



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

August 5, 2024

Stephen Roth
Regional Site Manager, Operations
sroth@sbsite.com

RE: **DOCKET NO. 282** – Sprint Spectrum, L.P. Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 1 Westerberg Drive, Farmington, Connecticut. **Request for Compliance.**

Dear Stephen Roth and Greg Hines:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of email correspondence, dated August 2, 2024, from the Farmington Planning and Zoning Department (Town), regarding disrepair at this facility site. The correspondence (attached) expresses concern regarding the condition of the tower panels and consequential complications with the flag.

The Council issued a Certificate to Sprint Spectrum, L.P. for the construction, maintenance and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility at 1 Westerberg Drive, Farmington, on June 9, 2004. Findings of Fact Nos. 71 and 72 of the Council's final decision indicate "the Town, at its discretion would be responsible for flying a 10-foot by 15-foot flag from the flagpole, and as part of its lease arrangement, Sprint would pay the Town a lump sum fee for the Town's assumption of responsibility for flying and maintaining a flag at the site."

Please provide written correspondence to the Council by close of business on August 12, 2024 that provides a detailed and expeditious solution to the disrepair of this facility.

Thank you for your attention to this very important matter.

Sincerely,

Melanie A. Bachman
Executive Director

MAB/RDM/dll

c: The Honorable Joe Capodiferro, Chairperson, Town of Farmington (towncouncil@farmington-ct.org)
Shannon Rutherford, P.E., Town Planner, Town of Farmington (rutherford@sbsite.com)
Greg Hines, Project Manager, SBA Communications (ghines@sbsite.com)
Service List, dated January 22, 2009

From: Shannon Rutherford <rutherfords@farmington-ct.org>
Sent: Friday, August 2, 2024 2:05 PM
To: Bachman, Melanie <Melanie.Bachman@ct.gov>
Subject: 1 Westerberg Dr., Farmington - Tower and Flag Condition Concerns

Hi Melanie –

I hope you are doing well and are enjoying the summer.

We are having some difficulty with the tower owner at the 1 Westerberg Dr. location. The tower itself is in disrepair with panels cracked, broken and in some case missing entirely – photos attached. Additionally, with the panels in disrepair the rope for the flag is getting tangled and the flag is tearing. With the current condition, we are unable to raise / lower the flag ourselves because everything is knotted. We have received complaints repeatedly regarding the condition of the flag and our inability to lower to half mast when required. Clearly this is not an ideal situation. Attached are emails from our WPCF Superintendent to Stephen Roth of SBA documenting the condition of the tower and our concerns since February, 2024. We have been told the panels are on order and take some time to come in and then schedule the repair. It seems odd that it takes this length of time for a cell tower company to repair their tower and secure the equipment appropriately. You will see in the photos and email exchange, due to a lack of attention to the broken panels, at least one has fallen off and broken one of the ground lights.

I presume there is a minimum maintenance / standard of care required for the towers. Is this something the Siting Council can assist with from an enforcement standpoint or do you have a suggestion for another avenue we can take to try to get these matters resolved in a more expeditious manner.

Thank you for your assistance. It's much appreciated. Have a nice weekend.

Shannon

Shannon Rutherford, P.E.
Town Planner
Town of Farmington
Planning and Zoning Department
1 Monteith Drive
Farmington, CT 06032
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