissette, I offer them as full
6 exhibits.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. Thank you, Attorney
8 Baldwin. The exhibits are hereby admitted.

9 Thank you.

10 We'll now begin with cross-examination of the
11 Applicants by the Council starting with
12 Mr. Mercier followed by Mr. Nguyen.

13 Mr. Mercier, good afternoon.

14 MR. MERCIER: Good afternoon. Thank you.

15 I only have a few questions; they're going to
16 be based on the interrogatory responses. So, I'll
17 just refer to that document. And I'll just begin
18 with response number eight.

19 This had to do with potential extension of
20 the tower to accommodate other carriers, and in
21 the response it was mentioned that Homeland Towers
22 was in contact with the Haddam resident state
23 trooper to discuss the need for potential improved
24 service in the area.

25 What was the result of that discussion? Do

1 they intend to build -- do the Connecticut State
2 Police intend to, or the resident trooper intend
3 to locate on the tower to your knowledge?

4 **THE WITNESS (Vergati):** Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers.

5 My discussion with the trooper -- and there's
6 actually a new trooper that's involved there in
7 the Haddam area, but the prior trooper, Joshua
8 Muckle, more or less relies on the cell phones for
9 their public safety to do his job as a trooper
10 there in the area.

11 The discussion was not with the state police
12 themselves to put radios or equipment on the
13 tower. It was strictly with the resident state
14 trooper for his need to have cell service to
15 conduct his or her job properly.

16 **MR. MERCIER:** Okay. Thank you.

17 So at this time, there's no there's no other
18 entities such as a municipal town garage or
19 ambulance service that would like to locate on the
20 facility. Is that correct?

21 **THE WITNESS (Vergati):** That's correct. We have
22 told -- Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers.

23 We've told the Town that should they have
24 interest in the tower, that we would certainly
25 work with them. Typically, we reserve the top of

1 the tower for municipal use, be it fire, police,
2 ambulance, and so forth.

3 MR. MERCIER: Okay. And if one of those entities did
4 locate on the tower at the top, is that typically
5 through a whip antenna?

6 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers.

7 Yes. From my experience, towns these days
8 are typically putting up a whip or a Yagi anywhere
9 from 7 to 20 feet in length, but it's typically a
10 whip antenna.

11 MR. MERCIER: Okay, thank you.

12 I'm going to move on to actually
13 interrogatory response number 27, and this had to
14 do with a coverage table that was included in the
15 interrogatories. So, I have a couple questions on
16 the table.

17 Looking at the table, I see, you know,
18 there's different values, you know, for each
19 frequency. What do the values represent? Is that
20 new coverage, or is that total coverage that would
21 be provided by the site?

22 THE WITNESS (Stevens): This is Wesley Stevens, Verizon
23 Wireless.

24 So this is representative of new coverage.
25 So essentially, this is the area of coverage that

1 before was not ideal coverage, which on our -- on
2 our maps is represented by the neg 85 RSRP, dBm
3 RSRP. So essentially, new coverage that was
4 either completely missing before, or the more
5 marginal coverage values of neg 95 dBm RSRP.

6 Essentially, whatever new coverage that the
7 new location provided was added up along the --
8 the routes in mileage and provided in this table.

9 MR. MERCIER: I apologize. I didn't hear that. Is
10 that -- the signal level is negative 95 on this
11 table? Or is that neg 85?

12 THE WITNESS (Stevens): No, so this is essentially
13 wherever -- wherever the new location improved
14 coverage up to a level of neg 85 dBm RSRP.

15 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank you.

16 You know, given the topography of this area,
17 you know, for -- we'll just take the 700 megahertz
18 frequency, for example. There's adjacent sites
19 that kind of extend into the coverage footprint
20 area of the proposed site. Is that correct?

21 THE WITNESS (Stevens): Yes, that's correct.

22 MR. MERCIER: Okay. What's the importance, if any, or
23 significance, if any, of having the overlapping
24 coverage?

25 THE WITNESS (Stevens): So --

1 MR. MERCIER: That may be a large amount?

2 THE WITNESS (Stevens): Yeah. So, Wesley Stevens,
3 Verizon Wireless.

4 So, the over -- overlapping coverage with
5 some of the nearby sites is significant for a few
6 reasons, but mainly there's advantages with some
7 existing traffic at the cell edge of some of our
8 existing locations, which puts a significant load
9 on our existing sites since it is more difficult
10 for them to efficiently serve far away traffic.
11 It will hopefully be offloaded by this new site.

12 So, we get some benefits of offloading some
13 of our exhausted or near exhausted sectors from
14 nearby sites with the overlapping coverage.

