STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

September 25, 2025

TO: Service List dated July 16, 2025

FROM: Melanie A. Bachman, Executive Director MAB

RE: **DOCKET NO. 542** – The Towers, LLC application 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. 151-1-1, Pequotsepos Road, Stonington (Mystic), Connecticut. **Pre-Hearing Conference.**

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) will hold a pre-hearing conference **via Zoom remote conferencing** on procedural matters on Wednesday, October 1, 2025 beginning at 11:00 a.m. **All parties and intervenors are requested to participate.** The purpose of this pre-hearing conference is to expedite the hearing procedure without sacrificing an informative record necessary for the Council to render a decision.

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/88032246014?pwd=q2bFkVr7PwOSnfhUmRTy0mVJFXpibT.1

Meeting ID: 880 3224 6014
Passcode: YjNm8n

Dial +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
Meeting ID: 880 3224 6014
Passcode: 657916

During the conference, parties and intervenors will be encouraged to discuss requirements for pre-filed testimony, exhibit lists, administrative notice lists, expected witness lists, and the filing of pre-hearing interrogatories. To save the time and expense of the public, **the Council does not allow direct testimony** at the public hearing.

Each party and intervenor is requested to provide all other parties and intervenors a list of witnesses and the subjects their pre-filed testimony will address, a list of documents to be administratively noticed, and copies of any available exhibits to be offered at the public hearing.

For parties and intervenors who are not represented by counsel, please indicate in writing who shall be the **designated representative for the public hearing in the witness list.**

For the applicant, please indicate in writing who shall be the **designated presenter during the 6:30 p.m. public comment session in the witness list and what site plan will be used for the presentation**. Please submit the site plan(s) for the presentation as a separate pdf for posting to the Council's website.

MB/IN/laf

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Procedure for November 20, 2025 Public Hearing

DOCKET NO. 542 – The Towers, LLC application 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. 151-1-1, Pequotsepos Road, Stonington (Mystic), Connecticut.

Pre-hearing Procedure

1. On or before November 6, 2025, all parties and intervenors are requested to electronically exchange pre-hearing interrogatories with all other parties and intervenors.

2. On or before November 13, 2025, all parties and intervenors are requested to file responses to pre-hearing interrogatories and exchange pre-filed testimony, exhibits, witness lists, and items to be noticed administratively with the Council and all other parties and intervenors. For parties and intervenors who are not represented by counsel, please indicate in writing who shall be the **designated representative for the public hearing in the witness list.** To save the time and expense of parties, intervenors, and the public, all parties and intervenors are encouraged to resolve discrepancies of these items before the hearing.

3. Any person seeking to be admitted as a party or intervenor to the proceeding is requested to electronically file a written petition with the Council on or before November 13, 2025.

4. Pursuant to Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies (RCSA)§ 16-50j-21, at least ten days prior to the public hearing, the applicant shall erect and maintain, in a legible condition, a sign not less than six feet by four feet along a public road at or in the vicinity of where the proposed facility would be located. The sign shall set forth the name of the applicant, the type of facility, the public hearing date, and contact information for the Council (Web site and phone number). **The sign shall not be removed from the site until after the commencement of the evening public comment session**.

5. Attached is a list of the Council's administrative notice items. Objections to any item on the list should be sent to the Council before the hearing.

Hearing Procedure

6. The 2:00 p.m., November 20, 2025, evidentiary hearing session will provide the applicant, parties, and intervenors an opportunity to introduce exhibits and witnesses, and cross-examine positions. The applicant will be allowed to present its exhibits and witness panel, and then be subject to cross-examination by the Council and all parties and intervenors. All parties and intervenors will then be allowed to introduce their exhibits and witness panels, and be subject to cross-examination by the Council, the applicant and all other parties and intervenors.

7. The order of appearances and cross-examination will be governed by a Hearing Program developed by the Council for the proceeding. The Council will issue the Hearing Program prior to the hearing.

8. All microphones will be muted upon entry into the Zoom meeting and will be turned on in the order of party appearances and cross examination governed by the Hearing Program.

9. If any party or intervenor designated representative or witness is using the Zoom dial-in option from a telephone, the phone number and name of the person must be provided in writing to the Council in advance so the phone number can be matched with the appropriate designated representative or witness. **If the phone number and name of the person is not provided in writing to the Council in advance, they will not be admitted into the meeting.**

10. The 6:30 p.m. public comment session on November 20, 2025, will be reserved for the public to make oral limited appearance statements into the record. **Public statements will be limited to 3 minutes**. The Council requests that the applicant conduct a brief presentation prior to public comment, describing proposed facility features from a site plan already submitted into the record. For the applicant, please indicate in writing who shall be **the designated presenter during the 6:30 p.m. public comment session in the witness list. This site plan will be projected on the Zoom meeting screen during the public comment session.**

11. The Council may, at its discretion, group parties and intervenors with the same interests.

12. Individuals will be encouraged to participate through their elected officials and other party or intervenor groupings.

13. Pursuant to RCSA § 16-50j-15b, any party or intervenor, including those that are members of non-profit corporations or citizens groups, that have attained party or intervenor status in the proceeding are deemed to be represented in the proceeding and may not submit oral or written limited appearance statements.

14. All participants will be encouraged to be brief, concise, non-repetitious, and courteous of all other participants.

15. Any person may be removed from the Zoom evidentiary session and/or public comment session at the discretion of the Council.

