STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
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Hearing Program
Docket No. 543
Tuesday, February 24, 2026
2:00 p.m.

I. Opening by Council

A. Statement read by Vice Chair

B. Administrative Notice taken by Council

FEDERAL

1. Federal Communications Commission, Office of Engineering and Technology, *Questions and Answers About Biological Effects and Potential Hazards of Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields, OET Bulletin No. 56*, August 1999, *available at* https://transition.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering_Technology/Documents/bulletins/oet56/oet56e4.pdf

2. Federal Communications Commission, Office of Engineering and Technology, *Evaluating Compliance with FCC-Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields, OET Bulletin No. 65*, August 1997, *available at* https://transition.fcc.gov/Bureaus/Engineering_Technology/Documents/bulletins/oet65/oet65.pdf

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

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

9. Actions That May Have a Significant Environmental Effect, for Which Environmental Assessments (EAs) Must be Prepared, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1307, as amended, *available at*. https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2013-title47-vol1/pdf/CFR-2013-title47-vol1-sec1-1307.pdf

10. Radiofrequency Radiation Exposure Limits, 47 C.F.R. § 1.1310, as amended, *available at* https://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/CFR-2002-title47-vol1/pdf/CFR-2002-title47-vol1-sec1-1310.pdf

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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17. Federal Aviation Administration, *Specification for Obstruction Lighting Equipment, Advisory Circular AC No. 150/5345-43J*, March 11, 2019, *available at* https://www.faa.gov/documentLibrary/media/Advisory_Circular/150-5345-43J.pdf

18. Federal Aviation Administration, *Obstruction Evaluation Version 2023-Sep.3*, Notice Criteria Tool *available at* https://oeaaa.faa.gov/oeaaa/external/gisTools/gisAction.jsp?action=showNoNoticeRequiredToolForm

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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21. Federal Communications Commission, *Public Notice – Wireless Telecommunications Bureau Offers Guidance on Interpretation of Section 6409(a) of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012*, DA 12-2407, January 25, 2013, *available at* https://apps.fcc.gov/edocs_public/attachmatch/DA-12-2047A1.pdf

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28. Federal Communications Commission, Implementation of State and Local Governments' Obligation to Approve Certain Wireless Facility Modification Requests Under Section 6409(a) of the Spectrum Act of 2012, *Declaratory Ruling and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 20-75, June 10, 2020, *available at* https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-75A1.pdf

29. Federal Communications Commission, Implementation of State and Local Governments' Obligation to Approve Certain Wireless Facility Modification Requests Under Section 6409(a) of the Spectrum Act of 2012, *Report and Order*, FCC 20-153, November 3, 2020, *available at* https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/FCC-20-153A1.pdf

30. United States Department of Agriculture, Soil Survey Manual, Handbook No. 18, March 2017, *available at* https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/sites/default/files/2022-09/The-Soil-Survey-Manual.pdf

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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

37. Connecticut Siting Council, Docket 441 – Homeland Towers, LLC and New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 10 Blackville Road, Washington, Connecticut. Record and Final Decision, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/csc/1_applications-and-other-pending-matters/applications/3_docketnos400s/docket-no-441--washington

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Department of Energy and Environmental Protection

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42. Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, *Connecticut Stormwater Quality Manual*, effective date March 30, 2024, *available at* https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/deep/water/water_quality_management/guidance/swm_mar_2024.pdf

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Other State Agencies

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64. *Woodbridge Newton Neighborhood Environmental Trust, et al v. Connecticut Siting Council*, 349 Conn. 619 (2024).

65. *Mark Buschmann Trustee, et al v. Connecticut Siting Council*, Docket No. HHB-CV-14-6089389-S, Welch, J., October 15, 2025.

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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
3. Council on Environmental Quality, dated January 28, 2026

D. Public Official Comments

1. State Representative Karen Reddington-Hughes, dated January 2, 2026
2. State Senator Stephen Harding, dated January 4, 2026
3. State Representative Maria Horn, dated January 28, 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. Council Docket No. 445 – Findings of Fact No. 76

2. Council Docket No. 448 – Findings of Fact No. 56

3. Council Docket No. 488 – Findings of Fact Nos. 82-93

4. Council Docket No. 502 – Findings of Fact No. 105-117

5. Council Docket No. 510 – Findings of Fact No. 114-121

6. Southern New England Telephone Company Master Pole Attachment Agreement with Cellco Partnership *available at* https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockhistpost2000.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/589f6286923e3c808525829c0070f047/$FILE/Interrogatory%20EN-6,%20Attachment%20A.pdf

7. Eversource Energy Master Pole Attachment Agreement with Cellco Partnership *available at* https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockhistpost2000.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/09003f1a61bbe6728525829c0070f048/$FILE/Interrogatory%20EN-6,%20Attachment%20A.pdf

8. UI Master Pole Attachment Agreement with Cellco Partnership *available at* https://www.dpuc.state.ct.us/dockhistpost2000.nsf/8e6fc37a54110e3e852576190052b64d/d289dd1696dd3c068525829c0070f04a/$FILE/Interrogatory%20EN-6,%20Attachment%20A.pdf

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
12. Resume of Michael Libertine, L.E.P., Vice President, All-Points Technology Corporation
13. Responses to Area Residents Group Interrogatories, Set Two, dated February 10, 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
8. Michael Libertine, L.E.P., Vice President, All-Points Technology Corporation
9. Phillip Kendall, P.E. New England Highway Practice Lead, Hardesty & Hanover

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

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

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

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

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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

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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

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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

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52. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Stream Crossing Best Management Practices (BMPs), January, 2015, *available at* https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/docs/regulatory/StateGeneralPermits/NEGP/BMPStreamCrossings21Jan2015.pdf

53. Warren Tax Assessor Field Card – Steep Rock Association Inc., Map 09 Lot 02 Rabbit Hill Road.

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
8. Supplemental Pre-filed Testimony of Michael W. Klemens, dated February 10, 2026
9. Supplemental Pre-filed Testimony of Michael Lawton, dated February 10, 2026
10. Supplemental Pre-filed Testimony of Brian E. Hagenbuch, dated February 10, 2026
11. Steep Rock Association, Inc., 2026 Macricostas Preserve Trail Map

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

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

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

A. Administrative Notice.

1.

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
5. Supplemental Pre-filed Testimony of Kerry Dorton, dated February 10, 2026

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

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. Pre-filed Testimony Christine Afiouni, dated December 4, 2025
8. Pre-filed Testimony Lauren Mackie, 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 and Attachments, dated December 30, 2025
13. Pre-filed Testimony Garrett S. Bolella and Attachments, dated December 30, 2025
14. Supplemental Pre-filed Testimony Garrett S. Bolella and Attachments, dated February 10, 2026

C. Swear Witnesses

1. Garrett S. Bolella, PE
2. Wes Haynes
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.