15 MR. MERCIER: And how would a cell site with
16 overlapping coverage decide which service a
17 customer will be assigned to? You know, a
18 customer is on a certain cell site, there's
19 overlapping coverage -- how?

20 How would that be assigned?

21 THE WITNESS (Stevens): Generally speaking, when --
22 when a user tries to first connect to the network
23 to -- to use the service, it will attempt to take
24 whatever signal from which site and sector has
25 the -- the best quality, which usually is

1 determined by the strength of the signal, so
2 the -- the RSRP.

3 There are some exceptions depending on other
4 interference in the area that might affect the
5 quality, but also once a user is connected they
6 will attempt to stay on that connection, that same
7 site and sector as long as possible up until a
8 certain degraded value, in which case it will
9 attempt to switch to the next best site and
10 sector.

11 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

12 Attached to the interrogatory responses was
13 Exhibit 2, which are the site plans. So I'm going
14 to refer to those, and I believe I'm going to
15 begin with the site plan SP-2. I believe that is,
16 here on the council webpage PDF number -- page
17 number 55.

18 First off, in response 42, it's just
19 basically stated that the plans were revised to
20 include the bat protection measures, which are
21 these, the revised plans. Were there any other
22 revisions to the plans besides the addition of the
23 bat protection measure?

24 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns from All-Points.

25 No, there weren't.

1 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

2 Staying with sheet SP-2. Looking at the
3 access drive, I could see the drive coming up and
4 then it crosses a culvert and it says, we're going
5 to protect the culvert. What type of procedures
6 or methods are used to protect the culvert as the
7 road crosses it?

8 THE WITNESS (Burns): So the -- Robert Burns with
9 All-Points again.

10 So the culvert itself is a 15-inch reinforced
11 concrete pipe. So it's -- it's a fairly strong
12 pipe. We are not impacting at all with the
13 exception of the access drive will go over the top
14 of it.

15 The access drive itself will not lose any
16 cover over that pipe. As a matter of fact, we're
17 about six inches higher than what's existing out
18 there over the pipe.

19 The idea is I would want the contractor to
20 locate the pipe, inspect the pipe, and then just
21 understand that it's there, and -- and when he's
22 doing his work, be cognizant of it. And if
23 it's -- if it's damaged, then he needs to repair
24 it.

25 MR. MERCIER: Okay. So it hasn't actually been

1 inspected yet, the first condition, or anything of
2 that nature. Is that correct?

3 THE WITNESS (Burns): Nothing -- nothing -- Robert
4 Burns again, with All-Points.

5 Nothing formal. I mean, we've been out
6 there. We've looked in it, and actually it's
7 surprisingly clear. There is some debris on the
8 bottom of it, but the idea would be I'd want him
9 to inspect it and -- and clean it.

10 MR. MERCIER: After the access drive is constructed,
11 and, you know, the site is functional, who would
12 maintain the pipe crossing? Would that be the
13 landowner?

14 Or is that part of your lease arrangement to
15 maintain it to make sure, you know, it doesn't get
16 clogged and overtop the road or anything like that
17 with, you know, debris if it rains heavily?

18 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns with All-Points.

19 That, the pipe itself is not part of this at
20 all. As a matter of fact, it takes water to the
21 south of us and bypasses the site. So, I'm -- I'm
22 not sure what's in the lease agreement, but it is
23 an existing pipe that has no effect to -- of the
24 proposed facility.

25 So, I'm not sure Homeland will be responsible

1 for it.

2 MR. MERCIER: Yes, I was just looking at the -- it
3 looks like the -- that would be the west side.
4 And there's, like, a little -- there's a little
5 collection point where the pipe extends from then
6 under the road.

7 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

8 MR. MERCIER: I guess my question was, if that fills up
9 with debris and twigs, twigs and things, and
10 blocks flow, would that eventually cause a problem
11 of flooding along your road?

12 THE WITNESS (Burns): It could cause some issues with
13 the access drive. If it -- if that pipe is -- is
14 totally blocked and any of that water comes down,
15 it would be in an isolated area, I think, because
16 of -- of the topography.

17 But -- but that pipe has been there a long
18 time and has been functional for that time. So,
19 my feeling is if the contractor cleans it out and
20 inspects it, it should stay that way for quite
21 some time.

22 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank you.

23 Moving up the access road, actually right to
24 the compound that you could see an underground --
25 there's a mark that's an underground utility line

1 extending downgradient, downhill towards old --
2 that road there, I can't see it -- Old Chester
3 Road, and it's going to attach to a pole there.

