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STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL



DOCKET NO. 491

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless application  
for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and  
Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and  
operation of a telecommunications facility located at  
110 Yantic Lane, Norwich, Connecticut

VIA ZOOM AND TELECONFERENCE

Hearing held on Thursday, October 29, 2020,  
beginning at 2:00 p.m. via remote access.

H e l d   B e f o r e :

ROBERT SILVESTRI, Presiding Officer

Reporter: Debra A. Chasse, CSR #055

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

**Council Members:**

**NICOLE LUGLI**

Designee for Commissioner Katie Dykes  
Department of Energy and Environmental  
Protection

**QUAT NGUYEN**

Designee for Chair Marissa Paslick Gillett  
Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

**JOHN MORISSETTE**

**EDWARD EDELSON**

**DANIEL P. LYNCH, JR.**

**MICHAEL HARDER**

**Council Staff:**

**MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQUIRE**

Executive Board Director/Staff Attorney

**IFEANYI NWANKWO**

Siting Analyst

**LISA FONTAINE**

Fiscal Administrative Officer

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**A p p e a r a n c e s : (Cont'd.)**

**For the Applicant, Cellco Partnership d/b/a  
Verizon Wireless:**

**ROBINSON & COLE, LLP**

**BY: KENNETH C. BALDWIN, ESQUIRE**

**280 Trumbull Street**

**Hartford, CT 06103**

14:00:56 1 MR. SILVESTRI: This remote public  
14:00:58 2 hearing is called to order this Thursday, October 29,  
14:01:00 3 2020 at 2 p.m. My name is Robert Silvestri, member and  
14:01:06 4 presiding officer of the Connecticut Siting Council.  
14:01:09 5 Other members of the council are Nicole Lugli, designee  
14:01:14 6 for Commissioner Katie Dykes of the Department of  
14:01:15 7 Energy and Environmental Protection, Quat Nguyen,  
14:01:15 8 designee for Chairman Marissa Paslick Gillett of the  
14:01:24 9 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority, John Morissette,  
14:01:27 10 Michael Harder, Edward Edelson, and Daniel P. Lynch,  
14:01:27 11 Jr. Members of the staff are Melanie Bachman,  
14:01:27 12 Executive Director and Staff Attorney, Ifeanyi Nwankwo,  
14:01:39 13 Siting Analyst, and Fred Cunliffe, Supervising Siting  
14:01:42 14 Analyst, and Lisa Fontaine, our Fiscal Administrative  
14:01:46 15 Officer.

14:01:46 16 As all are keenly aware, there is  
14:01:51 17 currently a statewide effort to prevent the spread of  
14:01:53 18 the Coronavirus. This is why the council is holding  
14:01:54 19 this remote public hearing, and we ask for your  
14:01:57 20 patience. If you haven't done so already, I ask that  
14:02:00 21 everyone please mute their computer audio and/or  
14:02:03 22 telephone at this time.

14:02:04 23 This hearing is held pursuant to the  
14:02:07 24 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General  
14:02:09 25 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative Procedure

14:02:13 1 Act upon an application from Cellco Partnership, doing  
14:02:18 2 business as Verizon Wireless, for a Certificate of  
14:02:23 3 Environmental Compatibility and public need for the  
14:02:25 4 construction, maintenance, and operation of a  
14:02:26 5 telecommunications facility located the 110 Yantic Lane  
14:02:32 6 in Norwich, Connecticut.

14:02:33 7 This application was received by the  
14:02:36 8 Council on July 7, 2020. The Council's legal notice of  
14:02:41 9 the date and time of this hearing was published in the  
14:02:43 10 Norwich Bulletin on August 29, 2020. Upon this  
14:02:47 11 Council's request, the applicant erected a sign at the  
14:02:52 12 proposed site so as to inform the public of the name of  
14:02:54 13 the applicant, the type of facility, the remote public  
14:02:58 14 hearing date, and contact information for the Council.

14:03:02 15 As a reminder to all, off the record  
14:03:04 16 communication with a member of the Council or a member  
14:03:07 17 of the Council's staff upon the merits of this  
14:03:10 18 application is prohibited by law.

14:03:10 19 The party to the proceeding is as  
14:03:17 20 follows: The Applicant, Cellco Partnership, doing  
14:03:18 21 business as Verizon Wireless, and its representative,  
14:03:22 22 Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esquire of Robinson & Cole, LLP.

14:03:29 23 We will proceed in accordance with  
14:03:29 24 the prepared agenda, a copy of which is available on  
14:03:34 25 Council's Docket No. 491 webpage, along with the record

14:03:37 1 of this matter, the public hearing notice, instructions  
14:03:40 2 for public access to this remote public hearing, and  
14:03:43 3 the Council's Citizen's Guide to Siting Council  
14:03:48 4 Procedures. Interested persons may join any session of  
14:03:49 5 this public hearing to listen, but no public comments  
14:03:52 6 will be received during the 2 p.m. evidentiary session.  
14:03:56 7 At the end of the evidentiary session, we will recess  
14:04:00 8 until 6:30 p.m. for the public comment session. Please  
14:04:04 9 be advised that any person may be removed from the  
14:04:07 10 remote evidentiary session or the public comment  
14:04:10 11 session at the discretion of the Council.

14:04:13 12 The 630 p.m. public comment session  
14:04:16 13 is reserved for the public to make brief statements  
14:04:19 14 into the record. I wish to note that the Applicant,  
14:04:21 15 parties, and intervenors, including their  
14:04:25 16 representatives, witnesses, and members are not allowed  
14:04:27 17 to participate in the public comment session. I also  
14:04:30 18 wish to note, for those who are listening and for the  
14:04:33 19 benefit of your friends and neighbors who are unable to  
14:04:36 20 join us for this remote public comment session, that  
14:04:39 21 you or they may send written comments to the Council  
14:04:42 22 within 30 days of the date hereof, and that's either by  
14:04:46 23 mail or by e-mail, and such written statements will be  
14:04:48 24 given the same weight as if spoken during the remote  
14:04:48 25 public comment session. A verbatim transcript of this

14:04:48 1 remote public hearing will be posted on the Council's  
14:04:58 2 Docket No. 491 webpage and deposited with the Norwich  
14:05:02 3 and Bozrah Town Clerk's Offices for the convenience of  
14:05:06 4 the public.

14:05:07 5 The Council will take a 10 to  
14:05:10 6 15-minute break at a convenient juncture, somewhere  
14:05:15 7 around 3:30 p.m. this afternoon.

14:05:16 8 I wish to call your attention to those  
14:05:18 9 items shown on the Hearing Program marked as Roman  
14:05:21 10 Numeral I.B., Items No. 1 through 76, that the Council  
14:05:24 11 has administratively noticed. Does the Applicant have  
14:05:30 12 an objection to the items that the Council has  
14:05:35 13 administratively noticed? Attorney Baldwin?

14:05:36 14 MR. BALDWIN: No, Mr. Silvestri. No  
14:05:37 15 objection.

14:05:37 16 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you.  
14:05:38 17 Accordingly, the Council hereby administratively  
14:05:41 18 notices those items.

14:05:42 19 Now, will the Applicant present  
14:05:44 20 their witness panel for the purpose of taking the oath?  
14:05:48 21 And Attorney Bachman will then administer the oath.

14:05:52 22 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr.  
14:05:53 23 Silvestri. Again, for the record, I'm Ken Baldwin with  
14:05:53 24 Robinson & Cole on behalf of the applicant, Cellco  
14:06:00 25 Partnership, doing business as Verizon Wireless. One

14:06:04 1 of my witnesses, he's having a little connectivity  
14:06:07 2 issue, but he's trying to get in now. That is Tim  
14:06:11 3 Parks. Mr. Parks should be with us shortly, I hope.

14:06:16 4 In the meantime, our other witnesses  
14:06:18 5 that I believe are all in on the Zoom meeting at this  
14:06:22 6 point, Wesley Stevens, radio frequency design engineer  
14:06:27 7 with Verizon Wireless who is responsible for this  
14:06:30 8 Norwich 4 south site; David Weinpahl, who is a  
14:06:35 9 professional engineer responsible for the design of the  
14:06:37 10 project, he's the managing partner of On-Air  
14:06:37 11 Engineering; Michael Libertine, the director of siting  
14:06:48 12 and permitting for All-Points Technology, who you know;  
14:06:48 13 Dean Gustafson, who is a senior wetland scientist and  
14:06:52 14 professional soil scientist, also with All-Points  
14:06:53 15 Technologies. We had a late scratch due to an injury.  
14:06:57 16 Brian Gaudet I think is on the call but will not be  
14:07:02 17 seated as a witness at the hearing this afternoon.

14:07:07 18 So right now our witness panel  
14:07:09 19 consists of Wesley Stevens, David Weinpahl, Mike  
14:07:13 20 Libertine, Dean Gustafson, and hopefully very soon, Tim  
14:07:18 21 Parks. I'm trying to get him to call in using his  
14:07:21 22 phone in the interim. And I offer that the witnesses  
14:07:24 23 that we have available will be sworn in at this time.

14:07:28 24 MR. SILVESTRI: Attorney Bachman,  
14:07:30 25 please.



14:07:30 1 MS. BACHMAN: Thank you, Mr.

14:13:56 2 Silvestri. Could the witnesses please just raise their

14:13:59 3 right hand?

14:14:00 4 W E S L E Y S T E V E N S ,

5 D A V I D W E I N P A H L ,

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

7 G I N A W O L F M A N ,

8 D E A N G U S T A F S O N ,

9 called as witnesses, being first duly sworn

10 (remotely) by Attorney Bachman, were examined

14:07:54 11 and testified on their oaths as follows:

14:07:54 12 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Silvestri, we

14:07:56 13 weren't planning on having Mr. Parks verifying any of

14:08:01 14 the exhibits, but if -- I think he's here. I see his

14:08:05 15 name just popped up.

14:08:07 16 MR. SILVESTRI: Let's give it a

14:08:09 17 minute to see if he does connect, and, if so, I'll have

18 Attorney Bachman also administer the oath there, and

19 then we can continue.

20 MR. BALDWIN: Well, let me

21 introduce, because I do see him on the screen now, Tim

22 Parks. Tim is the real estate regulatory specialist

14:08:23 23 with Verizon Wireless responsible for the Norwich 4

14:08:25 24 site.

14:08:25 25 You just missed the swearing in,

14:08:27 1 Tim, so if we could indulge Attorney Bachman to swear  
14:08:31 2 in Tim Parks, we should be all set from here on  
14:08:34 3 forward.

4 MS. BACHMAN: Good afternoon, Mr.  
5 Parks. Could you please raise your right hand?

6 T I M P A R K S,

7 called as a witness, being first duly sworn  
8 (remotely) by Attorney Bachman, was examined  
14:08:52 9 and testified on his oaths as follows:

14:08:52 10 MR. SILVESTRI: Attorney Baldwin,  
14:08:54 11 could you now begin by verifying all exhibits by the  
14:08:59 12 appropriate sworn witnesses?

14:09:01 13 MR. BALDWIN: Certainly, and in the  
14:09:02 14 interest of time, we'll do that as a panel, Mr.  
14:09:06 15 Silvestri, unless there's some objection. Our exhibits  
14:09:08 16 are listed in the hearing program under Roman 2,  
14:09:12 17 Section B. There are seven exhibits listed in the  
14:09:15 18 hearing program. And I would ask our witnesses, did  
14:09:19 19 you prepare or assist in the preparation of the  
14:09:23 20 exhibits listed in the hearing program under Roman 2,  
14:09:26 21 Section B, Exhibits 1 through 7?

14:09:30 22 Mr. Weinpahl?

14:09:31 23 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes.

14:09:34 24 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

14:09:34 25 MR. STEVENS: Yes.

14:09:35 1 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

14:09:37 2 MR. GUSTAFSON: Yes.

14:09:38 3 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

14:09:40 4 MR. LIBERTINE: Yes.

14:09:45 5 MR. BALDWIN: And do you have any

14:09:46 6 modifications or amendments to offer to those exhibits?

14:09:46 7 MR. Weinpahl?

14:09:46 8 MR. WEINPAHL: No.

14:09:51 9 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

14:09:52 10 MR. STEVENS: No.

14:09:53 11 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

14:09:54 12 MR. LIBERTINE: No.

14:09:55 13 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

14:09:57 14 MR. GUSTAFSON: No.

14:10:00 15 MR. BALDWIN: Is the information

14:10:01 16 contained in those exhibits true and accurate to the

14:10:04 17 best of your knowledge?

14:10:04 18 Mr. Weinpahl?

14:10:06 19 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes.

14:10:07 20 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?

14:10:09 21 MR. STEVENS: Yes.

14:10:10 22 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?

14:10:13 23 MR. GUSTAFSON: Yes.

14:10:14 24 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Libertine?

14:10:15 25 MR. LIBERTINE: Yes.

14:10:16 1 MR. BALDWIN: And do you adopt the  
14:10:18 2 information contained in those exhibits as your  
14:10:21 3 testimony in this proceeding?  
14:10:22 4 Again, Mr. Weinpahl?  
14:10:23 5 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes.  
14:10:24 6 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Stevens?  
14:10:25 7 MR. STEVENS: Yes.  
14:10:26 8 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Gustafson?  
14:10:28 9 MR. GUSTAFSON: Yes.  
14:10:29 10 MR. BALDWIN: And Mr. Libertine?  
14:10:30 11 MR. LIBERTINE: Yes.  
14:10:32 12 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you. Mr.  
14:10:34 13 Silvestri, I offer them as full exhibits.  
14:10:36 14 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Attorney  
14:10:39 15 Baldwin. The exhibits are admitted.  
14:10:44 16 Before we proceed, I'm getting a  
14:10:46 17 clicking noise. Is anybody else picking up that  
14:10:49 18 clicking noise?  
14:10:49 19 MR. BALDWIN: I am, as well.  
14:10:49 20 MR. SILVESTRI: I don't know what  
14:10:50 21 that might be. Right now, I think it's more of an  
14:10:54 22 annoyance rather than something that's going to  
14:10:59 23 interfere. So we will continue on that one, and if it  
14:11:01 24 does get worse, I'll pause and see how we might be able  
14:11:01 25 to correct that. Thank you.

