STATE OF CONNECTICUT
*CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL*
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Hearing Program
Docket No. 543
Tuesday, January 13, 2026
2:00 p.m.

I. Opening by Council

A. Statement read by Vice Chair

B. Administrative Notice taken by Council

**FEDERAL**

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3. Federal Communications Commission, *Guidelines for Evaluating the Environmental Effects of Radiofrequency Radiation Report and Order*, August 1, 1996, *available at* https://transition.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering_Technology/Orders/1996/fcc96326.pdf

4. Telecommunications Act of 1996, as amended, Pub. L. No. 104-104, 110 Stat. 56 (codified as amended in scattered sections of 47 U.S.C), *available at* https://transition.fcc.gov/Reports/tcom1996.pdf

5. Federal Communications Commission, *Warning, Alert and Response Network Act*, Pub. L. No. 109-437, 120 Stat. 1936 (2006), (codified at 47 U.S.C. §332(d)(1)) (2006), *available at* https://transition.fcc.gov/pshs/docs/emergency-information/cmas-warn-act.pdf

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

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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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19. Federal Communications Commission, *Tower Owners: Save Birds, Save Money*, updated August 2, 2021, *available at* https://www.fcc.gov/guides/towers-and-birds

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***Connecticut Siting Council***

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35. Connecticut Siting Council, Docket 332 – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 6 Mountain Road or 167 New Milford Turnpike, Washington, Connecticut. Record and Final Decision, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/csc/2_facility/facility/facility-list---washington

36. Connecticut Siting Council, Docket 432 – Feasibility study of back-up power requirements for telecommunications towers and antennas pursuant to Public Act 12-148, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/CSC/1_Applications-and-Other-Pending-Matters/Applications/3_DocketNos400s/Docket-No-432

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***Department of Energy and Environmental Protection***

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***Department of Transportation***

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***Other State Agencies***

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**TECHNICAL**

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**ENVIRONMENTAL**

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**MAPS**

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C. State Agency comments

1. Council on Environmental Quality, dated August 27, 2025
2. Department of Transportation, dated November 26, 2025

D. Public Official Comments

1. State Representative Karen Reddington-Hughes, dated January 2, 2026
2. State Senator Stephen Harding, dated January 4, 2026

II. Appearance by Applicant

Applicant: The Towers, LLC (APP)

Representatives: Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Jonathan Schaefer, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP

A. Administrative Notice.

1.

B. Exhibits for Identification.

1. Application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need filed by The Towers, LLC and attachments, received July 30, 2025, and bulk file exhibits as follows:

   a. Technical Report
   b. Town of Washington Zoning Regulations
   c. Town of Washington Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Regulations
   d. Town of Washington Plan of Conservation and Development

2. Affidavit of Publication in the Republican-American, dated August 4, 2025
3. Sign-Posting Affidavit, dated November 24, 2025
4. Responses to Council Interrogatories, dated November 26, 2025
5. Resubmission of Attachment 3 to Responses to Council interrogatories, dated November 26, 2025 and additional sign affidavit photograph, received December 1, 2025
6. Resume of Keith Vellante, C Squared Systems, LLC
7. Signed Protective Order – Lease Agreement Financial Terms, dated December 4, 2025
8. Responses to Council Interrogatories, Set Two, dated December 30, 2025
9. Late-filed Exhibits, dated December 30, 2025
10. Responses to Washington Montessori Association, Inc. Interrogatories, dated January 6, 2026
11. Responses to Area Residents Group Interrogatories, dated January 6, 2026

C. Swear Witnesses

1. Brian Paul, Project Manager, Vertical Bridge REIT, LLC
2. Keith Vellante, Director of Radio Frequency Services, C Squared Systems, LLC
3. Elizabeth Glidden, Real Estate Regulatory Specialist, Verizon Wireless
4. Joseph Johnson, P.E., Vice President, Engineering, Airosmith Development, Inc.
5. Jason Margelot, Project Manager, Airosmith Development, Inc.
6. Dean Gustafson, Senior Soil Scientist and Director of Environmental Services, All-Points Technology Corporation
7. Rick Landino, Senior Designer/Analyst, All-Points Technology Corporation

D. Full Exhibits - Verification of exhibits by witnesses and admission by the Council.

E. Cross Examination.

1. Council
2. Town of Washington
3. Town of Warren
4. Steep Rock Association
5. Washington Montessori Association, Inc.
6. Area Residents Group

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III. Appearance by Party: Town of Washington (WASH)

Representative: The Honorable James L. Brinton
First Selectperson

A. Administrative Notice.

1. Town of Washington Zoning Regulations – Telecommunications Section
2. E-Mail Correspondence from Jason Maggi of the Connecticut Department of Transportation, dated November 12, 2025

B. Exhibits for Identification.

1. Request for Party Status, dated October 28, 2025
2. Inland Wetland Commission Letter to the First Selectperson, not dated
3. Conservation Commission Letter to the First Selectperson, dated November 25, 2025
4. Corrected Inland Wetland Commission Letter to the First Selectperson, dated December 2, 2025
5. Responses to Council Interrogatories, dated December 23, 2025