4 What type of clearing would you need to
5 install that line? And what kind of equipment
6 would be used?

7 THE WITNESS (Burns): So, Robert Burns with All-Points
8 Technologies.

9 Clearing-wise for an underground pipe would
10 be approximately ten feet. They would use
11 probably a mini excavator, and if it's -- the
12 sleep -- that the slope is not too steep, they
13 could winch the excavator off with a heavier piece
14 of equipment.

15 And this, so there's -- there's no real
16 issues installing that pipe up the hill.

17 MR. MERCIER: What would be the depth that it would be
18 installed to?

19 THE WITNESS (Burns): I want to say they're 30 inches
20 deep. Thirty to 36 inches is -- is what's
21 required.

22 MR. MERCIER: And just going back to the clearing, is
23 there anything within ten feet, you know, that you
24 would have to chop down trees, things of that
25 nature, do some maybe sporadic grubbing --

1 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yeah, so the -- I'm sorry.

2 Sorry to interrupt, Bob.

3 MR. MERCIER: Go ahead.

4 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns with All-Points
5 again.

6 The idea would be that, to run that conduit
7 in areas where there weren't trees to miss as many
8 as possible -- but yes, there may. There may have
9 to be some targeted trimming and some, some minor
10 clearing.

11 MR. MERCIER: Thank you.

12 How come a route down the access road towards
13 the abandoned commercial building wasn't selected
14 for a utility run?

15 THE WITNESS (Burns): So we walked with -- Robert Burns
16 with All-Points, again.

17 The site was walked with Eversource. This
18 was their preferred run. It's a shorter run and
19 there's -- there's probably less disturbance,
20 but -- but that -- that's, you know, it was -- it
21 was the shortest run and it was reviewed with
22 ever -- Eversource in the field.

23 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray Vergati with
24 Homeland Towers, just to add to Mr. Burns's
25 comment.

1 And it was discussed also with their landlord
2 about the potential of running utilities along the
3 access drive that's partly existing and probably
4 proposed. The landlord has future plans for this
5 property with development.

6 It was preference also on his part to -- not
7 to encumber any of the middle of the property with
8 typically a 25, 30-foot-wide utility easement that
9 could cause issues for him down the road with any
10 placement of -- of structures on the property.

11 MR. MERCIER: Okay. Thank you.

12 So, when you're doing the clearing and, you
13 know, some excavation here and there, is this --
14 is debris going to be hauled off site? Are you
15 going to deposit it on the property somewhere?

16 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns with All-Points.

17 Right now the plan is to have everything
18 excavated, excavated and removed off site.
19 Obviously, they'll use some in the areas where we
20 have fill, but anything in excess will be hauled
21 offsite.

22 MR. MERCIER: Looking at the compound location, you
23 know, to the west is a hill that, you know, slopes
24 upward; the water runs down towards the compound.
25 And on the other side of the compound, it runs

1 downhill towards the road again, Old Chester Road.

2 For the western side where the water is
3 coming downhill, how is that going to be managed?
4 Is there some kind of collection point? Is there
5 any concern of the type of, you know, heavy
6 thunderstorm? Some type of heavy rain event that
7 might channelize somewhere and, you know, impact
8 your compound?

9 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns with All-Points,
10 again.

11 No, the -- the feeling was that, you know,
12 our grades are at three to one. Everything is
13 gravel in the compound and then there's the
14 twelve-foot grass strip there. I don't think
15 we'll have issues with washout.

16 Obviously, they'll have to manage it during
17 construction. And if we're going to get a storm
18 when their excavation is open, that's, you know
19 they're going to have to move some DNS controls
20 around. But no, I don't have any worries about
21 that.

22 MR. MERCIER: And how about the eastern side as water
23 leaves the site going downslope? Are there any
24 channels there existing now? I'm not sure if
25 there any kind of inspection was conducted. Would

1 flow concentrate in these channels if -- if they
2 are there?

3 THE WITNESS (Burns): No. So, it's sheet flow down the
4 hill, and our compound meets existing grade at the
5 eastern side. I held grade at that eastern side.

6 And then slope, the compound is approximately
7 2 and a half percent sloped to the west, and then
8 we went up at three to one to meet that. It's --
9 it's a level area there that we -- we were able to
10 make work, and if we hold the eastern side the
11 compound works very well.

12 MR. MERCIER: Thank you. I understand there's going to
13 be -- well, it's under construction right now -- I
14 believe is the roundabout for Route 82 and 154,
15 which is, you know, kind of -- what's that going
16 be? North northeast of your site, kind of where
17 Old Chester Road meets the area. I noticed it on
18 the Town of Haddam website, they have a nice
19 informational page.

20 Would the roundabout construction affect the
21 proposed pole placement on Old Chester Road?

22 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers.