14:11:06 1 We will now begin with  
14:11:06 2 cross-examination of the Applicant by the Council. I  
14:11:10 3 would like to start with Mr. Nwankwo and Mr. Cunliffe,  
14:11:14 4 please.

14:11:14 5 MR. NWANKWO: Mr. Baldwin, did  
14:11:32 6 Cellco receive any comments from the Town of Bozrah?

14:11:32 7 MR. BALDWIN: I'm going to ask Mr.  
14:11:34 8 Parks or Mr. Weinpahl to answer that question.

14:11:34 9 MR. WEINPAHL: I'm just looking for  
14:11:34 10 him to repeat the question.

14:11:34 11 MR. NWANKWO: I'll go again. Did  
14:11:34 12 Cellco receive any comments from the Town of Bozrah?

14:11:59 13 MR. WEINPAHL: None that I'm aware  
14:12:00 14 of.

14:12:01 15 MR. PARKS: I'm not aware of any  
14:12:04 16 either.

14:12:05 17 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. With  
14:12:07 18 reference to page 8 of the Visibility Analysis,  
14:12:11 19 paragraph 1, would you agree the facilities are  
14:12:16 20 prominently visible from Beechwood Boulevard as shown  
14:12:20 21 in photo 5 of the Visibility Analysis?

14:12:31 22 MR. LIBERTINE: Yes. There is a  
14:12:32 23 portion of the road on Beechwood Boulevard where it  
14:12:36 24 would be visible, yes.

14:12:43 25 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. Does

14:12:45 1 Cellco plan to plant trees -- all trees within the 100  
14:12:53 2 foot by 100 foot leased area?

14:12:53 3 MR. WEINPAHL: The intent is to just  
14:12:55 4 build out the compound, the 50 by 50 compound, and the  
14:13:00 5 additional area outside for the lease would remain as  
14:13:03 6 wooded.

14:13:04 7 MR. NWANKWO: Okay. Thank you. Can  
14:13:04 8 you estimate the total number of trees to be cut that  
14:13:09 9 are at least 6 inches in diameter and breast height?

14:13:13 10 MR. WEINPAHL: I believe this is  
14:13:15 11 probably less than four at 6-inch diameter was cited in  
14:13:18 12 the location where there were very few trees at all  
14:13:22 13 existing. So less than four.

14:13:27 14 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. Would  
14:13:29 15 lowering the tower height by 10 feet affect the ability  
14:13:35 16 of Cellco to make its wireless service good for  
14:13:46 17 coverage and capacity?

14:13:46 18 MR. BALDWIN: David?

14:13:51 19 MR. STEVENS: I'm sorry, I didn't  
14:13:51 20 quite catch the question. Could you repeat that?

14:13:51 21 MR. NWANKWO: Okay. I'll go again.

14:13:54 22 Would lowering the tower heights by  
14:13:56 23 10 feet affect the ability of Cellco to meet its  
14:14:01 24 wireless service goals for coverage, handoff, and  
14:14:03 25 capacity?

14:14:10 1 MR. STEVENS: I believe it would  
14:14:11 2 have an impact, yes.

14:14:16 3 MR. NWANKWO: With reference to the  
14:14:18 4 Council interrogatories, set 1, question 18, Cellco  
14:14:22 5 makes reference to its fleet of mobile generators. Can  
14:14:27 6 Cellco please provide an estimated timeframe from  
14:14:31 7 outage to deployment and restoration in the event of  
14:14:35 8 the onsite generator failing?

14:14:39 9 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Nwankwo, can you  
14:14:42 10 repeat that question? I understand it has to do with  
14:14:44 11 the generator. Just repeat that question one more  
14:14:47 12 time, please.

14:14:48 13 MR. NWANKWO: With reference to the  
14:14:51 14 Council's interrogatories, set 1, question 18, Cellco  
14:14:54 15 references its fleet of mobile generators. Can Cellco  
14:14:59 16 please provide an estimated timeframe from outage to  
14:15:05 17 deployment and restoration in the event of the onsite  
14:15:13 18 generator failing?

14:15:13 19 MR BALDWIN: Okay. Just so I'm  
14:15:15 20 clear, probably for Mr. Parks, you're looking for if  
14:15:19 21 the onsite generator fails, how long would it take to  
14:15:23 22 have a mobile generator deployed at the facility?

14:15:28 23 MR. NWANKWO: Yes.

14:15:29 24 MR. PARKS: I believe it would be  
14:15:31 25 within a couple of hours.

14:15:34 1 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. Also  
14:15:39 2 referencing attachment 7 of the application, the last  
14:15:43 3 page indicates that the proposal generator could be an  
14:15:48 4 open set or within a closed set or soundproof  
14:15:53 5 enclosure. Which of these will Cellco use for this  
14:15:59 6 project?

14:15:59 7 MR. WEINPAHL: Typically, it's a  
14:16:00 8 closed set.

14:16:02 9 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. With the  
14:16:07 10 current equipment proposed, what will be the electrical  
14:16:11 11 load on the backup generator?

14:16:17 12 MR. WEINPAHL: It will be about a 30  
14:16:20 13 Kw range at peak. Actually, it would be probably less  
14:16:26 14 than that. I have to check my numbers on that one.

14:16:33 15 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. I'll move  
14:16:35 16 on. Again, with reference to Council's  
14:16:40 17 interrogatories, set one, question No. 12, cellphone  
14:16:44 18 response in the 2012 National Building Code, as  
14:16:49 19 demanded within the 2016 Connecticut State Building  
14:16:51 20 Code, and the 2005 State Fire Code. Would the proposed  
14:16:56 21 project be in compliance with the 2015 International  
14:17:00 22 Building Code as demanded within the 2018 Connecticut  
14:17:04 23 State Building Code, and the 2018 Connecticut State  
14:17:08 24 Fire Safety Code, and offset by the State of  
14:17:11 25 Connecticut in October 2018?



14:17:14 1 MR. WEINPAHL: The design would be  
14:17:16 2 in accordance with the current state code, which is  
14:17:20 3 2018, its referenced standards and other supplements  
14:17:23 4 that are tied into the 2018 code. Any other code  
14:17:27 5 references, prior ones, would not be used.

14:17:31 6 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. Just one  
14:17:37 7 more question on the generator. The application states  
14:17:40 8 that a 25 kilowatt propane four generator with 1,000  
14:17:46 9 gallon propane tank with will used. How long will the  
14:17:49 10 generator be able to operate on the 1,000 gallons of  
14:17:54 11 propane?

14:17:56 12 MR. WEINPAHL: That would depend on  
14:17:57 13 the overall load of the site. Typically, that can go  
14:18:00 14 about a week before it has to get refilled, and it's  
14:18:06 15 alarmed, so they'll know when the fuel is at a certain  
14:18:11 16 level, so it would be fueled before it were to run out.

14:18:16 17 MR. NWANKWO: Okay. Thank you.  
14:18:16 18 Also, with reference to the application sheet C4 of the  
14:18:20 19 construction drawing indicates that Cellco intends to  
14:18:23 20 install one equipment cabinet. Now, looking at  
14:18:28 21 Cellco's response to interrogatory No. 20, will the  
14:18:32 22 backup be located within the cabinet, or will there be  
14:18:37 23 a second backup cabinet?

14:18:40 24 MR. WEINPAHL: There used to be a  
14:18:42 25 second cabinet with batteries alone, but they've now

14:18:45 1 integrated to one cabinet. So the one cabinet noted on  
14:18:47 2 the drawings is currently the one cabinet that would be  
14:18:52 3 deployed.

14:18:53 4 MR. NWANKWO: How frequently will  
14:18:59 5 the generator be exercised?

14:18:59 6 MR. WEINPAHL: I apologize. Can you  
14:19:00 7 repeat that again?

14:19:02 8 MR. NWANKWO: What would be the  
14:19:03 9 frequency and time of day the generator will be  
14:19:06 10 exercised?

14:19:08 11 MR. WEINPAHL: I believe that's done  
14:19:11 12 weekly. I don't know the times. It's generally in the  
14:19:13 13 afternoon during the week. I'd have to check with  
14:19:17 14 operations and how they program that. That's generally  
14:19:19 15 how they run those.

14:19:23 16 MR. NWANKWO: I'll move on. What  
14:19:29 17 were the reasons provided by Norwich Public Utilities  
14:19:33 18 for not allowing Cellco to use the water tank located  
14:19:46 19 on the property?

14:19:46 20 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Parks, did you  
14:19:48 21 hear that question?

14:19:49 22 MR. PARKS: Could you repeat that?  
14:19:49 23 I only heard a part of it.

14:19:55 24 MR. NWANKWO: I'll go again. What  
14:19:55 25 were the reasons provided by Norwich Public Utilities

14:19:55 1 for not allowing Cellco to use the water tank located  
14:20:00 2 on the property?

14:20:01 3 MR. PARKS: I don't think we were  
14:20:02 4 given an actual reason. I think it was just a flat no,  
14:20:05 5 they weren't interested in leasing it to us.

14:20:13 6 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. With  
14:20:13 7 reference to Cellco's response to interrogatory No. 4,  
14:20:19 8 will Cellco use the dirt and gravel driveway from  
14:20:26 9 Yantic Lane or use the easement on Philanne Drive?

14:20:31 10 MR. WEINPAHL: I believe Cellco is  
14:20:34 11 looking to retain access through both avenues, Yantic  
14:20:38 12 Lane and Philanne, so they can go in either direction.

14:20:44 13 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. And, if  
14:20:46 14 so, what sort of upgrade or construction would Cellco  
14:20:50 15 install to prepare for the easement use?

14:20:56 16 MR. WEINPAHL: To prepare for?

14:20:58 17 MR. NWANKWO: To prepare for access  
14:21:00 18 driveway for use. What sort of upgrades or  
14:21:02 19 construction will Cellco install?

14:21:05 20 MR. WEINPAHL: There may be some  
14:21:07 21 minimal gravel to add to improve the road, but they're  
14:21:11 22 long-established paths now to the facility. So they're  
14:21:16 23 not intending to do any major upgrades to either roads  
14:21:20 24 coming in.

14:21:22 25 MR. NWANKWO: Okay. How will these

14:21:25 1 upgrades impact the nearby wetlands?

14:21:31 2 MR. GUSTAFSON: I can answer that.

14:21:33 3 Dean Gustafson.

14:21:35 4 The nearby wetlands that are located  
14:21:38 5 along the shoulder of both access and easement  
14:21:44 6 locations, Philanne and Yantic, those areas are  
14:21:51 7 existing either man-made created wetland areas,  
14:21:55 8 essentially functioning as drainage ditches or swales,  
14:22:00 9 or disturbed natural wetland systems.

14:22:03 10 We've proposed extensive erosion and  
14:22:07 11 sedimentation control measures along the shoulders of  
14:22:10 12 each road when there's any improvements made, and we  
14:22:16 13 also have a wetland protection plan in place that's  
14:22:19 14 included in Applicant Exhibit 1, Attachment 11, and  
14:22:25 15 it's also on the project site plan in Attachment 1.

14:22:30 16 And that protection plan provides  
14:22:34 17 contract awareness training over the sensitivity of the  
14:22:38 18 project area and proximity to wetlands as it relates to  
14:22:42 19 the access engagement locations, and we provide a third  
14:22:47 20 party review of the installed control measures, make  
14:22:54 21 sure they're installed properly before construction  
14:22:55 22 begins, and then we do regular maintenance inspections  
14:22:58 23 to ensure that wetland resources are not  
14:23:01 24 unintentionally impacted during construction.

14:23:03 25 So with those protection measures in

14:23:06 1 place, we feel that the project will not have an  
14:23:09 2 adverse -- likely adverse impact to wetland resources  
14:23:11 3 with either access route.

14:23:16 4 MR. NWANKWO: Will these erosion and  
14:23:20 5 sedimentation control measures be installed prior to  
14:23:20 6 clearing?

14:23:32 7 MR. GUSTAFSON: Typically, they're  
14:23:33 8 not installed prior to clearing because clearing  
14:23:35 9 activities will sometimes damage those controls, so we  
14:23:39 10 generally recommend that the tree clearing work can be  
14:23:43 11 done without the need for erosion control, but no  
14:23:45 12 grubbing, no soil disturbance should occur until the  
14:23:50 13 eroding control measures are in place.

14:23:56 14 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. In the  
14:24:02 15 petroleum material storage and spill prevention section  
14:24:03 16 of the wetlands report, they say refueling drums and  
14:24:08 17 tanks. What refueling drums or tanks with hazardous  
14:24:12 18 materials will be kept on the site?

14:24:17 19 MR. GUSTAFSON: That's really  
14:24:19 20 associated with any fueling and refueling of vehicles.  
14:24:24 21 Generally, that's done by a truck that would come in to  
14:24:28 22 refuel any of the excavator or any of those equipment.  
14:24:33 23 So we just make sure that, you know, they have proper  
14:24:37 24 spill protection measures on hand in case there's a  
14:24:41 25 small release, and if the contractor needs to

14:24:44 1 temporarily store any fuel materials, we exclude that  
14:24:48 2 at least 100 feet away from wetland areas to ensure  
14:24:54 3 there's no adverse impact to the aquatic sources.

14:24:58 4 MR. NWANKWO: The application also  
14:25:00 5 states that utilities are coming into the proposed  
14:25:04 6 compound from Philanne Drive, and these utilities will  
14:25:06 7 be installed on the ground. How will the installation  
14:25:10 8 of these utilities affect the existing City of Norwich  
14:25:17 9 utilities within that 20-foot wide access easement?

14:25:21 10 MR. WEINPAHL: We would have a call  
14:25:25 11 before you dig conducted and verify locations of their  
14:25:28 12 existing waterline. The intention with power is to tap  
14:25:34 13 the primary power that runs past the tower facility to  
14:25:38 14 the Norwich water tank further north. So the primary  
14:25:43 15 underground excavation would be for telephone conduits  
14:25:48 16 to bring fiber into the site. So that would all be  
14:25:52 17 coordinated in the field with the contractors with the  
14:25:54 18 utility company for those conduit installations and  
14:25:59 19 confirming we can utilize the primary power existing to  
14:26:02 20 take a short tap into the Verizon electrical meter  
14:26:08 21 bank.