C. Swear Witnesses

1. The Honorable James L. Brinton, First Selectperson, Town of Washington

D. Full Exhibits - Verification of exhibits by witnesses and admission by the Council.

E. Cross Examination.

1. Council
2. Applicant
3. Town of Warren
4. Steep Rock Association, Inc.
5. Washington Montessori Association, Inc.
6. Area Residents Group

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IV. Appearance by Party: Town of Warren (WARR)

Representative: The Honorable Gregory M. LaCava
First Selectperson

A. Administrative Notice.

1. Town of Warren Zoning Regulations – Telecommunications Section
2. E-Mail Correspondence from Jason Maggi of the Connecticut Department of Transportation, dated November 12, 2025

B. Exhibits for Identification.

1. Request for Party Status, dated November 10, 2025
2. Responses to Council Interrogatories, dated December 22, 2025

C. Swear Witnesses

1. The Honorable Gregory M. LaCava, First Selectperson, Town of Warren

D. Full Exhibits - Verification of exhibits by witnesses and admission by the Council.

E. Cross Examination.

1. Council
2. Applicant
3. Town of Washington
4. Steep Rock Association, Inc.
5. Washington Montessori Association, Inc.
6. Area Residents Group

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V. Appearance by CEPA Intervenor: Steep Rock Association, Inc. (SRA)

Representative: David F. Sherwood, Esq.
Moriarty, Paetzold & Sherwood

A. Administrative Notice.

1. Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Wetlands Management Section, Bureau of Water Management, Guidelines Upland Review Area Connecticut's Inland Wetlands and Watercourses Act, June 1997, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/water/wetlands/uplandreviewdocumentjune1997pdf.pdf

2. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut's Endangered, Threatened and Special Concern Species 2015, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/DEEP/wildlife/pdf_files/nongame/ETS15pdf.pdf

3. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Natural Diversity Data Base Area Washington CT June 2025, *available at* https://cteco.uconn.edu/maps/town/nddbsmall/nddbsmall_Washington.pdf

4. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, Connecticut Conservation and Development Policies Plan 2025-2030, *available at* https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/b7c048869ad141ea82a4778ae7987d5b/

5. Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, DRAFT Connecticut 2025 Species of Greatest Conservation Need, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/wildlife/pdf_files/swap/publicdraftsgcnlist.pdf

6. Connecticut Department of Transportation Scenic Roads | CTDOT Open Data, *available at* https://connecticut-ctdot.opendata.arcgis.com/datasets/CTDOT::scenic-roads/explore

7. Connecticut Office of Policy and Management, Conservation and Development Policies: The Plan for Connecticut 2018-2023, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/OPM/IGP/ORG/cdplan/20190214--Formatted-Document--20182023-Revised-State-CD-Plan.pdf

8. Federal Communications Commission, 2020. Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields and Reassessment of FCC Radiofrequency Exposure Limits and Policies, *available at* https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/04/01/2020-02745/human-exposure-to-radiofrequency-electromagnetic-fields-and-reassessment-of-fcc-radiofrequency

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10. Town of Washington Scenic Roads, *available at* https://www.washingtonct.org/planning-commission/pages/scenic-roads

11. Town of Washington Natural Resources Inventory Report & Recommendations, August 2025

12. United States Department of Agriculture- Natural Resource Conservation Service, Highly Erodible Soil Map Units of Connecticut, 1986, *available at* https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2024-08/highlyerodibleunits.pdf

13. United States Department of Agriculture- Natural Resource Conservation Service, Custom Soil Resource Report for State of Connecticut 17 Warren Road, New Preston, CT, November 9, 2025, *available at* https://websoilsurvey.sc.egov.usda.gov/WssProduct/yoigrfzoc3krfo1yvokz4epd/GN_00000/20251109_07375307943_1_Soil_Report.pdf

14. United States Department of the Interior, Department of the Interior: National Park Service, The Shepaug in Connecticut A Wild and Scenic River Study Final Report 1979, *available at* https://npshistory.com/publications/nwsr/ct-shepaug.pdf

15. United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Federally Endangered Species (Connecticut) (2025) , *available at* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/report/species-listings-by-state?stateAbbrev=CT&stateName=Connecticut&statusCategory=Listed

16. United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, ECOS Environmental Conservation Online System, Little brown bat (Myotis lucifugus), *available at* https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9051

17. United States Department of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service, Birds of Conservation Concern 2021, *available at* www.fws/media/birds-conservation concern

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26. Manville, A.M., II. Estimates of annual human-caused mortality to North American birds (with literature citations). Division of Migratory Bird Management, USFWS, for Public Distribution. 12 pp. 2011

27. Manville, A.M., II. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) revised guidelines for communication tower design, siting, construction, operation, retrofitting, and

decommissioning -- Suggestions based on previous USFWS recommendations to FCC regarding WT Docket No. 03-187, FCC 06-164, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, "Effects of Communication Towers on Migratory Birds," Docket No. 08-61, FCC's Antenna Structure Registration Program, and Service 2012 Wind Energy Guidelines. Division of Migratory Bird Management, Arlington, VA. 5 pp. 201, *available at* https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/508_Revised_communication_tower_guidance_2013.pdf