23 When we conducted our utility walk with
24 Eversource and our utility consultant, McPhee,
25 that was taken into consideration. We had plans

1 from the State DOT understanding the limits of the
2 roundabout and the pole that would be put in, the
3 new pole. And we're outside the bounds of that
4 roundabout.

5 It works for the State. It works for
6 Eversource, so we've worked closely with them to
7 make sure that this design is part of this
8 roundabout.

9 MR. MERCIER: Would the tower setback radius extend
10 into the roundabout area? Or is it a sufficient
11 distance away? It's unclear on the construction
12 plans on the town website the extent of the
13 roundabout.

14 I just want to make sure that, you know, the
15 tower radius does not extend onto the traffic
16 portion. Has anybody looked at that?

17 THE WITNESS (Burns): So the tower itself -- Robert
18 Burns with All-Points.

19 The tower itself will be designed with a
20 yield point. The yield point will be to the
21 closest property line, which is to the north,
22 which is 86 -- I want to say 86 feet away.

23 That property line to the east is a
24 hundred and?

25 A VOICE: Forty.

1 THE WITNESS (Vergati): 140 feet away. Sorry.

2 So I don't -- I don't see us having an issue
3 there as long as the yield point is put in the
4 tower. We will stay on our parcel.

5 MR. MERCIER: Okay. I wasn't sure on the yield point
6 just because the abutting property to the north is
7 also owned by the landlord. But thank you for
8 that.

9 THE WITNESS (Vergati): You're welcome.

10 MR. MERCIER: I have no other questions. Thank you.

11 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Mercier.

12 We will now continue the cross-examination of
13 the applicants by Mr. Nguyen followed by
14 Mr. Golembiewski.

15 Mr. Nguyen, good afternoon.

16 MR. NGUYEN: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette. And good
17 afternoon, everyone. Just a few questions. Thank
18 you.

19 Referencing page 20 of the application of the
20 overall scheduling, I see that the company will
21 begin upon approval of this project. With respect
22 to Siting Council approval of the D and M plan, it
23 looks like the company will start the construction
24 within weeks.

25 Is that correct?

1 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray Vergati, Homeland
2 Towers.

3 Assuming D and M approval is received by the
4 Council, we will then file a building permit with
5 the building department in Haddam. They would
6 issue a building permit. That could take anywhere
7 from a few days up to 30 days.

8 Once that permit is issued, then we would
9 commence construction at the site.

10 MR. NGUYEN: And it appears that once you get a green
11 light to perform the actual construction it would
12 take -- it looks like a couple of months.

13 Is that correct?

14 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Yeah. Ray Vergati, Homeland
15 Towers.

16 Typically, it's a 60 to 90-day process from
17 start to finish for us to get in there and remove
18 trees, get the road in, you know, do the
19 excavation for the foundation, pour the concrete,
20 the rebar, make sure it cures, do the break tests,
21 put the fencing up.

22 And then once the tower is up, the tower goes
23 up in a matter of a few hours. Once our work is
24 completed, then the next tenant, in this case
25 Verizon, as the Applicant, full applicant, would

1 commence on their work.

2 MR. NGUYEN: And in terms of construction hours, what
3 are the typical days and hours of the construction
4 activities?

5 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray with Homeland
6 Towers.

7 Bob is looking up on the plans.

8 We typically, as a matter of business, on our
9 sites we'll do construction activities Monday
10 through Saturday, eight to five. If the local
11 building department, their construction hours can
12 give us any leeway, you know, our goal is to get
13 in there and get out as quick as possible.

14 Some towns don't allow construction on the
15 weekends or after certain hours. We'll certainly
16 adhere to -- in this case, Bob Russo is the
17 building official. We'll work with his department
18 to make sure that we adhere to the Town's hours
19 for construction, and days.

20 THE WITNESS (Burns): And just a supplement on that?
21 Robert Burns from All-Points.

22 The hours aren't on these drawings, but they
23 will be listed on the -- they're typically listed
24 on the D and M set. But we talked to the Town.
25 We see -- we can find out what their requirements

1 are, and then they will be on the D and M set of
2 drawings.

3 MR. NGUYEN: Thank you.

4 Moving on to question number 38, this
5 referenced the noise. And the question was,
6 besides the backup power source, what noise from
7 the equipment, which is the backup power source,
8 could be generated? And the answer indicated
9 there the equipment cooling fans, and it is
10 minimal. Is that correct?

11 THE WITNESS (Burns): This is Robert Burns with
12 All-Points.

13 Yes, that the equipment cabinets themselves
14 have small cooling fans on them, much like your
15 computers at home. So, there's really no --
16 minimal noise from that. The noise comes from the
17 generator.