14:26:08 22 MR. NWANKWO: Is it safe to say that  
14:26:11 23 there's enough room for existing utilities and  
14:26:16 24 Verizon's proposed utilities conduit?

14:26:20 25 MR. WEINPAHL: Is there enough room

14:26:21 1 within the existing -- within the easement or within  
14:26:24 2 the --

14:26:25 3 MR. NWANKWO: Yeah, within the  
14:26:26 4 easement.

14:26:28 5 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes.

14:26:32 6 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. Will there  
14:26:38 7 be any emergency services and tenants or municipality  
14:26:42 8 owned tenants or associated equipment mounted on the  
14:26:45 9 cell tower?

14:26:52 10 MR. WEINPAHL: There's none that I'm  
14:26:53 11 aware of from an engineering standpoint.

14:26:58 12 MR. STEVENS: No.

14:27:01 13 MR. NWANKWO: My last question is if  
14:27:05 14 the tower is approved, will the final site grading and  
14:27:08 15 drainage plan be included in the plan?

14:27:11 16 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes, they would be.

14:27:15 17 MR. NWANKWO: Thank you. That's all  
14:27:17 18 I have.

14:27:17 19 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
14:27:19 20 Nwankwo.

14:27:19 21 Mr. Cunliffe, did you have anything  
14:27:22 22 else to follow through with?

14:27:29 23 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you, Mr.  
14:27:31 24 Silvestri. I have one follow-up.  
14:27:34 25 Mr. Weinpahl alerted to an earlier

14:27:37 1 question about a 30 Kw generator, and the following  
14:27:44 2 question references a 25 Kw. I just want to be clear  
14:27:48 3 what's being proposed.

14:27:51 4 MR. WEINPAHL: I apologize for that.  
14:27:51 5 We have a 25 Kw generator proposed, which will be  
14:27:56 6 fueled propane. The total average load on this  
14:27:59 7 generator would be about 10 Kw, based on average  
14:28:03 8 Verizon equipment assumption on other facilities.

14:28:08 9 MR. CUNLIFFE: Thank you. That's my  
14:28:10 10 question.

14:28:11 11 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
14:28:11 12 Cunliffe.

14:28:13 13 Before we go on, I just wanted to  
14:28:15 14 pose two clarifying questions to Mr. Weinpahl, if I'm  
14:28:20 15 saying your name correctly. Mr. Nwankwo had posed a  
14:28:28 16 question of estimated runtime based on the thousand  
14:28:32 17 gallon propane tank. The thousand gallon propane tank  
14:28:36 18 would really only hold 8 gallons. Would your answer be  
14:28:40 19 that you have approximately one week time be based on  
14:28:43 20 that 800 gallons?

14:28:46 21 MR. WEINPAHL: I'd have to check the  
14:28:48 22 calculation on it and give you the firm number, but if  
14:28:51 23 I can take a moment to do that and provide that  
14:28:54 24 shortly. Perhaps it's a day shorter. I'd have to look  
14:28:58 25 at the numbers on it.



14:28:59 1 MR. SILVESTRI: That's fine. We  
14:29:01 2 have a number of questions as we go through Council  
14:29:04 3 members, so if that could be whipped up in that time  
14:29:07 4 period, that would be fantastic.

14:29:10 5 The other clarifying question that I  
14:29:12 6 had is when you responded to Mr. Nwankwo's question on  
14:29:14 7 the response to Interrogatory 12, and that was on both  
14:29:17 8 the building and fire permit, did your answer encompass  
14:29:22 9 both the building permit year, as well as the fire code  
14:29:27 10 year?

14:29:28 11 MR. WEINPAHL: It would be pursuant  
14:29:31 12 to the current code, the current Connecticut state  
14:29:34 13 codes and the latest year that they've been adopted.

14:29:38 14 MR. SILVESTRI: For both building  
14:29:39 15 and fire?

14:29:40 16 MR. WEINPAHL: I believe so, yes.

14:29:40 17 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. That's  
14:29:40 18 all I had.

14:29:43 19 Before we move on, we did find the  
14:29:46 20 source of the clicking. Mr. Stevens, that's actually  
14:29:49 21 coming from your audio when you come on. I'm not sure  
14:29:53 22 why. Maybe it's something you could look at. But,  
14:29:56 23 again, once you respond to a question, if you can go  
14:30:00 24 back on mute, that will help us out an awful lot.

14:30:04 25 Continuing with cross-examination of

14:30:06 1 the applicant by the Council, I'd like to go next to  
14:30:11 2 Mr. Morissette, please.

14:30:12 3 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you, Mr.  
14:30:13 4 Silvestri. Good afternoon, everyone.

14:30:15 5 I'd like to follow up on the water  
14:30:17 6 tower discussion. I understand that there are four  
14:30:23 7 carriers also on that tower; is that correct?

14:30:34 8 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Morissette, are  
14:30:34 9 you talking about the existing water tank on the  
14:30:38 10 property or the tower that's being proposed?

14:30:41 11 MR. MORISSETTE: No, on the water  
14:30:43 12 tower. Are there other carriers on that tower?

14:30:47 13 MR. BALDWIN: No.

14:30:47 14 MR. MORISSETTE: No. Okay.

14:30:53 15 MR. BALDWIN: That should come from  
14:30:54 16 one of my witnesses. I apologize. That was under my  
14:30:58 17 breath. I think it's still the case, but, Mr. Parks,  
14:31:02 18 you could -- you should respond to that one.

14:31:04 19 MR. PARKS: I'm not aware that  
14:31:06 20 there's any carriers on that tower.

14:31:06 21 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. Great.  
14:31:09 22 Thank you.

14:31:09 23 MR. SILVESTRI: Attorney Baldwin,  
14:31:11 24 you beat me to it, so thank you for the lateral there.

14:31:15 25 MR. BALDWIN: I was reminded of the

14:31:15 1 days with Colin Tate when he used to tell me not to  
14:31:15 2 testify.

14:31:20 3 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. Thank you.

14:31:20 4 MR. MORISSETTE: So the proposed  
14:31:21 5 tower will have capacity for four carriers in total; is  
14:31:30 6 that correct?

14:31:30 7 MR. STEVENS: Yes.

14:31:32 8 MR. MORISSETTE: Very good. Moving  
14:31:35 9 on to the photo 11 on the photo Sims. I'll give you a  
14:31:46 10 second to get there.

14:31:47 11 MR. LIBERTINE: Yes, sir. I'm  
14:31:49 12 there.

14:31:51 13 MR. MORISSETTE: That's from the  
14:31:53 14 ball field. I'm curious as to why we can't see the  
14:31:56 15 tower in this photo.

14:31:59 16 MR. LIBERTINE: Well, that's a good  
14:32:13 17 question. It must be just that the tree -- let me  
14:32:17 18 double-check that because that is a little odd from  
14:32:20 19 that perspective, because from the east looking back  
14:32:24 20 that is where most of the prominent views are. I do  
14:32:28 21 remember we have actually flown this site multiple  
14:32:31 22 times over the last several years because we were  
14:32:34 23 looking at several different heights. I'll just  
14:32:37 24 confirm that that is the case, but it may be at the  
14:32:41 25 tree canopy, but I'll have to do a little digging on

14:32:45 1 that and I'll have to follow-up.

14:32:49 2 MR. MORISSETTE: That would be  
14:32:50 3 great. I just thought we'd at least see a little bit  
14:32:54 4 of it to the left of the water tower.

14:32:56 5 MR. LIBERTINE: I do know -- I can  
14:32:57 6 say as you move further to the east, it does become  
14:33:01 7 visible. As a matter of fact, I think we have that in  
14:33:03 8 the next photo, 12, and that's where it does just start  
14:33:08 9 to come above the treeline, so my sense is that it's  
14:33:12 10 direct line of site is -- it's probably buried right in  
14:33:16 11 those trees, but I will -- I would like to double-check  
14:33:19 12 that because it does kind of jump out at you.

14:33:23 13 MR. MORISSETTE: Very good. That  
14:33:25 14 would be helpful. Thank you.

14:33:25 15 MR. LIBERTINE: You're welcome.

14:33:26 16 MR. MORISSETTE: Mr. Gustafson, I  
14:33:29 17 would like to go to your wetland inspection map  
14:33:32 18 relating to wetland 7 and wetland 2 where Philanne  
14:33:38 19 Drive enters the site. I was curious as to whether  
14:33:48 20 a -- whether those two wetlands flow to each other and  
14:33:54 21 whether a culvert should be added. It doesn't appear  
14:33:59 22 that it would be helpful, but I would like to get your  
14:34:02 23 opinion on it.

14:34:05 24 MR. GUSTAFSON: Sure. We couldn't  
14:34:07 25 find a culvert connecting the two, and I actually drove

14:34:11 1 through the project site this morning, and it doesn't  
14:34:18 2 appear that it's impounding any water, so it looked  
14:34:23 3 like it's a fairly small watershed that's feeding  
14:34:27 4 either wetland system and, therefore, I don't see --  
14:34:33 5 obviously, that's been there quite some time. It's  
14:34:38 6 been there to support the water tank, as well as  
14:34:40 7 Eversource uses it to access their nearby transmission  
14:34:45 8 line. So it doesn't appear that there's a need to  
14:34:47 9 install a culvert there, but it's -- you know, it's a  
14:34:52 10 good question because we had actually, during the  
14:34:55 11 examination, when we inspected it, there was a culvert  
14:34:59 12 there, but we couldn't find any remnants. So it could  
14:35:01 13 be just buried and it's still functioning in some form  
14:35:04 14 or fashion, but it doesn't seem that it's causing any  
14:35:07 15 significant flooding in either wetland system.

14:35:12 16 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. That  
14:35:13 17 appears to be the case.

14:35:16 18 Concerning the access drives, I want  
14:35:19 19 to make sure I'm clear on this and clarify that both  
14:35:23 20 access drives will be utilized during construction?

14:35:35 21 MR. WEINPAHL: That's the option  
14:35:36 22 Verizon would have. I think they would primarily  
14:35:41 23 construct this from Philanne Drive. It's the shorter  
14:35:46 24 path to get it. There will be some disturbance from  
14:35:52 25 utilities coming in that direction. I think for long

14:35:54 1 term for maintenance issues, when the site is up and  
14:35:56 2 constructed, field operations needs to visit the  
14:35:58 3 facility, they would have either option to go in.  
14:36:04 4 Construction should primarily be off Philanne, I  
14:36:06 5 believe.

14:36:06 6 MR. MORISSETTE: Would it be a  
14:36:08 7 burden just to limit all construction activity through  
14:36:13 8 Philanne?

14:36:14 9 MR. WEINPAHL: I don't believe that  
14:36:15 10 would be a burden, no.

14:36:16 11 MR. MORISSETTE: It just seems to be  
14:36:18 12 there's the potential of impact along the -- although  
14:36:23 13 it's an existing access drive that's been there for  
14:36:27 14 many years, with that wetland 1 along adjacent to it,  
14:36:32 15 maybe it would be better off just to limit access  
14:36:36 16 through Philanne, but we can give that some thought.

14:36:41 17 Mr. Gustafson, do you have an  
14:36:44 18 opinion on that?

14:36:46 19 MR. GUSTAFSON: Both access roads  
14:36:52 20 are very well-established, including the one coming in  
14:36:56 21 from Yantic. It is a hardened gravel surface and, you  
14:37:03 22 know, other than a couple of small ruts and maybe a  
14:37:07 23 couple of small stones that are frosty, it's in  
14:37:11 24 excellent condition, and it's wide enough to support  
14:37:14 25 construction activities. You know, if -- I'm not the

14:37:20 1 construction manager for Verizon, but, at most, I would  
14:37:23 2 say maybe you just blade the road to smooth it and put  
14:37:27 3 in a new surface, a couple of inches of new gravel, but  
14:37:31 4 even those actives aren't going to have any adverse  
14:37:36 5 affect to the nearby wetland system. Once you get  
14:37:41 6 beyond the shoulder of the road and say 5 to 10 feet  
14:37:44 7 beyond the shoulder of the road, it becomes more of a  
14:37:47 8 natural wetland system, but a lot of the wetland  
14:37:50 9 boundaries consist of excavated ditch work when they  
14:37:54 10 installed the original road. We're not looking at a  
14:37:59 11 significant resource immediately flooding the road  
14:38:01 12 system. Even for construction activities, with the  
14:38:04 13 protection plan we have in place and the erosion  
14:38:08 14 controls to be installed along the shoulder, there  
14:38:12 15 won't be an adverse affect to any of those wetland  
14:38:18 16 systems, even if you use the longer Yantic Road access.

14:38:22 17 MR. MORISSETTE: Very good. Thank  
14:38:22 18 you.

14:38:23 19 MR. GUSTAFSON: You're welcome.

14:38:26 20 MR. MORISSETTE: I would like to  
14:38:27 21 move on to the coverage analysis and, specifically, the  
14:38:33 22 coverage maps on the back of the application, existing  
14:38:38 23 Verizon wireless 700 megahertz coverage.

14:38:48 24 MR. STEVENS: Is there a specific  
14:38:49 25 question, or do you just want me to talk about that

14:38:51 1 map?

14:38:52 2 MR. MORISSETTE: Yeah, I have some  
14:38:53 3 questions associated with it. I want to give you a  
14:38:57 4 chance to get to the map.

14:38:59 5 Just in general terms, the area that  
14:39:02 6 is green is the area that you're trying to enhance?

14:39:10 7 MR. STEVENS: Yes. If it's that  
14:39:15 8 green color or the yellow color or basically no color  
14:39:20 9 shown, those are the places we want to address.  
14:39:23 10 Basically, the blue you can see is the reliable  
14:39:27 11 coverage, so it's basically everything else that we're  
14:39:31 12 trying to address as much as we can in that area from  
14:39:34 13 Route 2, especially where it intersects with I395.  
14:39:39 14 That's really the area we're targeting.