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37. Steep Rock Association, Inc. Info Sheet – Important Bird Area n.d

38. Steep Rock Association, Inc., Historical Results by Count CTLH [2020-2025]

39. Quinn, Dennis, Amphibian Inventory and Management Recommendations Steep Rock Association Washington, Connecticut (2017)

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41. Recommended Best Practices for Communication Tower Design, Siting, Construction, Operation, Maintenance, and Decommissioning, Migratory Bird Program, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Falls Church, Virginia (March 2021)

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48. United States Environmental Protection Agency, Vernal Pools, Last updated on April 25, 2025, *available at* https://www.epa.gov/wetlands/vernal-pools

49. Town of Washington, Driveway Ordinance, *available at* https://www.washingtonct.org/print/6316

50. Connecticut Department of Transportation, Highway Design Manual, Revised July 2025, *available at https://portal.ct.gov/dot/-/media/dot/aec/manuals/highway-design-manual.pdf?rev=cca3cd44013a48c8b8193342db9ae16c*

B. Exhibits for Identification.

1. Request for CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 3, 2025
2. Pre-filed Testimony of Michael W. Klemens, with attachments, dated November 19, 2025
3. Pre-filed Testimony of Thomas M. Rickart, with attachments, dated November 19, 2025
4. Pre-filed Testimony of Brian E. Hagenbuch, with attachments, dated November 20, 2025
5. Pre-filed Testimony of Michael Lawton, with attachments, dated November 21, 2025

6. Pre-filed Testimony of Albert M. Manville, II, with attachments, dated November 22, 2025
7. Responses to Council Interrogatories, dated December 29, 2025

C. Swear Witnesses

1. Michael W. Klemens, Michael W. Klemens, LLC
2. Albert M. Manville, II
3. Thomas M. Rickart, President, Board of Trustee, Steep Rock Association, Inc.
4. Brian E. Hagenbuch, Executive Director, Steep Rock Association, Inc.
5. Michael K. Lawton, P.E., Isotrope, LLC

D. Full Exhibits - Verification of exhibits by witnesses and admission by the Council.

E. Cross Examination.

1. Council
2. Applicant
3. Town of Washington
4. Town of Warren
5. Washington Montessori Association, Inc.
6. Area Residents Group

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VI. Appearance by Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor: Washington Montessori Association, Inc. (WMA)

Representative: Joseph P. Mortelliti, Esq.
Cramer & Anderson LLP

A. Administrative Notice.

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B. Exhibits for Identification.

1. Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 11, 2025
2. Pre-filed Testimony of Kerry Dorton with attachments, dated November 25, 2025
3. Pre-filed Testimony of Steven D. Trinkaus with attachments, dated November 25, 2025
4. Responses to Council Interrogatories, dated December 29, 2025

C. Swear Witnesses

1. Kerry Dorton, Principal, Washington Montessori Association, Inc.
2. Steven D. Trinkaus, P.E., Trinkaus Engineering, LLC

D. Full Exhibits - Verification of exhibits by witnesses and admission by the Council.

E. Cross Examination.

1. Council
2. Applicant
3. Town of Washington
4. Town of Warren
5. Steep Rock Association, Inc.
6. Area Residents Group

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VII. Appearance by Grouped Intervenors and CEPA Intervenors:

Area Residents Group (ARG)

Representatives:

Mario F. Coppola, Esq.
Matthew L. Studer, Esq.
Berchem Moses P.C.

A. Administrative Notice.

B. Exhibits for Identification.

1. Joslyn Pollock Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 26, 2025
2. Patricia Werner Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 26, 2025
3. Imad Afiouni Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 26, 2025
4. Robert Odom Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 26, 2025
5. Russell James Mackie, Jr. Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 26, 2025
6. Kristy Faulhaber Request for Intervenor and CEPA Intervenor Status, dated November 26, 2025
7. Christine Afiouni Pre-filed Testimony, dated December 4, 2025
8. Lauren Mackie Pre-filed Testimony, dated December 5, 2025
9. Pre-filed Testimony of Joslyn Pollock, dated December 30, 2025
10. Pre-filed Testimony of Patricia Werner, dated December 30, 2025
11. Pre-filed Testimony of Imad Afiouni, dated December 30, 2025
12. Pre-filed Testimony of Wes Haynes, dated December 30, 2025
13. Pre-filed Testimony Garrett S. Bolella, dated December 30, 2025

C. Swear Witnesses

1. Garrett S. Bolella, PE, RSP1, PTOE
2. Wes Haynes, MS Historic Preservation
3. Joslyn Pollock
4. Imad Afiouni
5. Patricia Werner
6. Robert Odom

D. Full Exhibits - Verification of exhibits by witnesses and admission by the Council.

E. Cross Examination.
   1. Council
   2. Applicant
   3. Town of Washington
   4. Town of Warren
   5. Steep Rock Association, Inc.
   6. Washington Montessori Association, Inc.

VIII. Continuation by Connecticut Siting Council.