18 MR. NGUYEN: And in terms of minimal, can you quantify
19 in terms of dBA?

20 THE WITNESS (Burns): I don't know that answer offhand.
21 Sorry.

22 MR. NGUYEN: And certainly within -- it's going to be
23 less than the noise standard?

24 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

25 MR. NGUYEN: The state noise standard?

1 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes, correct.

2 MR. NGUYEN: And I think there's something Mr. Mercier
3 touched on, the yield point. So 86 feet north of
4 the tower site, that technically that's still
5 within the land owner's property.

6 Is that correct?

7 THE WITNESS (Burns): This is Robert Burns with
8 All-Points again.

9 Yes, the same property owner owns the
10 property to the north.

11 MR. NGUYEN: So, in terms of the yield point, you
12 indicated that 90 feet above ground level could be
13 added.

14 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns again. Yes.

15 MR. NGUYEN: Okay. That's all I have at this time,
16 Mr. Morissette. And thank you.

17 THE HEARING OFFICER: I'll continue with
18 cross-examination of the Applicants by
19 Mr. Golembiewski, followed by Mr. Carter.

20 Mr. Golembiewski, good afternoon.

21 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette.

22 Good afternoon, everyone. I have just two quick
23 questions about visibility.

24 My question is, what would the visibility be
25 from Eagle Landing State Park of the tower?

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Good afternoon,
2 Mr. Golembiewski.

3 I'm just trying to get a reference point to
4 where that is specifically. Is that to the north
5 or south of our site?

6 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: I believe it is -- I think it's
7 east of the site. It is on the west side of the
8 river, just past the bridge.

9 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Okay. That, that area was
10 not specifically accessed. I can say that there,
11 there looks to be some limited seasonal visibility
12 in that general area, but that's primarily south
13 of the bridge.

14 So if we're talking along that northern
15 shoreline, the visibility really does not extend
16 that far. As a matter of fact, if -- I just --
17 and I apologize, because I just don't see a call
18 out for that particular resource. But it looks as
19 though visibility does not extend from the west
20 side of the river.

21 We're probably talking -- I'm just getting --
22 about 1500 feet or so. There's really no
23 visibility that extends anywhere within about a
24 1500-foot radius from that west shore. So, I'm
25 fairly confident that there's enough screening and

1 distance and topography there that there would not
2 be any significant views.

3 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Okay. And then a boater on the
4 Connecticut River, what would be the most
5 significant view of the tower that they would
6 have?

7 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Well, I guess there's kind of
8 good news here that tempers any of the views, and
9 that is we did fly a drone over the river and did
10 include some of those shots within the visibility
11 assessment.

12 And so, anyone on the river who's looking
13 within the direction of the proposed site, we've
14 taken advantage of the rise in the hill so that
15 the tower is backed by the hillside. So, there's
16 no areas where the tower actually extends above
17 either the hills or the treeline.

18 So they would be able to see it. It's going
19 to be camouflaged with color. So, it does -- it's
20 pretty effective in burying it, but I think if you
21 know what you're looking for, you could probably
22 pick it out. But I think that the views are very
23 minimal from along the river in terms of an
24 obvious point of reference.

25 There is visibility. It's fairly well

1 depicted on our viewshed maps, but again, we've
2 taken advantage of that rise, which is about
3 another 200-plus feet above the ground level of
4 where we're building the tower. So, it's a fairly
5 effective screening mechanism.

6 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: And then my last question is, you
7 did say that the tower would be colored, I
8 believe, as brown -- is what's stated in the
9 application?

10 THE WITNESS (Libertine): That's what's being proposed
11 at the moment, yes.

12 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: And then the antennas and the
13 actual platforms, they would not necessarily be
14 brown. They would be whatever. There they would
15 not have any type of color scheme. Is that true?

16 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Well, typically we would like
17 to avoid doing that. It -- it can be done, but
18 there are some technical limitations to doing
19 that.

20 So, as it stands now it would just be the
21 monopole that we propose doing as brown.

22 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Okay. So, I guess you said there's
23 limitations, so you can't really paint some of
24 that equipment, the radio heads and the panels and
25 such. Is that possible to paint those, or no?

1 THE WITNESS (Libertine): I might have to defer to our
2 radiofrequency expert on what the limitations are
3 from -- but in terms of being able to transmit and
4 receive, anything is possible. I think there's a
5 maintenance issue that would certainly be part of
6 that as well.

7 I will say just because, again, of its
8 location against that hillside, it's fairly --
9 it's fairly minimal in terms of the overall
10 visibility. But to your point, if, you know, on a
11 certain aspect of the sun hitting the white, it
12 might be a little bit more obvious to the
13 observer.

14 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Okay.