14:39:44 15 MR. MORISSETTE: Okay. So in your  
14:39:48 16 boxes you -- yellow is for outdoors, if I read that  
14:39:53 17 right, outdoors, green is vehicular, and blue is  
14:40:01 18 building. So what you're trying to do is you're trying  
14:40:04 19 to get yellow to blue and green to blue. It's  
14:40:07 20 cumulative, essentially; right?

14:40:09 21 MR. STEVENS: Correct.

14:40:11 22 MR. MORISSETTE: So if you move  
14:40:12 23 along to the next coverage map which is being proposed,  
14:40:21 24 everything turns to blue, so it looks quite nice.

14:40:26 25 The next map is for the 850



14:40:29 1 megahertz, which, existing, you don't have coverage for  
14:40:34 2 that now; correct?

14:40:37 3 MR. STEVENS: Correct.

14:40:39 4 MR. MORISSETTE: Now I'm going to  
14:40:41 5 jump to 2100 megahertz. It appears that there's not  
14:40:48 6 much improvement. Is that me, or am I missing  
14:40:51 7 something?

14:40:53 8 MR. STEVENS: So a 21 megahertz  
14:40:56 9 carrier has a lot less propagation than the 700  
14:41:01 10 megahertz carrier just because of what frequency it is.  
14:41:05 11 So it's usually that carrier is more of a capacity  
14:41:10 12 offload for the more immediate area, and so it does not  
14:41:14 13 have the same impact, especially on the roads, that the  
14:41:17 14 700 carrier has, and that's why you see there's very  
14:41:21 15 little difference. You'll see there's a little bit  
14:41:23 16 extra added right on the site and especially to the  
14:41:27 17 south slightly where it's similar elevation, very close  
14:41:32 18 to obstructions. Again, you won't see a huge impact on  
14:41:35 19 the roads themselves, the major roads.

14:41:39 20 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. That  
14:41:45 21 was helpful.

14:41:47 22 Moving on to interrogatory set No. 1,  
14:41:56 23 question No. 15. The question is, "Do all frequencies  
14:42:04 24 provide both voice and data?" Please explain. The  
14:42:08 25 response says, "Initially." I wonder why you put

14:42:14 1 initially there. Is it long-term at will?

14:42:20 2 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. So basically  
14:42:22 3 the reason why we stated it like that is just because  
14:42:25 4 in the future our plans might change, especially with  
14:42:32 5 different technology coming. The way that it would be  
14:42:34 6 used, it's possible that we would use some for just  
14:42:38 7 data, instead of voice and data. So that was just to  
14:42:41 8 clarify that. Initially, it would be both voice and  
14:42:45 9 data over LTE.

14:42:47 10 MR. MORISSETTE: In the future you  
14:42:49 11 just may use one frequency for data and one frequency  
14:42:53 12 for voice? Okay.

14:42:55 13 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. That  
14:42:56 14 arrangement could change.

14:43:10 15 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. That's  
14:43:11 16 all the questions I have.

14:43:15 17 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
14:43:16 18 Morissette. I would like to continue cross-examination  
14:43:18 19 of the applicant with Mr. Harder, please.

14:43:22 20 MR. HARDER: I have no questions at  
14:43:26 21 this point. Thank you.

14:43:27 22 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
14:43:28 23 Harder.

14:43:29 24 I would like to continue, then, with  
14:43:31 25 Mr. Nguyen, please.

14:43:40 1 MR. NGUYEN: Good afternoon,  
14:43:42 2 everyone.

14:43:45 3 What is the purpose of this proposed  
14:43:48 4 cell site? Is it for utilization, for coverage, or  
14:43:54 5 both?

14:43:58 6 MR. STEVENS: It's for both.

14:44:01 7 MR. NGUYEN: The application  
14:44:02 8 indicates that the adjacent cell sites do not support  
14:44:07 9 850 megahertz LTE; is that right?

14:44:15 10 MR. STEVENS: That is correct.

14:44:17 11 MR. NGUYEN: Does this proposed cell  
14:44:19 12 site support 850 megahertz?

14:44:22 13 MR. STEVENS: Yes, it will.

14:44:24 14 MR. NGUYEN: For the record, could  
14:44:26 15 you explain the benefits of the 850 LTE?

14:44:30 16 MR. STEVENS: So one of the benefits  
14:44:31 17 of the 850 megahertz carrier that we're using is it has  
14:44:37 18 a very similar propagation to our 700 megahertz  
14:44:45 19 carrier, which we have a little more ubiquitously  
14:44:45 20 across all of our cell sites. So it's beneficial just  
14:44:49 21 to have a similar footprint so if -- in one of the  
14:44:53 22 examples is one of our other cell sites that its 800  
14:45:00 23 megahertz carrier is exhausting, as in there's more  
14:45:04 24 demand for data on it than it's able to provide. So  
14:45:09 25 because 850 megahertz has a similar footprint, it's

14:45:12 1 able to essentially offload our 700 megahertz carrier  
14:45:17 2 and provide a little more relief and a little more  
14:45:20 3 capacity. That's the general benefit.

14:45:24 4 MR. NGUYEN: Why do the adjacent  
14:45:26 5 cell sites not support 850?

14:45:30 6 MR. STEVENS: It's because of when  
14:45:31 7 they were initially installed, the equipment didn't  
14:45:34 8 support it. So, you know, we have ongoing projects at  
14:45:39 9 not just building new cell sites but modifying existing  
14:45:42 10 ones, but it's something where, you know, it takes time  
14:45:45 11 and effort and money to modify those cell sites, so at  
14:45:49 12 this time they do not support -- they don't support 850  
14:45:52 13 just because of the equipment there.

14:45:55 14 MR. NGUYEN: Now, is there  
14:45:59 15 fiberoptic cable that connects from this proposed cell  
14:46:01 16 site to landline to the telecom network?

14:46:10 17 MR. STEVENS: They will have to be  
14:46:13 18 installed, yes.

14:46:14 19 MR. NGUYEN: This would be a  
14:46:15 20 fiberoptic line that connects from the proposed cell  
14:46:19 21 site to the telecom network?

14:46:25 22 MR. STEVENS: Correct.

14:46:27 23 MR. NGUYEN: In a worse case  
14:46:35 24 scenario, I just want to confirm, is there a yield  
14:46:44 25 point for this proposed cell site?

14:46:50 1 MR. STEVENS: Sorry, I missed part  
14:46:52 2 of that question. Can you repeat it?  
14:46:55 3 MR. NGUYEN: Yes. Is there a yield  
14:46:56 4 point for the cell site structure?  
14:47:03 5 MR. BALDWIN: I think that's for Mr.  
14:47:07 6 Weinpahl.  
14:47:07 7 MR. WEINPAHL: Are we talking a  
14:47:08 8 structural yield point?  
14:47:10 9 MR. NGUYEN: Yes.  
14:47:12 10 MR. WEINPAHL: It could be designed  
14:47:13 11 within the structure, if desired, to have a weak point  
14:47:16 12 halfway up the structure height, which would be 55 feet  
14:47:20 13 here.  
14:47:21 14 MR. NGUYEN: How do you detect a  
14:47:26 15 service interruption in the case of an equipment  
14:47:31 16 malfunction or a need to repair? Is there an alarm?  
14:47:38 17 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes, there's alarms  
14:47:40 18 within the cabinets that notify operations to let the  
14:47:44 19 field tech know there's an issue with the cabinet.  
14:47:49 20 It's all alarmed. Correct.  
14:47:52 21 MR. NGUYEN: I think you spoke about  
14:47:56 22 the maintenance schedule. How often would you send  
14:48:00 23 technicians out to the cell site for maintenance  
14:48:03 24 purposes?  
14:48:05 25 MR. WEINPAHL: Typically once a

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month.

MR. NGUYEN: And from where does the company dispatch service technicians? Is it in Connecticut? Are they by Norwich?

MR. WEINPAHL: These are Verizon employees. I believe most of them live in Connecticut, and they cover certain geographical territories.

MR. NGUYEN: And the operation center that sends out a technician can be throughout the state, it's not in a very specific place? For example, when the cell site receives an alarm, which operating center that would receive that alarm.

MR. WEINPAHL: This one might go up to Wallingford. I think Wesley can maybe answer that one better.

MR. STEVENS: Yeah. As far as -- that's kind of split up. So as far as who would physically come to the site, those cell techs or those remote out in the field technicians could be, depending on where they are, it could be from various different places in Connecticut. We do have a centralized switch location in Wallingford, which is what Mr. Weinpahl is referring to, that a lot of times also is monitoring these kind of alarms and would assist remotely.

MR. NGUYEN: By the way, my question

14:49:45 1 references all witnesses, so to the panel.

14:49:57 2 This cell cite operates by

14:50:00 3 commercial power on this site; is that right?

14:50:08 4 MR. WEINPAHL: Commercial power --

14:50:09 5 electrical power you mean?

14:50:12 6 MR. NGUYEN: Yes.

14:50:14 7 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes.

14:50:17 8 MR. NGUYEN: Now, if I may reference

14:50:21 9 you to the recent storm in Connecticut. The cellphone

14:50:29 10 services were out for days. Was Cellco cell site

14:50:37 11 affected by this storm back in August?

14:50:42 12 MR. BALDWIN: Tim or Wes are

14:50:48 13 probably the best ones to answer that one.

14:50:52 14 MR. STEVENS: I'm not sure. I don't

14:50:54 15 have that information in front of me right now.

14:50:58 16 MR. PARKS: I can answer that. We

14:51:00 17 had multiple sites affected by the storm, especially up

14:51:05 18 in the southern Hartford county area, say from

14:51:08 19 Middletown to Glastonbury. The roads were being -- we

14:51:14 20 had outages. We had quite a few outages all over the

14:51:19 21 state.

14:51:19 22 MR. NGUYEN: Is that because of the

14:51:21 23 commercial power?

14:51:23 24 MR. PARKS: Correct.

14:51:25 25 MR. NGUYEN: So what was the lesson

14:51:27 1 learned from that past experience on whether or not  
14:51:29 2 this proposed structure, somewhat enhanced for the  
14:51:36 3 deployment of this proposed cell site?

14:51:42 4 MR. PARKS: Was there a lesson  
14:51:45 5 learned from that storm that affects this proposed  
14:51:49 6 site?

14:51:50 7 MR. NGUYEN: Yes. The lesson  
14:51:52 8 learned that the company draw from and whatever that  
14:51:56 9 action and plans are being used for this proposed cell  
14:52:01 10 site.

14:52:02 11 MR. PARKS: Well, we learned to have  
14:52:06 12 as many ways to keep our state running as possible,  
14:52:12 13 whether it be a generator with backup power with a  
14:52:15 14 mobile unit. We pretty much already knew that already.  
14:52:23 15 We've been dealing with these storms for years.

14:52:27 16 MR. NGUYEN: So the main culprit was  
14:52:29 17 about commercial power, the duration of the commercial  
14:52:35 18 power failure; is that right?

14:52:35 19 MR. PARKS: I'm sorry, can you  
14:52:36 20 repeat that?

14:52:39 21 MR. NGUYEN: Yes, yes. The main  
14:52:39 22 reason for the wire lines service interruption was  
14:52:47 23 mainly caused by the load duration of commercial power.

14:52:55 24 MR. PARKS: I would say yes.  
14:52:58 25 Wesley, do you want to add to that?



14:53:00 1 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. Again, I don't  
14:53:02 2 have the information or data to verify what exactly the  
14:53:05 3 cause was for that storm.

14:53:10 4 MR. NGUYEN: Your south site is  
14:53:13 5 down, and you have no idea what's causing it?

14:53:16 6 MR. PARKS: No, we don't always know  
14:53:17 7 at the beginning, but when we had that storm, I think  
14:53:20 8 it was back in August, we knew the reason. Our power  
14:53:24 9 was down in the area. I don't recall any sites  
14:53:28 10 actually having been damaged, so it would have been  
14:53:31 11 because power was down.

14:53:44 12 MR. NGUYEN: Question No. 17  
14:53:46 13 indicated that the south site does not include the  
14:53:51 14 installation of 5G technology; is that right?

14:53:57 15 MR. STEVENS: That is correct.  
14:53:59 16 Initially, it is not planned to be used for 5G. These  
14:54:06 17 would be all LTE areas, the 4G carriers.

14:54:09 18 MR. NGUYEN: 5G is the current  
14:54:11 19 technology now. Why is the company not considering  
14:54:16 20 employing it?

14:54:17 21 MR. STEVENS: So our approach to 5G  
14:54:21 22 is not to take all of our existing spectrum and to  
14:54:24 23 transition it overnight. We have a large, you know,  
14:54:29 24 user base, phone base, that have phones that do not  
14:54:32 25 support 5G right now. So we are, obviously, working

14:54:37 1 very hard to expand, you know, our 5G network, but at  
14:54:44 2 the same time we have to continue to maintain and  
14:54:46 3 support all the 4G users currently.

14:54:50 4 So -- and to clarify, our future  
14:54:54 5 plans can definitely change. We expect we will  
14:54:58 6 eventually reuse these frequencies for 5G purposes but  
14:55:04 7 currently, today, again if the site was turned on  
14:55:09 8 today, these would be LTE carriers currently.

14:55:13 9 MR. NGUYEN: Assuming that the  
14:55:14 10 company is going to go with 5G in the future, would  
14:55:19 11 that be a physical upgrade for this proposed cell site?

14:55:26 12 MR. STEVENS: There would most  
14:55:29 13 likely be some equipment that would be added, yes, I  
14:55:35 14 believe in the cabinets, that would be added to support  
14:55:38 15 this. So there would be some physical modifications.

14:55:44 16 MR. NGUYEN: But the structure  
14:55:45 17 itself would not.

14:55:49 18 MR. STEVENS: The tower? No. I  
14:55:51 19 believe the equipment that's being put on the tower  
14:55:54 20 would be able to support it.