Post-hearing procedure

16. A verbatim transcript of the evidentiary and public comment hearing sessions will be posted on the Council's website and deposited with the Stonington Town Clerk's Office, for the convenience of the public.

17. Parties and intervenors will be allowed to submit briefs and proposed findings of fact within 30 days after the close of the evidentiary record.

18. Members of the public will be allowed to submit written limited appearance statements within 30 days after the close of the evidentiary record.

19. Deadlines for briefs, proposed findings of fact, and written statements will be final and no extensions will be granted.

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Administrative Notice List
Docket No. 542

FEDERAL

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6. Wireless Communications and Public Safety Act of 1999, as amended, 47 U.S.C. §§ 615-615b, as amended, *available at* https://www.congress.gov/bill/106th-congress/house-bill/438/text/ih.

7. Enhance 911 Act of 2004, as amended, 47 U.S.C. § 942, as amended, *available at* https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-108publ494/pdf/PLAW-108publ494.pdf

8. Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, Pub. L. No. 112-96, §6409 Wireless Facilities Deployment 2012, *available at* https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/PLAW-112publ96/pdf/PLAW-112publ96.pdf

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11. Presidential Proclamation No. 8460, 74 Fed. Reg. 234 (December 8, 2009), *available at* http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/index.php?pid=86954

12. Presidential Order No. 13616, Accelerating Broadband Infrastructure Development, 77 Fed. Reg. 119 (June 14, 2012), *available at* http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2012-06-20/pdf/2012-15183.pdf

13. Presidential Policy Directive No. 21, Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience, February 12, 2013, *available at* https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/the-press-office/2013/02/12/presidential-policy-directive-critical-infrastructure-security-and-resil

14. Division of Migratory Bird Management, United States Fish & Wildlife Service, United States Department of the Interior, *Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance and Decommissioning*, last updated March 2021, *available at* https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/usfws-communication-tower-guidance.pdf

15. National Park Service, United States Department of the Interior, *National Register of Historic Places, available at* https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/index.htm

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83. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut Critical Habitats Interactive Map*, available at* https://ct-deep-gis-open-data-website-ctdeep.hub.arcgis.com/datasets/critical-habitats/explore?location=41.654537%2C-72.831884%2C16.73

84. Connecticut Forest & Park Association, Blue-Blazed Hiking Trails Interactive Map, *available at* https://ctwoodlands.org/explore-trails/interactive-map/

85. National Audubon Society, *Connecticut Important Bird Areas*, *available at* https://gis.audubon.org/portal/apps/sites/?_gl=1*jvotz7*_ga*MjEzOTE0NjgxNi4xNjcxMTM0NzA4*_ga_X2XNL2MWTT*MTY4MTI0NTQ2NC4zLjEuMTY4MTI0NTU0MS41My4wLjA.#/nas-hub-site/pages/data-review

86. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, State Park and Forests Interactive Map, *available at* https://ctdeep.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=950da678b13b458ba4cbe5687e902c19&deepNav=%7C

87. Mail-A-Map Street Map, Groton/Mystic and Stonington, *available at* http://mailamap.com/street-maps

88. United States Geological Survey, National Map Viewer, *available at* https://apps.nationalmap.gov/viewer/

89. Town of Stonington, Geographic & Property Information Network, *available at* https://gis.stonington-ct.gov/

90. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and University of Connecticut, Connecticut Environmental Conditions on-line, Interactive Parcel Viewer, available at https://cteco.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=0ff5596f2ca84f0e9aa96bbaf8ede14c&extent=-8208492.848%2C4959710.4595%2C-7961754.1207%2C5222042.3406%2C102100

Instructions for Parties and Intervenors for Docket No. 542 Public Hearing

1. Attendees can join by clicking (or entering) the following link: https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86387035423?pwd=hAu0iYWtMYNcelMxFZa2tkFBIJBwk9.1 from a computer, smartphone, or tablet. **Meeting ID: 863 8703 5423 and Passcode: 3tuX3Y** No prior software download is required.

2. For audio-only participation, attendees can join by dialing in at **1(929) 205-6099 (not toll free)** and then enter the **Meeting ID: 863 8703 5423 and Passcode: 642792** from a telephone

3. All participants are requested to mute sound notifications on their computer, smartphone or tablet. Telephones are often equipped with a "do not disturb" feature for the dial-in option.

4. If any participant is using the **dial-in option from a telephone**, the phone number and name of the participant must be provided in advance so the phone number can be matched with the appropriate participant by NAME. **If the phone number and name of the person is not provided in writing to the Council in advance, they will not be admitted into the meeting.** If using the link, unless the participant types in their name when entering the meeting, the email and name of the participant must be provided in advance so the email can be matched with the appropriate participant by NAME. If the NAME of the person is not typed in or provided when entering the meeting, they will not be admitted into the meeting. Please inform your witness panels.

5. All microphones will be muted upon entry into the meeting and will be turned on in the order of party appearances and cross examination governed by the Hearing Program.

6. The Presiding Officer will read an opening statement and cross examination of the applicant by the Council will commence, one by one, beginning with the staff analyst. Thereafter, the designated representative for each party and intervenor will cross examine the applicant.

7. Once cross examination of the applicant by the Council and all parties and intervenors concludes, cross examination of the next party listed on the Hearing Program by the Council will commence, one by one, beginning with the staff analyst. Thereafter, the designated representative for each party and intervenor will cross examine the appearing party.