15 THE WITNESS (Stevens): And this is Wesley Stevens with
16 Verizon Wireless.

17 Just from the technical perspective of the
18 limitations of painting antennas specifically,
19 the -- really the problem comes down to is, you
20 know, whenever you apply anything that was not
21 intended to those antennas, paint, you know, being
22 one of them, it's going to essentially block some
23 of that signal.

24 So it's, you know, depending on the
25 frequency, it could have a pretty significant

1 impact on our, you know, propagation to the point
2 where the site basically wouldn't work anymore.

3 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Okay.

4 THE WITNESS (Stevens): A lot of times when we need to
5 have some sort of, you know, visibility change to
6 it, you know, there -- there are a few cases where
7 there are specific types of pre-manufactured films
8 that actually get applied to the antennas before
9 they're even shipped out.

10 But that's very situational and very
11 expensive. And also, again, maintenance is
12 definitely an issue because those tend to
13 deteriorate.

14 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Okay. Thank you.

15 It was nice to see you, Mr. Libertine.

16 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Thank you.

17 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

18 That's all my questions.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Golembiewski.

20 We'll now continue cross-examination by
21 Mr. Carter, followed by Ms. Hall.

22 Mr. Carter, good afternoon.

23 MR. CARTER: Good afternoon, Mr. Morissette. And good
24 afternoon, all. Thank you all for being here this
25 afternoon. I won't be taking up much time, per

1 usual. I just have potentially one -- well,
2 hopefully just one question, actually, about
3 co-location.

4 I just wanted to know, has the Applicant
5 reached out to Chester's resident state trooper or
6 any other emergency services about the potential
7 for co-location of radio services on the new -- or
8 the proposed tower?

9 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray Vergati, Homeland
10 Towers.

11 I believe the resident trooper for Haddam --
12 and I'll double check it, may be the same as
13 Chester, but I'll reconfirm that. We have not
14 reached out specifically to the state police that
15 would handle their radios, but certainly they'll
16 be aware that, you know, if the site is approved,
17 it's available for use for state police should
18 they deem it.

19 MR. CARTER: Thank you.

20 And have you had any outreach to any of the
21 other emergency services in the area, like fire or
22 EMS?

23 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers.

24 Yes, I've spoken to individuals with the
25 volunteer fire department there in -- in Haddam,

1 the ambulance folks and public safety first
2 responders overall. They've been very supportive
3 of this application. They're very supportive of a
4 recent tower that's under construction, almost
5 finished in the northern section of Haddam.

6 They have conveyed to me that they rely on
7 their cell phones immensely for this corridor
8 that's been a notorious dead spot for years, and
9 they're hoping it's approved so they can use their
10 cell phones to do their job efficiently.

11 MR. CARTER: Thank you. And I hope that I didn't steal
12 any thunder from Ms. Hall with my line of
13 questioning, but that's all that I have,
14 Mr. Morissette. Thank you.

15 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. And thank you,
16 Mr. Carter.

17 We'll now continue with cross-examination by
18 Ms. Hall, followed by Mr. Syme.

19 Ms. Hall, good afternoon.

20 MS. HALL: Thank you.

21 Two quick questions. I believe somewhere,
22 probably in the interrogatories -- I don't have
23 the citation right in front of me -- you stated
24 that if more tenants were to be located on the
25 tower, that the emergency generator that you're

1 putting in is not going to be sufficient to serve
2 everybody. So, what would happen in that case?

3 Would you need to install additional
4 generation equipment that might produce additional
5 noise? What might happen in that case?

6 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray Vergati with
7 Homeland Towers.

8 The typical practice that we find with each
9 carrier is that their network is their network,
10 and they do not share either their antennas,
11 typically, or their backup generation. So, to
12 answer your question, any future tenants coming to
13 the tower would have their own generators. Some
14 do battery backup without generators.

15 So, they would have their own backup
16 generation.

17 MS. HALL: Okay. Thank you.

18 And one other question. And I want to thank
19 you for the visual impact studies. It did help a
20 lot to visualize where things might be visible or
21 not. And the acknowledgement in it that the
22 equipment would be painted, which -- and the
23 tower, which I was a little confused by your
24 response to question number 17 in the
25 interrogatories. It said if the Council orders

1 the tower to be painted, maintenance would become
2 an issue that Homeland would need to address going
3 forward. So, I'm puzzled why.

4 That seems kind of tentative. You're not
5 pulling back from a commitment to paint the tower.

6 Is that correct?

7 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray Vergati, Homeland
8 Towers.

9 No, absolutely not. I -- I've been in the
10 tower business for quite some years. These
11 towers, when they're painted and painted properly,
12 meaning by the manufacturer at the time the tower
13 is being fabricated, they are put on with a
14 primer. And typically on average, they last seven
15 years, eight years, and they have much more of a
16 lifespan, obviously, and so forth.