14:55:57 21 MR. NGUYEN: Okay. Thank you very  
14:56:10 22 much. That's all I have, Mr. Silvestri. Thank you.

14:56:13 23 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
14:56:14 24 Nguyen.

14:56:15 25 I would like to continue

14:56:17 1 cross-examination of the applicant by Mr. Edelson,  
14:56:21 2 please.

14:56:26 3 MR. EDELSON: Can you hear me okay?

14:56:28 4 MR. SILVESTRI: Absolutely.

14:56:31 5 MR. EDELSON: Thank you, Mr.  
14:56:31 6 Silvestri.

14:56:31 7 I think this first question is for  
14:56:34 8 Mr. Stevens, and this was asked before you responded  
14:56:36 9 that the main reason for this application is a  
14:56:39 10 combination of coverage and capacity. When you  
14:56:44 11 referred to capacity, how is it determined that there  
14:56:47 12 was a need for additional capacity in this area, as  
14:56:51 13 opposed to coverage?

14:56:54 14 MR. STEVENS: So whatever existing  
14:56:57 15 cell sites in the area, the Franklin, Connecticut cell  
14:57:03 16 cite has a sector pointing southeast, a data sector  
14:57:06 17 that is what we call out of capacity, or it is the  
14:57:11 18 triggering sector. Basically the utilization that's  
14:57:16 19 being requested of the site during the busy hours,  
14:57:20 20 during the time period where it's being primarily used,  
14:57:25 21 is exceeding its actual capacity. So in that case,  
14:57:28 22 essentially, there's been an impact to users where not  
14:57:32 23 everyone who is requesting data is able to utilize it  
14:57:36 24 to the extent that they need to. That's the capacity  
14:57:40 25 part of this cell site here. It's going to supply

14:57:46 1 coverage, overlapping coverage, that the Franklin site  
14:57:51 2 already has near -- especially on Route 2 near the  
14:57:55 3 intersection with Route 32, I believe it is. That area  
14:57:58 4 where a lot of the demand is coming from that the  
14:58:02 5 Franklin CT site is not able to provide, this cell site  
14:58:07 6 would be able to provide overlapping coverage there and  
14:58:11 7 provide some offload to that capacity issue.

14:58:14 8 MR. EDELSON: Just to be clear from  
14:58:16 9 a customer point of view, how do they see that capacity  
14:58:21 10 constraint today? What happens physically -- what do  
14:58:22 11 they physically see either on their phone or when  
14:58:24 12 listening on their phone?

14:58:26 13 MR. STEVENS: Sure. So this is  
14:58:28 14 primarily impacting data usage. So, for example, if  
14:58:33 15 someone is trying to load a webpage or is streaming  
14:58:37 16 audio or video, the impact would be, you know, either a  
14:58:43 17 webpage not loading or taking a very long time to load  
14:58:47 18 or, again, for streaming services, it would be a  
14:58:51 19 momentary interruption for, it could be a few seconds,  
14:58:54 20 it could be longer, depending on, again, the current  
14:58:58 21 demand on the site.

14:59:00 22 MR. EDELSON: And I assume that this  
14:59:02 23 determination of capacity, then, is both from an  
14:59:05 24 internal monitoring point of view, as well as, this is  
14:59:10 25 really my question, as well as customer complaints have

14:59:15 1 been coming in?

14:59:17 2 MR. STEVENS: So I don't know of any  
14:59:20 3 specific customer complaints that have been forwarded  
14:59:23 4 to me personally on this issue, but we've seen with --  
14:59:27 5 we try to have our metrics set to a point where an  
14:59:32 6 actual customer would see these issues. I know we also  
14:59:37 7 do drive tests ourselves where our employees go around  
14:59:42 8 and, again, test these areas and see the impact  
14:59:46 9 themselves. So that should be reflective of this  
14:59:52 10 trigger that we see in our network.

14:59:56 11 MR. EDELSON: On a separate topic,  
14:59:59 12 Mr. Stevens, the existing water tower looks like a  
15:00:03 13 pretty prominent feature north of the proposed site.  
15:00:07 14 Is that an obstacle you have to work around in order to  
15:00:11 15 get the signal to propagate and, if so, what's the work  
15:00:15 16 around to that?

15:00:16 17 MR. STEVENS: So it is the primary  
15:00:18 18 structure. The way the site is designed, we have three  
15:00:23 19 different sectors or essentially three different sets  
15:00:27 20 of antennas pointing in three different directions.  
15:00:33 21 The way we have the site designed, none of the sectors  
15:00:35 22 are going to be pointing directly at the water tower,  
15:00:38 23 they're going to be pointed around it, and due to that,  
15:00:41 24 we believe there's going to be minimal impact of the  
15:00:45 25 water tower or the actual propagation.

15:00:49 1 MR. EDELSON: Thank you.

15:00:50 2 I think this is a question for Mr.  
15:00:52 3 Parks. This is, again, regarding the existing water  
15:00:55 4 tower. You did say that you went forward and asked the  
15:00:59 5 company if they would consider allowing you to put the  
15:01:02 6 antennas on the water tower and they said no. Not much  
15:01:08 7 you can do about that. From Cellco's point of view,  
15:01:13 8 would that -- if they had allowed you to put your  
15:01:15 9 antennas at the top of that tower, which I think was  
15:01:20 10 190 feet, would that improve the coverage and capacity?  
15:01:23 11 In other words, would that have been a better solution  
15:01:26 12 if they had said yes?

15:01:28 13 MR. PARKS: That's probably a  
15:01:29 14 question for Wesley, since it concerns coverage.

15:01:33 15 MR. STEVENS: I can definitely tell  
15:01:36 16 you it would have also addressed the problems that we  
15:01:39 17 were trying to resolve here. As far as whether it  
15:01:42 18 would be better or worse, I would have to look  
15:01:44 19 specifically. Generally speaking, the higher elevation  
15:01:49 20 is better, but I would have to look at it,  
15:01:53 21 specifically. I can confirm that it would also have  
15:01:56 22 the same positive impact that we are looking for as  
15:02:00 23 this proposed site.

15:02:04 24 MR. EDELSON: I think this question,  
15:02:05 25 then, is for Mr. Parks. Maybe I'll get it right one of

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these times.

I was kind of surprised by the size of the propane tank and, as you already mentioned, on the normal load this might last a full week, and that's a lot longer than we've heard, I believe, than we've heard before on other applications. Does this represent a change in policy at Cellco, to say that you want to try to have backup generators that last during a power outage for upwards of a week?

MR. PARKS: I'm not sure I have an answer for that. It certainly comes in handy to have 1,000 gallons. It eliminates the number of trips and fill-ups that we have to have made to keep it substantial, and when we have long power outages, part of the problem is keeping all sites powered long enough before they run out. So, obviously, the more we have -- the bigger it is, the more we have, the longer it will last. Hopefully, I didn't ramble there.

MR. WEINPAHL: If I can chime in here, too, we did double-check our numbers on that. If fully loaded, it would be eight days for that tank to be empty if it's at 800 gallons. But the generator probably will not be at full load. Say it's at half, 50 percent load, you have 14 days now before that propane tank needs to get refilled.

15:03:45 1 We do a lot of upgrading work for  
15:03:49 2 Verizon. We've been to 700 of their sites probably  
15:03:53 3 throughout the state over a number of years working  
15:03:56 4 with them. Any propane tank facilities typically have  
15:03:59 5 1,000 gallon tanks. They use them universally  
15:04:02 6 throughout the state. I've seen very few Verizon  
15:04:05 7 facilities that are running off propane that have a  
15:04:08 8 tank smaller than that.

15:04:10 9 MR. EDELSON: I would look at this  
15:04:12 10 as a positive development if we see more and more -- we  
15:04:16 11 prefer propane, I realize that's not always available,  
15:04:20 12 propane over diesel. I feel like we've been looking at  
15:04:24 13 72 and 96-hour kind of run times in prior applications.  
15:04:30 14 I think for the resiliency of the overall network and  
15:04:34 15 considering the storms and other natural events that  
15:04:37 16 we've had, this would be very helpful to see a move in  
15:04:42 17 this direction.

15:04:42 18 But speaking of that, and I'm not  
15:04:46 19 sure who to ask, if this is for Mr. Stevens. I think  
15:04:49 20 it is. Again, the application refers to two switching  
15:04:55 21 stations, one in Windsor and one in Wallingford. My  
15:04:58 22 question is in terms of connectivity to those switching  
15:05:02 23 stations, do you have a sense of how much of that line,  
15:05:04 24 whether it's fiberoptic, which I hope it is, or some  
15:05:08 25 other technology, how much of that is aboveground



15:05:11 1 versus how much of it is hanging from utility poles?

15:05:17 2 Is there a sense of how vulnerable that connection is?

15:05:21 3 MR. STEVENS: So, generally

15:05:23 4 speaking, it is fiberoptic end to end from our cell

15:05:30 5 site to our switching center. That's what we strive to

15:05:33 6 have for multiple reasons. Reliability wise it's

15:05:39 7 better, so I believe that's what would be deployed

15:05:43 8 here.

15:05:43 9 To answer your question about

15:05:44 10 whether it would be aboveground or underground,

15:05:51 11 oftentimes it's 80 to 90 percent on utility poles.

15:05:56 12 That's, generally speaking, kind of the standard and

15:05:59 13 much cheaper and faster to deploy. That is, generally

15:06:06 14 speaking, what is done. Again, it kind of depends on

15:06:10 15 the area you're looking at. Sometimes we're required

15:06:13 16 to go underground. Sometimes there's either

15:06:16 17 obstructions or other concerns that we have that make

15:06:19 18 us think it really needs to be underground but,

15:06:23 19 generally speaking, it's aboveground for the majority

15:06:28 20 of the route.

15:06:29 21 MR. EDELSON: So I was curious, when

15:06:30 22 I see the two switching offices, is it correct to imply

15:06:33 23 that that's your redundancy; in other words, if an

15:06:36 24 aboveground fiberoptic line was knocked out, you know,

15:06:40 25 there was -- a utility pole came down and it ripped the

15:06:44 1 fiberoptic down that was, let's say going towards  
15:06:48 2 Wallingford, you could immediately switch to Windsor?  
15:06:51 3 Is that the reason why you put in both sites?

15:06:55 4 MR. STEVENS: So in this case -- so  
15:06:59 5 it -- generally speaking, when we add a new tower on a  
15:07:04 6 new cell site, it will be either connected to Windsor  
15:07:08 7 or Wallingford. Because of the location of this  
15:07:11 8 particular site, it would be connected to the  
15:07:14 9 Wallingford switching site. So just to clarify that  
15:07:18 10 point, it would just be connected to the Wallingford  
15:07:22 11 switching site.

15:07:23 12 To address your diversity question,  
15:07:25 13 generally speaking, the way that the fiber is  
15:07:27 14 diversified is there's going to be, what we kind of  
15:07:31 15 refer to it as the last mile, to get to the cell site.  
15:07:36 16 That can be anywhere between half a mile to a few miles  
15:07:40 17 before it gets to -- I would call it an intermediate  
15:07:45 18 hub, essentially, where that's where half is  
15:07:50 19 diversified.

15:07:51 20 So, generally speaking, the longer  
15:07:53 21 mileage route to actually get to our switching center  
15:07:56 22 from a general area will be diversified. There will be  
15:08:01 23 two different diverse fiber routes that will get to our  
15:08:06 24 switching center in Wallingford. I know for a fact the  
15:08:10 25 switching center in Wallingford has multiple entrances,

15:08:15 1 so to, again, minimize any impact of a particular major  
15:08:19 2 fiber route being cut or somehow otherwise disabled,  
15:08:22 3 there is a secondary route. Again, I do not have the  
15:08:25 4 exact details of what it would be for this site, but  
15:08:29 5 hopefully that gives you a picture of what that  
15:08:33 6 vulnerability and diversity is like for the fiberoptic.

15:08:38 7 MR. EDELSON: That's helpful. Just  
15:08:40 8 to clarify, why did you include Windsor if the  
15:08:42 9 intention is to go to Wallingford? It created  
15:08:47 10 questions in my mind. Why is that in there, in the  
15:08:51 11 application?

15:08:53 12 MR. STEVENS: I'm not sure. I'm  
15:08:55 13 going to have to go back and look. It's possible it  
15:08:59 14 was there in the initial draft days, and it wasn't  
15:09:04 15 caught, so I can go back and look at that.

15:09:07 16 MR. EDELSON: And I think my final  
15:09:09 17 question is for you, Mr. Stevens. There was a sentence  
15:09:12 18 on page 10, and maybe it was too subtle for me, but it  
15:09:17 19 says, "Cellco system is designed to minimize the feed  
15:09:20 20 for additional cell sites in the absence of additional  
15:09:24 21 demand or unforeseen circumstances." I'm not sure --  
15:09:33 22 the situation as is, once you take out the caveat about  
15:09:37 23 additional demand and unforeseen circumstances, it's  
15:09:40 24 really sort of saying this is a good site. It didn't  
15:09:45 25 seem to be a meaningful statement, so I was wondering

15:09:49 1 if I just missed what the point is there.

15:09:53 2 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Edelson, Page 10  
15:09:56 3 of the application itself in the narrative?

15:09:59 4 MR. EDELSON: Correct.

15:09:59 5 MR. BALDWIN: I'm sorry, Wesley. I  
15:10:02 6 didn't mean to talk over you.

15:10:02 7 MR. STEVENS: No, that's fine.

15:10:03 8 So, I mean, generally speaking,  
15:10:05 9 that's kind of a generalized term for what I believe.  
15:10:09 10 We tried to make sure that the sites that we deploy  
15:10:12 11 have a purpose, that we get the most out of them, what  
15:10:17 12 we can. So, again, we don't have to go back and put  
15:10:20 13 another cell site right next to it or in a similar  
15:10:25 14 area. I think that's the part of the unforeseen demand  
15:10:28 15 that comes into play.