17 If maintenance became an issue where the
18 paint was peeling or flaking, that would be our
19 responsibility as a tower owner to ensure that we
20 comply with the conditions of the D and M approval
21 and that tower maintains its color. In this case,
22 we're proposing brown. Actually, thunder gray
23 would be the swatch color that we always
24 recommend.

25 But we -- we're not shying away from

1 maintenance whatsoever. If the paint doesn't
2 last, we will be out there painting it.

3 MS. HALL: Okay. Thank you for that clarification.

4 That's all the questions I have. Thank you.

5 THE HEARING OFFICER: We'll continue with
6 cross-examination by Mr. Syme, followed by myself.

7 Mr. Syme, good afternoon.

8 MR. SYME: Good afternoon, everybody.

9 I've reviewed the plans, the interrogatories.
10 I think it's very thorough. And to be honest with
11 you, I didn't come up with any questions. So I
12 will yield my time. Thank you.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Syme.

14 And good afternoon, everyone. My questions
15 are around the view and the viewshed analysis. I
16 would like to go to photo eleven. I think that's
17 a good representation.

18 Mr. Libertine, you discussed -- I think this
19 represents your discussion you were having about
20 the height of the tower in relation to the hill.

21 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Uh-huh?

22 THE HEARING OFFICER: I think it represents it very
23 well, because I was curious about whether the
24 tower could be moved further up the hill.

25 So, I guess I would like Mr. Burns' reaction

1 to that and whether it's, because of the slope,
2 whether it's doable. And then I'd like
3 Mr. Libertine to opine on the view, the viewshed
4 of doing that.

5 Mr. Burns?

6 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes, Mr. Morissette. Robert
7 Burns with All-Points.

8 Really it can't be moved further to the -- I
9 guess it's southwest. That hill goes fairly
10 steep. The area where we are putting the compound
11 is really the only area in this vicinity where it
12 could go, or at least on this parcel. It's a flat
13 area between two hillsides.

14 THE HEARING OFFICER: Great. Thank you.

15 Mr. Libertine?

16 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Yes, good afternoon. Mike
17 Libertine with All-Points.

18 Mr. Morissette, I think photo eleven is a
19 great shot to use as kind of the, I guess, the
20 touch point. It really is indicative of the very
21 small area or condensed area where currently, as
22 placed, where the tower would be visible above the
23 treeline. It's the perspective, because you are
24 so close to it.

25 As you go north to south on Route 154 in this

1 area, there are some vantage points which we have
2 documented here in the visibility report that's
3 on -- on the record.

4 To answer your question, if we -- if it was
5 feasible to go any higher on that site, I do think
6 that we would still be able to maintain the
7 advantage of using the hillside from the locations
8 east of the site, and I would say on the east side
9 of the river.

10 Obviously, there would be a point of
11 diminishing returns. I would say that we are
12 probably talking being able to go up another 50,
13 60 feet in elevation. You would still be able to
14 maintain that.

15 However, anything along this general route in
16 this district west of the river is just going to
17 only increase the visibility above the treeline,
18 and I think that's one of the things we -- again,
19 as Mr. Burns had indicated, we found a somewhat
20 relatively flat area that was -- that worked for
21 us.

22 All things considered, this seemed to be
23 the -- the best on-balance way to achieve what we
24 were trying to do, but I do think anything higher
25 is just going to only accentuate these views above

1 treeline in this immediate area.

2 THE HEARING OFFICER: Yes, I agree, and this is a good
3 representation of that. Thank you.

4 The other topic I'd like to touch on is on --
5 I didn't see it, and it's probably in here
6 somewhere, whether a monopine was considered or
7 not, and why not.

8 THE WITNESS (Libertine): We -- we always -- it's
9 actually a real pleasure working with Homeland
10 Towers, because Ray and his team are always very
11 sensitive and thorough in how we evaluate what
12 might be the best application for these, these
13 particular facilities.

14 And so, you know, we always try to take a
15 balance of what the context of the area is. Now
16 we -- we do have the backdrop of the hill, but as
17 you can see, view eleven is a great representation
18 of the type of matrix of forests that we have.
19 It's all deciduous.

20 So, when we looked at this area our feeling
21 was the monopine would likely be such a larger
22 intrusion on the landscape in terms of its width
23 that it really didn't fit both from a context and
24 visibility perspective, because once again, it
25 would be fairly significantly above the treeline

1 and it would just be a much larger object in the
2 area.

3 And again, the visibility is fairly minimal
4 overall. So, it just didn't seem to really --
5 from, I'd say an overall standpoint, it didn't
6 seem like it was going to really accomplish what
7 the monopines are really intended to do.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Good point. I can see. I can
9 see the concerns now, and it would. I agree. I
10 don't think it would fit in, either.