15:10:30 16 We have projections of what we think  
15:10:32 17 the demand is. From a coverage perspective, it's a  
15:10:35 18 little more straightforward where we know which areas  
15:10:38 19 we have good coverage, which areas we have marginal  
15:10:41 20 coverage, and which areas we don't have any.  
15:10:44 21 Especially when it comes to capacity, again, the  
15:10:47 22 existing cell site, the Franklin site, we know what the  
15:10:50 23 demand is right now and we can forecast, you know, in  
15:10:53 24 the immediate future, you know, let's say six months  
15:10:57 25 with a fairly high accuracy.

15:10:59 1 The further in the future you look,  
15:11:01 2 the more uncertainty there is. You know, just patterns  
15:11:06 3 of people moving, whether there's new businesses that  
15:11:10 4 draw people in or whatever it may be that changes the  
15:11:13 5 traffic pattern, that could always have an impact on  
15:11:16 6 what our needs are as a network.

15:11:18 7 So we try to do the best we can with  
15:11:22 8 our planning, but it's possible in the future that we  
15:11:25 9 need more capacity in certain areas than we initially  
15:11:30 10 suspected. I believe that's what that statement is  
15:11:33 11 trying to convey.

15:11:34 12 MR. EDELSON: Thank you.

15:11:35 13 My last question is for Mr.  
15:11:38 14 Libertine. I'm trying to look through all of the  
15:11:42 15 pictures in the visibility analysis. I guess I was  
15:11:46 16 struck by the fact of how prominent the water tower was  
15:11:52 17 in every one where there was visibility. Did I miss  
15:11:55 18 it, or let me ask it this way, is there any view where  
15:11:58 19 the only thing -- you would only see the cell tower,  
15:12:03 20 but not the water tower?

15:12:05 21 MR. LIBERTINE: There are some  
15:12:06 22 areas, Mr. Edelson, where that does occur. Photo No.  
15:12:09 23 12 is looking down Otrobando Avenue, so there's a  
15:12:14 24 narrow view. But, no, that hilltop is dominated  
15:12:17 25 primarily by the water tank, which is about 190 feet in

15:12:21 1 the air, and so it is the most prominent structure from  
15:12:27 2 generally anywhere within a mile to mile and a half if  
15:12:29 3 you're driving the area. The only area where you don't  
15:12:31 4 really see that hill, which is a very broad hilltop, is  
15:12:37 5 really from the east where things tend to drop off. So  
15:12:40 6 there's not a lot of visibility -- I'm sorry, excuse  
15:12:41 7 me, from the west. From the western portion of our  
15:12:46 8 study area, you really don't have that aspect, but from  
15:12:49 9 other locations, primarily looking back from the east,  
15:12:52 10 as you suggest, that tank is really the structure that  
15:12:57 11 sticks out, among anything else.

15:12:58 12 MR. EDELSON: Thank you. And, Mr.  
15:13:00 13 Silvestri, that's all of my questions, so thank you.

15:13:02 14 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:13:05 15 Edelson.

15:13:10 16 MR. LIBERTINE: Mr. Silvestri?

15:13:10 17 MR. SILVESTRI: Yes? Who's that?

15:13:11 18 MR. LIBERTINE: Could I follow-up  
15:13:12 19 and answer Mr. Morissette's question that had me  
15:13:16 20 digging back into my files from a few years back? So  
15:13:20 21 he had asked about some ball fields that we depicted in  
15:13:24 22 photo No. 11 in the visual analysis behind tab 8 -- tab  
15:13:29 23 9, excuse me, in the application.

15:13:31 24 What I did find was we had at one  
15:13:34 25 time originally flown a balloon at 180 feet, and we

15:13:38 1 have a photo from that same area, and what I found was  
15:13:42 2 that the height of a tower from that perspective in  
15:13:48 3 photo 11 would have to be in the range of 150 before it  
15:13:53 4 clipped the treetops. So it's just strictly a matter  
15:13:57 5 of just aspect and location for that, so that photo is  
15:14:01 6 accurate in the existing package at 110 feet. It will  
15:14:06 7 not be visible above the treeline from that entire  
15:14:10 8 sports complex.

15:14:12 9 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:14:13 10 Libertine. That was actually on my list from when my  
15:14:17 11 opportune time comes to ask questions to follow up with  
15:14:20 12 you. You beat me to it, but I appreciate your response  
15:14:23 13 on that one. I also appreciate Mr. Weinpahl's response  
15:14:27 14 on the runtime of eight days, so thank you. Thank you  
15:14:27 15 both.

15:14:30 16 I would like to continue with  
15:14:34 17 cross-examination of the applicant, this time by Mr.  
15:14:37 18 Lynch, please. I see two sections for Mr. Lynch. Mr.  
15:15:20 19 Lynch, are you with us?

15:15:20 20 MR. DeMAREST: I'll try to unmute  
15:15:20 21 him again.

15:15:35 22 MR. SILVESTRI: We'll try again.  
15:15:36 23 Mr. Lynch? I will come back to Mr. Lynch. I'm not  
15:15:47 24 sure what the audio issue might be.

15:15:50 25 Again, I appreciate Mr. Libertine's

15:15:52 1 and Mr. Weinpahl's responses to two open items that we  
15:15:56 2 had. Another clarification that I'm looking at goes  
15:16:02 3 back to Mr. Nguyen's question about the outages.

15:16:06 4                   If I understood correctly, the  
15:16:09 5 indication was the reason for the outages seemed to be  
15:16:14 6 that the primary electrical system was down. When that  
15:16:17 7 happens, what's the sequence for keeping the cell tower  
15:16:23 8 going? Is that a battery and then a generator type  
15:16:28 9 sequence, or did something else happen there? And I'm  
15:16:33 10 not sure who might answer that one.

15:16:36 11                   MR. PARKS: I think I can answer  
15:16:37 12 that. To begin with, it would be the propane or  
15:16:40 13 diesel, or whatever backup we have. We would try to  
15:16:44 14 keep that full -- when we had that storm back in  
15:16:50 15 August. The problem was that we had so many sites, we  
15:16:53 16 could not -- we couldn't keep them all powered. We  
15:16:58 17 just couldn't refill them as quick as possible. That's  
15:17:01 18 when we had battery backup. However, batteries only  
15:17:05 19 last up to, I think, about eight hours. So we were --  
15:17:10 20 at that point we were bringing in mobile units to keep  
15:17:20 21 them powered. The problem was we had so many outages  
15:17:23 22 that we couldn't keep up. For a couple of days we  
15:17:28 23 could not.

15:17:29 24                   MR. SILVESTRI: Again, thank you for  
15:17:30 25 the answer.



15:17:31 1 Again, to clarify in my head, if  
15:17:33 2 primary electric goes down, what kicks in first? Does  
15:17:38 3 battery kick in first, or would a generator kick in  
15:17:41 4 first?

15:17:42 5 MR. PARKS: I think it's typically a  
15:17:44 6 generator.

15:17:45 7 MR. SILVESTRI: So the batteries  
15:17:49 8 would be there after the generator would stop  
15:17:52 9 functioning, but the batteries are only for a very  
15:17:55 10 limited time; would that be correct?

15:18:02 11 MR. PARKS: Correct.

15:18:03 12 MR. SILVESTRI: The question of 5G  
15:18:04 13 was also raised by Mr. Nguyen, and I want to get this  
15:18:08 14 straight in my head. If 5G is on a tower, and it  
15:18:12 15 doesn't necessarily have to be this tower, you would  
15:18:15 16 need a 5G phone to be able to get 5G service; is that  
15:18:21 17 correct?

15:18:21 18 MR. STEVENS: Yes. You would have  
15:18:23 19 to have a handset that supports 5G.

15:18:26 20 MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. So if someone  
15:18:28 21 has a 4G phone, for example, and 5G is out there, 5G is  
15:18:32 22 not going to do anything to that phone, but the rest of  
15:18:36 23 the antenna and equipment that's still geared for 4G or  
15:18:40 24 LTE on the tower would still service that 4G phone. Am  
15:18:46 25 I correct?

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MR. STEVENS: That is correct.

MR. SILVESTRI: Okay. I just had to get that straight in my head. I appreciate that one.

Going back, I believe, to Mr. Edelson's question about the water tower. The monopole would be 110 feet, if I have that correctly, the water tower is at 190 feet, and the response about having a blank spot, if you will, I heard was the way the antennas are aligned would kind of avoid any interference from the water tower. Did I get that clear so far?

MR. STEVENS: Yes. So because the antennas aren't pointed directly at the water tower, they're pointed to the side, essentially the main areas that they cover wouldn't be directly impacted. Obviously, if the signal from each one of those sectors pointing other directions, when you look at the propagation when it goes directly more towards that water tower, it will have some impact due to that water tower, but it shouldn't have a major impact on the overall coverage footprint. There shouldn't be a hole because of it.

MR. SILVESTRI: What I was kind of getting at is if you have two antennas, one's going to point to the left of the water tower, the other one is

15:20:13 1 going to point to the right of the water tower. Isn't  
15:20:16 2 there some type of blank stop immediately behind and to  
15:20:22 3 the distance of that water tower because the signals  
15:20:25 4 can't wrap around?

15:20:26 5 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. So there would  
15:20:28 6 be some amount of, I guess you could call it blank  
15:20:32 7 spots, where the signal can't penetrate directly  
15:20:35 8 through the water tower to -- at least to the same  
15:20:38 9 power and degree that it would give you with reliable  
15:20:43 10 service, but essentially that would only -- that kind  
15:20:47 11 of hold, that gap area, would only extend -- it  
15:20:52 12 wouldn't extend very far, less than a quarter of a  
15:20:57 13 mile. Probably much less than that. I would have to  
15:21:00 14 look at the exact dimensions, but, essentially, there  
15:21:05 15 is some amount of, you can call it wraparound, of the  
15:21:08 16 signal. It wouldn't be perfect. Again, it would be a  
15:21:12 17 bit of a -- you can think of it as almost a shadow that  
15:21:16 18 that water tank would have. But it certainly would not  
15:21:18 19 impact the areas that we're looking at -- when you get  
15:21:23 20 to the Route 2 area, that shouldn't have any impact on  
15:21:28 21 the signal there.

15:21:29 22 MR. SILVESTRI: Would it also be the  
15:21:31 23 anticipation that some other tower in the area might  
15:21:33 24 cover that shadow, if you will, or blank spot, as I  
15:21:37 25 call it?

15:21:38 1 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. That area  
15:21:41 2 should -- I believe would currently be covered by  
15:21:43 3 another site to some extent.

15:21:46 4 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. And just  
15:21:48 5 one other question, because I couldn't see it on the  
15:21:50 6 drawing, at least directly. What's the distance of the  
15:21:54 7 proposed location of the monopole to the existing water  
15:22:10 8 tower?

15:22:10 9 MR. WEINPAHL: 335 feet is to the  
15:22:13 10 fence of the water tower compound.

15:22:24 11 MR. SILVESTRI: That should suffice  
15:22:25 12 for what I was looking for. Thank you. That's really  
15:22:29 13 all the questions or follow-up questions that I have.  
15:22:32 14 But, as we know, when we pose questions and receive  
15:22:36 15 answers, sometimes it does spur other questions. So  
15:22:39 16 I'd like to go back to our staff and our Council  
15:22:43 17 members just to see if they have anything else that  
15:22:46 18 might have arose for question purposes, and I'd like to  
15:22:51 19 start this with Mr. Nwankwo and Mr. Cunliffe. Do you  
15:22:59 20 have any follow-up questions?

15:22:59 21 MR. NWANKWO: Yes. Thank you, Mr.  
15:23:01 22 Chairman. I have just one question.

15:23:01 23 MR. SILVESTRI: Please go ahead.

15:23:03 24 MR. NWANKWO: Mr. Wesley, I wanted  
15:23:06 25 to ask, the antennas would each be upgraded on all the

15:23:11 1 frequencies or upgraded on separate frequencies?

15:23:15 2 MR. STEVENS: The entire -- that  
15:23:17 3 would be deployed would be supporting -- so the design  
15:23:20 4 for this site, I believe, is you're going to have a  
15:23:25 5 pair of antennas on each sector, so there would be  
15:23:30 6 three sets pointing in different directions, and we  
15:23:33 7 would have 700 and 850 megahertz frequencies on both of  
15:23:40 8 the antennas, and then we would have the 21 megahertz  
15:23:46 9 frequency on one of those two antennas and the 1900  
15:23:50 10 megahertz on the other. Each of the antennas would  
15:23:54 11 have three of the four frequencies.

15:23:56 12 MR. NWANKWO: That answers my  
15:23:58 13 question. Thank you.

15:23:59 14 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:24:02 15 Nwankwo.

15:24:02 16 Mr. Cunliffe, any follow-up  
15:24:04 17 questions?

15:24:05 18 MR. CUNLIFFE: Yes. There was quite  
15:24:07 19 a discussion on the reliability of the network,  
15:24:11 20 particularly surrounding discussion on the storm  
15:24:12 21 events. The focus happened to be on the commercial  
15:24:16 22 towers serving the network. Could you also be  
15:24:19 23 attributing that the outages could be affecting the  
15:24:22 24 backhaul system as well? It's kind of like a two-prong  
15:24:26 25 effect. You have fiber going out and you've got

15:24:31 1 commercial. Any comment on that?

15:24:33 2 MR. PARKS: I can answer that. That  
15:24:35 3 was an issue during that August storm. It was mostly  
15:24:39 4 power. It was a backhaul issue as well.

15:24:45 5 MR. CUNLIFFE: All right. Thank  
15:24:47 6 you.

15:24:48 7 MR. SILVESTRI: Anything else, Mr.  
15:24:50 8 Cunliffe?

15:24:50 9 MR. CUNLIFFE: No more. Thank you.

15:24:52 10 MR. SILVESTRI: Mr. Morissette, any  
15:24:54 11 follow-up questions?

15:24:55 12 MR. MORISSETTE: Yes. Thank you,  
15:24:56 13 Mr. Silvestri.

15:24:58 14 I must have missed something here,  
15:25:00 15 but there was mention relating to the 1,000 gallon  
15:25:04 16 propane tank as only being filled to 800 gallons. Why  
15:25:09 17 is there a limitation on filling it to not 1,000?

15:25:17 18 MR. WEINPAHL: That's a standard on  
15:25:19 19 the expansion of the gas that would happen inside the  
15:25:24 20 tank.

15:25:24 21 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you. I  
15:25:26 22 didn't realize that. That's helpful.

15:25:28 23 The next question I have for Mr.  
15:25:32 24 Stevens relating to the coverage map again and the  
15:25:36 25 discussion around North Franklin SC2. Now, that's a

15:25:43 1 small cell site; correct?

15:25:45 2 MR. STEVENS: That is correct.

15:25:50 3 MR. MORISSETTE: Was the possibility  
15:25:53 4 of upgrading that to a full scale site looked at at  
15:25:58 5 all, and if it was, did it -- would it have provided  
15:26:01 6 coverage for the site that we're looking for here?

15:26:08 7 MR. STEVENS: So, yeah, just to talk  
15:26:10 8 a little bit of what the site is currently. So it is  
15:26:13 9 currently a small cell. It currently is on a building,  
15:26:20 10 I believe. Currently it only has our 2100 megahertz  
15:26:26 11 frequency on it today. I do not know all of the real  
15:26:29 12 estate restrictions on that site. I don't know if Tim  
15:26:33 13 Parks has any comments on that.

15:26:35 14 Currently, if we were to add, for  
15:26:40 15 example, our 700 megahertz frequency there, it would  
15:26:44 16 have a positive impact on the coverage blueprint,  
15:26:50 17 especially on Route 32 and near -- close to where it  
15:26:56 18 intersects with Route 2. But it would not cover a lot  
15:27:00 19 of the other problem areas that we have that this site  
15:27:09 20 would provide. Hopefully, that answers your question.

15:27:12 21 MR. MORISSETTE: Yeah, it did. You  
15:27:15 22 stated before that that was the specific site that was  
15:27:19 23 causing, I think it was data capacity problems, and was  
15:27:26 24 limiting -- was the limiting factor in your design,  
15:27:32 25 that you tried to support that. Is there any thought

15:27:38 1 about upgrading that, as well, at some point?

15:27:41 2 MR. STEVENS: Yeah. So just to -- I  
15:27:42 3 apologize if I missed that question a little bit. So  
15:27:45 4 we have two sites to the north, in that north area. We  
15:27:50 5 have the Franklin CT cell tower site, and we have the  
15:27:56 6 North Franklin CT SE2, which is the small cell. So the  
15:28:03 7 Franklin CT tower site that is further north, that is  
15:28:06 8 the site that currently has a capacity issue. So  
15:28:11 9 that's the site we're trying to address, the capacity  
15:28:15 10 issue.

15:28:16 11 And specifically that small cell,  
15:28:21 12 the North Franklin CT SE2, that small cell does help  
15:28:27 13 quite a bit in the area that it covers which, again, is  
15:28:31 14 kind of a little farther north on Route 32 and Route  
15:28:36 15 87, I believe it is. But a lot of that capacity  
15:28:41 16 concern that the Franklin CT site is trying to cover  
15:28:46 17 but has insufficient capacity is actually on Route 2,  
15:28:48 18 where it intersects with Route 32 and also extending  
15:28:52 19 out slightly eastward.

15:28:54 20 So, unfortunately, the small cell  
15:28:57 21 does not cover that today. Again, if it was upgraded  
15:29:00 22 to have the 700 megahertz frequency, which does have  
15:29:03 23 better propagation, it would cover more. I don't  
15:29:06 24 believe it would, it would definitely not cover the  
15:29:10 25 same area as the site would, and I don't believe it



15:29:13 1 would completely address the capacity concerns we have  
15:29:17 2 on that Franklin CT tower site.

15:29:22 3 MR. MORISSETTE: Thank you for that  
15:29:23 4 clarification. That's very helpful. That's all the  
15:29:28 5 questions I have.

15:29:29 6 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:29:29 7 Morissette. You know, one of my favorite questions to  
15:29:34 8 ask was always like how many gallons does a 1,000  
15:29:37 9 gallon propane tank hold? For some reason, it just  
15:29:39 10 stops people in their tracks, but it's nice to get the  
15:29:41 11 correct answers out of that.

15:29:42 12 I would like to continue and see if  
15:29:44 13 Mr. Harder has any additional questions for the  
15:29:48 14 applicant.

15:29:49 15 MR. HARDER: No questions. Thank  
15:29:51 16 you.

15:29:51 17 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:29:51 18 Harder. Mr. Nguyen, any additional questions?

15:29:55 19 MR. NGUYEN: No additional  
15:29:57 20 questions. Thank you.

15:29:58 21 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you also. Mr.  
15:30:00 22 Edelson?

15:30:01 23 MR. EDELSON: Just a quick  
15:30:03 24 edification question for me. So we've got on this  
15:30:05 25 tower the 850 megahertz, and at least, as far as my

15:30:10 1 memory goes, we haven't seen many applications with  
15:30:14 2 that. If we look at Connecticut and Verizon, how many  
15:30:18 3 towers have the 850 megahertz antennas? A broad  
15:30:23 4 percentage would do.

15:30:27 5 MR. STEVENS: I would say it's a  
15:30:29 6 fairly low percentage right now. It's something where  
15:30:32 7 we've only started adding, especially as kind of a  
15:30:36 8 standard, fairly recently, you know, within the last  
15:30:37 9 year or two. So it's a very low percentage of sites  
15:30:43 10 that currently have the 850 megahertz equipment up and  
15:30:46 11 running.

15:30:48 12 MR. EDELSON: It's possible we'll  
15:30:51 13 see more and more use of that because of the reasons  
15:30:54 14 that you stated for why you're doing it here?

15:30:57 15 MR. STEVENS: Yes. And our  
15:30:58 16 equipment is also improved to make it cheaper and  
15:31:01 17 easier to deploy more carriers, so that has also  
15:31:06 18 encouraged us to deploy more of our carriers where we  
15:31:10 19 can so that we have that better capacity up front. So  
15:31:16 20 we have to make fewer return trips to sites when there  
15:31:17 21 are capacity issues.

15:31:18 22 MR. EDELSON: Thank you. That's  
15:31:19 23 all, Mr. Silvestri.

15:31:21 24 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:31:23 25 Edelson. Let's see if Mr. Lynch has his audio back.

15:31:27 1 Mr. Lynch?

15:31:32 2 MR. LYNCH: Can you hear me, Mr.

15:31:33 3 Chairman?

15:31:34 4 MR. SILVESTRI: I can hear you loud  
15:31:36 5 and clear. Please fire away.

15:31:37 6 MR. LYNCH: I'm back in the game, I

15:31:38 7 guess. I just want to follow up on a question Mr.

15:31:46 8 Cunliffe had about your backhaul system going down, and

15:31:49 9 that would include the landline. What procedures are

15:31:54 10 in place to get that up and running?

15:32:04 11 MR. PARKS: I would -- I'm not sure

15:32:07 12 I can answer that for you.

15:32:10 13 MR. STEVENS: I can definitely

15:32:12 14 attempt an answer at that. So, generally speaking,

15:32:15 15 when the backhaul goes down, so a fiberoptic connection

15:32:22 16 goes down, the first people to get notified are our

15:32:27 17 technicians. So they'll essentially -- again, they'll

15:32:31 18 notice that they do not have connectivity to the

15:32:35 19 equipment at our site. That's the first indication

15:32:37 20 that something could be wrong. There's a couple of

15:32:41 21 other things they can look at to try to narrow down the

15:32:44 22 problem.

15:32:44 23 If they do determine it is a

15:32:47 24 fiberoptic problem, a backhaul problem, then there's

15:32:52 25 two different scenarios. There are -- basically

15:32:57 1 they'll have to either look and see what type of  
15:33:03 2 connectivity it has, how it's getting back to our  
15:33:07 3 switching center, and from there we do have fiber  
15:33:13 4 providers that we work with that we would contact and  
15:33:18 5 have them go out and assess the damage, find where the  
15:33:22 6 actual break is to the fiber, maybe it's cut somewhere  
15:33:27 7 because a tree fell on it or an accident, something  
15:33:30 8 like that, and our providers would be the ones to  
15:33:36 9 actually go out, assess the damage, determine what they  
15:33:37 10 need to do to fix it, and start working on resolution.  
15:33:40 11 Our technicians would be in contact with them  
15:33:43 12 throughout that whole restoration process.

15:33:47 13 MR. LYNCH: Now, Mr. Stevens,  
15:33:48 14 correct me if I'm wrong, if the fiberoptic system is  
15:33:52 15 down, no matter how many emergency generators you have  
15:33:55 16 onsite, the site is still dead.

15:33:57 17 MR. STEVENS: That is correct.

15:33:59 18 MR. LYNCH: And while I have you  
15:34:01 19 here, I want to go back to your discussion, and I've  
15:34:06 20 forgotten with who, I think it was Mr. Edelson, the  
15:34:11 21 extending or growing of the 5G system, and you said it  
15:34:17 22 would take awhile to do -- you know, before it would  
15:34:23 23 actually replace the existing system. Now, how long do  
15:34:26 24 you think that will be? Because I can remember when I  
15:34:30 25 was told a few years back, more than a few, that the

15:34:35 1 analog system that we were using would last a long  
15:34:38 2 time. It lasted about a year, and then it was  
15:34:42 3 obsolete. So do you see where I'm going? How long  
15:34:46 4 will 4G or LTE be in existence?

15:34:51 5 MR. STEVENS: So, I mean, that's a  
15:34:52 6 fair point; right? We're moving very quickly,  
15:34:55 7 technology is changing all the time, there's always  
15:35:00 8 demand for the newest thing. Essentially, what our  
15:35:03 9 plan and kind of our philosophy is is we want to  
15:35:07 10 support what's existing while slowly growing the new  
15:35:15 11 technology and basically have as much of a seamless  
15:35:18 12 transition as we can. So to the effect, LTE will still  
15:35:24 13 exist, I'm sure, for several more years. But to your  
15:35:27 14 point, we're definitely going to start transitioning  
15:35:31 15 which frequencies we're using and how we allocate those  
15:35:37 16 frequencies between LTE and 5G. There is definitely  
15:35:37 17 going to be a push to start shifting those resources  
15:35:42 18 towards 5G in the near future. Again, that can change  
15:35:45 19 a lot, depending on how successful and how much demand  
15:35:49 20 there is for 5G, but it is definitely going to happen.

15:35:54 21 MR. LYNCH: That leads me to a  
15:35:56 22 question on the focus of your system, your network. It  
15:36:00 23 really isn't on coverage gaps anymore. It's on how  
15:36:04 24 much data you can deliver to commercial clients and  
15:36:07 25 residential clients so kids can play their football

15:36:12 1 games and so on? Am I wrong or are you -- is that the  
15:36:15 2 focus of your marketing department and not your  
15:36:18 3 engineering department?

15:36:19 4 MR. STEVENS: So it's still  
15:36:20 5 something, we look at both. We are very aware of  
15:36:24 6 capacity concerns, to your point. Data demand goes up  
15:36:28 7 and up and up. We still -- again, this site included,  
15:36:33 8 we try to address places where we have what we call  
15:36:37 9 marginal coverage where, again, it's -- we might have  
15:36:43 10 technically some coverage, but it's difficult to make a  
15:36:46 11 phone call or difficult to impossible to, again, do  
15:36:50 12 what we need to do or what the customers need to do  
15:36:55 13 from a data perspective. So I would say we still  
15:37:01 14 definitely address both.

15:37:01 15 If you're referring to the  
15:37:03 16 technology change, absolutely, 5G -- the push for 5G is  
15:37:07 17 that data side. It's just trying to push as much data  
15:37:12 18 to customers as possible. But we're definitely --  
15:37:15 19 that's one of the reasons we're still focusing on LTE,  
15:37:20 20 we're still focusing on the coverage aspect, is because  
15:37:23 21 we do care about, you know, making sure people have  
15:37:27 22 connectivity and making sure we address poles where we  
15:37:31 23 can.

15:37:33 24 MR. LYNCH: So safe to say that your  
15:37:38 25 focus on new towers and on existing towers is to

15:37:41 1 increase your capacity for the upcoming data stream?

15:37:47 2 MR. STEVENS: I would say -- yeah,  
15:37:51 3 most of the new towers that we build today have a  
15:37:54 4 capacity component. They are definitely designed to  
15:37:58 5 have a positive impact on addressing capacity concerns.

15:38:03 6 MR. LYNCH: That leads me to another  
15:38:07 7 question. I forget, one of the interrogatories says  
15:38:10 8 that these antennas on this tower were going to be  
15:38:13 9 probably low profile and the build-out in your system  
15:38:18 10 requires more technology and different types of  
15:38:23 11 antennas. Will that eventually change from low profile  
15:38:28 12 to a full blown platform of antennas? Is that  
15:38:32 13 something in the future?

15:38:34 14 MR. STEVENS: That might be more of  
15:38:36 15 a structural question. I don't know if I'm be able to  
15:38:41 16 comment on that.

15:38:43 17 MR. BALDWIN: I think that might be  
15:38:44 18 something that Dave can address. At what point,  
15:38:47 19 Dave -- is there a distinction to be made between low  
15:38:54 20 and high profile platforms based on the loading?

15:38:58 21 MR. WEINPAHL: If we're talking  
15:39:00 22 about the platforms, they're still called low profile  
15:39:05 23 if we're putting railings on them and supports. The  
15:39:09 24 radio heads that they're supporting are heavy. The H50  
15:39:13 25 antennas that are combined with other frequencies,

15:39:17 1 those weigh 100 pounds each, give or take. They're 6  
15:39:21 2 feet high in many cases. We've seen some recent 5G  
15:39:28 3 antennas come in just 3 feet high by about 18 inches  
15:39:33 4 wide. We've seen some CVRS antennas a foot high,  
15:39:37 5 literally 12 inches by 8 inches wide. So there's a  
15:39:37 6 large variety here that Verizon is deploying on all  
15:39:42 7 different projects that we're juggling around and  
15:39:45 8 getting them to fit. I can't predict what the next  
15:39:52 9 size is going to be on the antennas. I wouldn't make  
15:39:55 10 any changes to the platforms, personally, in terms of  
15:39:58 11 how they're designed.