11 Now we did talk a little bit about painting
12 the tower, and so it sounds like we're going to
13 have it painted by the manufacturer before it's
14 installed. Is that a correct assumption?

15 THE WITNESS (Vergati): Ray Vergati, Homeland Towers.

16 That's correct. Ninety-nine percent of the
17 time we'll have the manufacturer apply the -- the
18 paint.

19 THE HEARING OFFICER: Great. Okay.

20 Well, that concludes my questioning for this
21 afternoon. We have one open question from
22 Mr. Carter relating to the Chester resident state
23 trooper, and whether it's the same one as Haddam.
24 Hopefully, there's a response to that so we can
25 close that question down.

1 THE WITNESS (Vergati): This is Ray with Homeland
2 Towers.

3 I'll take it as a quick hallmark assignment,
4 and I've got the phone number for the trooper and
5 I can try ringing them and confirm if -- his name
6 is Ed Miller, the new trooper -- if he does, in
7 fact, handle Chester and Haddam.

8 THE HEARING OFFICER: Well, thank you. I appreciate
9 that Mr. Vergati. Unfortunately, we're going to
10 be wrapping it up for this afternoon, and I don't
11 want to have anything open.

12 So Mr. Carter, we're going to move on and we
13 will not have an answer to your question, but
14 hopefully that is satisfactory for you.

15 MR. CARTER: It will work for me, Mr. Morissette.

16 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. I apologize for that,
17 but I don't see holding up the hearing for a
18 response for that.

19 Mr. Vergati, you are off the hook.

20 Okay. Well, that concludes our questioning
21 for this afternoon. Since we do have a little bit
22 of time, I'm just going to go through and see if
23 any other questions have come up.

24 Mr. Mercer, anything else?

25 MR. MERCIER: I have no other questions. Thank you.

1 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you. Mr. Nguyen?

2 MR. NGUYEN: Yes, actually, I do, Mr. Morissette.

3 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good.

4 MR. NGUYEN: I just want to go back to the yield point.

5 So, is it correct, then, that the yield point
6 might not be needed in this situation?

7 THE WITNESS (Burns): Robert Burns with All-Points.

8 No, I believe it is needed. The -- the
9 closest property line is 86 feet away. Sorry, I
10 keep getting that wrong. And it's -- even though
11 it's the same property owner, I think the -- the
12 requirements are that you still put that, the
13 yield point in because -- who knows? He may sell
14 the property some day.

15 MR. NGUYEN: Thank you. Thank you for that
16 clarification, because in my mind, that it is
17 needed.

18 THE WITNESS (Burns): Yes.

19 MR. NGUYEN: And we certainly hope this will never
20 happen.

21 THE WITNESS (Burns): Agreed.

22 MR. NGUYEN: But the theoretical thing is that it might
23 fall into some other property. Okay?

24 All right. That's all I have. Thank you.

25 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you, Mr. Nguyen.

1 Mr. Golembiewski, any follow-up questions?

2 MR. GOLEMBIEWSKI.: I have no follow-up questions.

3 Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

4 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

5 Mr. Carter, any follow-up questions?

6 MR. CARTER: No followups. Thank you, Mr. Morissette.

7 THE HEARING OFFICER: Thank you.

8 Ms. Hall, any follow-up questions?

9 MS. HALL: No questions. Thank you.

10 THE HEARING OFFICER: Great.

11 Mr. Syme, any follow-up questions?

12 MR. SYME: I have none. Thank you.

13 THE HEARING OFFICER: Very good. Okay. So the Council
14 will recess until 6:30 p.m., at which time we will
15 commence with the public comment session of this
16 public hearing.

17 Thank you, everyone, for your questions and
18 answers this afternoon, and we'll see everybody at
19 6:30 p.m. Thank you.

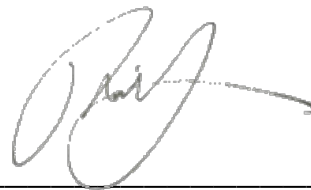
20 MS. HALL: Thank you.

21 THE WITNESS (Libertine): Thank you.

22
23 (End: 2:58 p.m.)
24
25

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing 54 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 hearing in Re: DOCKET NO. 529, APPLICATION FROM HOMELAND TOWERS, LLC, AND CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AND ASSOCIATED EQUIPMENT LOCATED AT PARCEL NO. 65-002-1, OLD CHESTER ROAD NORTH, HADDAM, CONNECTICUT, which was held before JOHN MORISSETTE, Member and Presiding Officer, on March 13, 2025.



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

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