15:40:00 12 MR. LYNCH: All I'm really asking is  
15:40:03 13 in the future could there be a change in the platform?

15:40:07 14 MR. WEINPAHL: There certainly could  
15:40:08 15 be.

15:40:09 16 MR. LYNCH: While we're talking  
15:40:12 17 about different platforms, I know you're close to the  
15:40:19 18 Thames River and the Sound. Is there any problem with  
15:40:23 19 larger birds, like gulls and offspring, nesting in your  
15:40:30 20 tower?

15:40:39 21 MR. BALDWIN: I think that's a Dean  
15:40:40 22 question.

15:40:41 23 MR. GUSTAFSON: With a full antenna  
15:40:45 24 platform, it definitely increases the probability or  
15:40:51 25 possibility of an osprey establishing a nest. We have



15:40:55 1 seen them establish nests on the very top of the pole  
15:40:58 2 structure, so even if you go with a low profile, it  
15:41:04 3 doesn't necessarily preclude an osprey from building a  
15:41:09 4 nest, but they definitely have a preference for  
15:41:12 5 building them on a full antenna or platform.

15:41:15 6 MR. LYNCH: Mr. Gustafson, I  
15:41:19 7 recently was at the Cape. I saw some towers that  
15:41:23 8 seemed like they had netting on the top. Is that  
15:41:26 9 something that's being utilized?

15:41:29 10 MR. GUSTAFSON: So people have been  
15:41:31 11 working on osprey deterrents probably since the first  
15:41:35 12 osprey nest was built on a tower. They've had very  
15:41:39 13 limited success. One of the issues is that if you are  
15:41:43 14 going to use some type of netting system to preclude  
15:41:48 15 osprey from getting into the platform, it really needs  
15:41:52 16 to be administered for all of the antenna platforms;  
15:41:56 17 otherwise, it really doesn't create a benefit. If  
15:42:00 18 there's an osprey nest anywhere on the tower and it's  
15:42:04 19 active, it usually precludes work from any of the  
15:42:08 20 carriers being performed until the nest is no longer  
15:42:12 21 active. The netting has some limited success, but, you  
15:42:19 22 know, particularly for a brand-new tower, it might have  
15:42:22 23 a little more success. Ospreys have a very high what's  
15:42:27 24 called nest fidelity, so once they build a nest on a  
15:42:32 25 tower, they're going to do everything they possibly can

15:42:35 1 to rebuild it the next breeding season, regardless of  
15:42:40 2 whether there's any deterrents on it or not.

15:42:42 3 MR. LYNCH: Thank you. I've got a  
15:42:44 4 question on battery backup power, and in one of the  
15:42:52 5 interrogatories, I forget which one, how long is the  
15:42:57 6 usual battery backup power utilized before the big  
15:43:03 7 generator kicks in? And if the big generator doesn't  
15:43:08 8 kick in right away, the interrogatory says it will last  
15:43:12 9 up to eight hours. Now, I remember a few years back we  
15:43:17 10 had some engineers tell us that at a maximum power,  
15:43:22 11 look to these backup battery powers would only last  
15:43:26 12 maybe up to four hours. Am I missing something here?

15:43:34 13 MR. WEINPAHL: This was spoken to a  
15:43:36 14 little bit earlier, but, to recap, the generator would  
15:43:40 15 serve as backup first ahead of the battery backup, and  
15:43:44 16 then the battery, once the generator is no longer  
15:43:48 17 functioning, for whatever reason it might be, you may  
15:43:51 18 be looking at anywhere between four and eight hours on  
15:43:54 19 battery.

15:43:56 20 MR. LYNCH: Thank you. While we're  
15:43:57 21 talking about the generator, I want to compliment you  
15:44:03 22 people for -- hold on. I've got to get it here. Your  
15:44:10 23 diagram C4 where you -- you actually have the propane  
15:44:16 24 tank, and you designate the safety areas around it that  
15:44:25 25 the installers of propane, you know, have for like 15

15:44:28 1 to 20 feet they want you away from a structure. I want  
15:44:32 2 to compliment you on putting that into the diagram.  
15:44:36 3 It's the first time I've ever seen it.

15:44:39 4 MR. WEINPAHL: Thank you, Mr. Lynch.  
15:44:41 5 20 years of doing this, we kind of remember to put some  
15:44:45 6 things on the drawings every once in awhile.

15:44:50 7 MR. LYNCH: The other thing is you  
15:44:51 8 talked about the tower being able to go up an  
15:44:55 9 additional 20 feet. Now, you're only at 110. What if  
15:45:03 10 a carrier comes along and said I want to go up to 160,  
15:45:08 11 would that impact the structure of the tower?

15:45:11 12 MR. WEINPAHL: Yes, it would. That  
15:45:12 13 would need a whole reevaluation, especially if we're  
15:45:19 14 only going to design it to be extended up to 20. It  
15:45:22 15 might require a different tower, a newly constructed  
15:45:25 16 tower in place of an existing. I don't know that I've  
15:45:28 17 seen that one before, but anything's possible. It  
15:45:31 18 would need a full reevaluation to go that high.

15:45:35 19 MR. LYNCH: Thank you. While we're  
15:45:36 20 on the tower itself, you mentioned it earlier in one of  
15:45:40 21 the questions that you can build a fault into the  
15:45:44 22 tower. If that was the case, where would that fault  
15:45:47 23 line be at an 110 foot tower.

15:45:50 24 MR. WEINPAHL: I believe the  
15:45:52 25 manufacturers -- they have to be notified of that in

15:45:56 1 their engineering and design of the structure, but they  
15:45:58 2 would typically make it halfway up the structure  
15:46:02 3 height, so 55 feet in this case would be a theoretical  
15:46:05 4 weak point of the tower in that regard.

15:46:11 5 MR. LYNCH: Now, this is more of an  
15:46:14 6 inquiry on my part. Have you ever known of a tower  
15:46:18 7 that has actually utilized that fault in a storm or  
15:46:27 8 anything? That's No. 1. No. 2, or have you ever seen  
15:46:33 9 a monopole, not a large tower, actually collapse all  
15:46:39 10 the way over?

15:46:41 11 MR. WEINPAHL: I have not seen  
15:46:42 12 either in my experience.

15:46:46 13 MR. LYNCH: I was just wondering.  
15:46:47 14 There's a lot of storms.

15:46:49 15 And following up on the storm, I  
15:46:53 16 guess, the question I have is if we know there is a  
15:46:57 17 storm coming like we did this summer, in August, and it  
15:47:04 18 did a lot of damage, does Verizon have any plans in  
15:47:10 19 place to go out and make sure that the tower, you know  
15:47:17 20 the storm is coming, is structurally sound or the tanks  
15:47:24 21 are full to capacity, is there a plan in place for an  
15:47:26 22 emergency situation like that?

15:47:32 23 MR. PARKS: I can answer about the  
15:47:36 24 tanks. The tanks are -- as much as we can do prior to  
15:47:41 25 the storm, we would fill as many as we could if we

15:47:45 1 thought the storm was going to have a major impact on  
15:47:48 2 our network. I can't speak structurally, though.

15:47:56 3 MR. WEINPAHL: The structural codes  
15:47:58 4 and standards do allow for periodic maintenance of many  
15:48:02 5 of these towers. Many are owned by private entities;  
15:48:08 6 Crown Castle, American Tower, they most likely have a  
15:48:13 7 protocol for having their towers inspected, or it's  
15:48:17 8 done so through another carrier's installation, I  
15:48:22 9 believe.

15:48:22 10 MR. LYNCH: So I guess what I'm  
15:48:24 11 hearing, then, is you're not really responsible for the  
15:48:28 12 tower itself, just the equipment that's on it?

15:48:35 13 MR. WEINPAHL: The tower, at the  
15:48:36 14 point of filing for a building permit, would be  
15:48:40 15 prepared in those drawings submitted by the tower  
15:48:43 16 company that manufactures it. And that engineering  
15:48:47 17 will fall on their engineering team, whomever it may  
15:48:52 18 be. They will have the loading that's depicted in our  
15:48:56 19 drawings or whatever loading we want to have them  
15:49:00 20 reserve.

15:49:01 21 MR. LYNCH: Okay. Thank you. I  
15:49:03 22 have one other curiosity question, which is on page 23  
15:49:08 23 of your application. That has to do with cost. I'm  
15:49:13 24 looking at your line item cost, and I get down to  
15:49:19 25 miscellaneous \$200,000, and you name a couple of things

15:49:25 1 that that would be utilized for. My question is, I  
15:49:29 2 wish someone would give me \$200,000 miscellaneous to  
15:49:34 3 work on a project. Now, is there anything, other than  
15:49:39 4 grading and site preparation, that would fall into that  
15:49:43 5 \$200,000 budget?

15:49:49 6 MR. WEINPAHL: That might be an  
15:49:51 7 excessive safety net for them to budget. I don't think  
15:49:54 8 much else of what you described would be required in  
15:49:58 9 this case.

15:50:06 10 MR. LYNCH: Like I said, I'd like to  
15:50:09 11 have the 200,000. Let me see what else I have here.  
15:50:16 12 I'm checking them off. Give me a second. Mr.  
15:50:31 13 Chairman, I think those are all my questions.

15:50:33 14 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Mr.  
15:50:35 15 Lynch.

15:50:35 16 I have one follow-up question, based  
15:50:38 17 on the discussion about osprey. Mr. Gustafson, I think  
15:50:42 18 this is towards you. I don't hear about this species  
15:50:45 19 anymore, but I'll ask you. Monk parrots, have monk  
15:50:51 20 parrots tried to find homes on cell towers, or are they  
15:50:54 21 generally too high, or would the monk parrots prefer  
15:51:01 22 utility poles on a transformer that's more warm than  
15:51:04 23 what they'd find on a cell tower?

15:51:08 24 MR. GUSTAFSON: In my 16, 18 years  
15:51:11 25 of doing osprey nest inspections on cell towers, I've

15:51:15 1 never seen monk parrots on any of the cell towers.  
15:51:19 2 I've heard multiple reports of them on shorter utility  
15:51:24 3 poles around transformers. And I agree, I think they  
15:51:27 4 have a propensity for some of the warmth created by  
15:51:32 5 that because we're certainly at the northern limits of  
15:51:35 6 their range, their unnatural range that -- yeah, but  
15:51:40 7 I've never seen any monk parrots on any cell tower  
15:51:46 8 site.

15:51:46 9 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you. I  
15:51:49 10 appreciate that.

15:51:49 11 When I opened up the hearing almost  
15:51:51 12 two hours ago, I had mentioned we would take a break  
15:51:55 13 around 3:30. I held off on that just looking at the  
15:51:58 14 clock because we have finished cross-examination. At  
15:52:00 15 this point the Council will recess until 6:30.

15:52:00 16 MR. BALDWIN: Mr. Silvestri?

15:52:03 17 MR. SILVESTRI: Attorney Baldwin,  
15:52:07 18 yes?

15:52:10 19 MR. BALDWIN: I'm sorry for  
15:52:10 20 interrupting. Before you let us go for the afternoon,  
15:52:13 21 can I ask one follow-up question on the issue of  
15:52:21 22 viewpoint on the tower? I just want to clarify one  
15:52:23 23 thing with Mr. Weinpahl.

15:52:27 24 MR. SILVESTRI: I don't want to have  
15:52:29 25 it as a redirect, but if Mr. Weinpahl wants to chime in

15:52:33 1 and say I have a little bit of additional information  
15:52:37 2 for you, I'll let that go. Mr. Weinpahl?

15:52:39 3 MR. WEINPAHL: Absolutely. What's  
15:52:40 4 the clarification, Ken?

15:52:42 5 MR. SILVESTRI: If Mr. Baldwin is  
15:52:44 6 going to ask you that, then I look at that as redirect,  
15:52:47 7 and I'm going to say no.

15:52:48 8 MR. WEINPAHL: The question could be  
15:52:49 9 pertaining to are we proposing a yield point in this  
15:52:52 10 tower, and at this point we are not. If perhaps that  
15:52:56 11 might be not certain, or that's been confusing in the  
15:53:02 12 discussions of yield points, we haven't proposed that  
15:53:05 13 that in our design.

15:53:07 14 MR. SILVESTRI: That's fine. I'm  
15:53:09 15 actually glad that you brought that up. Thank you  
15:53:09 16 both.

15:53:12 17 The Council will recess until 6:30  
15:53:16 18 p.m., at which time we will commence the public comment  
15:53:19 19 session of this remote public hearing.

15:53:21 20 Attorney Baldwin, I believe you're  
15:53:23 21 going to have a brief presentation somewhere along the  
15:53:26 22 line there.

15:53:28 23 MR. BALDWIN: I will, yes.

15:53:29 24 MR. SILVESTRI: Again, what I've  
15:53:32 25 normally done with Zoom is basically mute my audio and



15:53:37 1 mute my video, but I've kept connected just out of fear  
15:53:38 2 that I would not get reconnected. I'll leave that to  
15:53:41 3 your discretion as to how you want to work that. We  
15:53:45 4 will see you, then, for 6:30. And we are recessed.

5 (Whereupon, the hearing was recessed  
6 at 3:53 p.m.)

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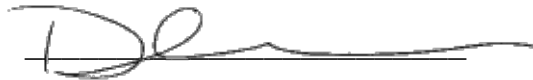
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CERTIFICATE FOR REMOTE HEARING

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

I, Debra A. Chasse, CSR 055, a Notary Public  
duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify  
that the foregoing 80 pages are a complete and accurate  
computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype  
notes taken of the HEARING HELD BY REMOTE MEANS IN Re:  
DOCKET NO. 491 CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON  
WIRELESS APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL  
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION,  
MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS  
FACILITY LOCATED AT 110 YANTIC LANE, NORWICH,  
CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBERT SILVESTRI,  
Presiding Officer, on October 29, 2020.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto  
set my hand this 13th day of November 2020.



Debra A. Chasse, CSR 055  
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