

1 STATE OF CONNECTICUT
2 CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL
3



4 DOCKET NO. 495

5 Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless application
6 for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and
7 Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and
8 operation of a telecommunications facility located at
9 5151 Park Avenue, Fairfield, Connecticut
10

11 VIA ZOOM AND TELECONFERENCE
12

13 Public hearing held on Thursday, January 21, 2021,
14 beginning at 6:30 p.m. via remote access.
15

16 H e l d B e f o r e:

17 ROBERT SILVESTRI, Presiding Officer
18

19 Reporter: Debra A. Chasse, CSR #055
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1 **A p p e a r a n c e s :**

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3 **Council Members:**

4 **ROBERT HANNON**

5 Designee for Commissioner Katie Dykes
6 Department of Energy and Environmental
7 Protection

8 **QUAT NGUYEN**

9 Designee for Chair Marissa Paslick Gillett
10 Public Utilities Regulatory Authority

11 **JOHN MORISSETTE**

12 **EDWARD EDELSON**

13 **MICHAEL HARDER**

14
15 **Council Staff:**

16 **MELANIE BACHMAN, ESQUIRE**

17 Executive Board Director/Staff Attorney

18 **ROBERT MERCIER**

19 Siting Analyst

20 **LISA FONTAINE**

21 Fiscal Administrative Officer

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

2
3 **For the Applicant, Cellco Partnership d/b/a**
4 **Verizon Wireless:**

5 **ROBINSON & COLE, LLP**

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

7 **280 Trumbull Street**

8 **Hartford, CT 06103.**

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1 MR. SILVESTRI: Good evening,
2 everyone. I trust that everyone can still hear me
3 okay.

4 This remote public hearing is called
5 to order. This is Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 6:30
6 p.m. My name is Robert Silvestri, member and presiding
7 officer of the Connecticut Siting Council. Other
8 members of the Council are Mr. Robert Hannon, designee
9 for Commissioner Katie Dykes of the Department of
10 Energy and Environmental Protection; Mr. John
11 Morissette, Mr. Edward Edelson, and Mr. Michael Harder.

12 Members of the staff are Miss
13 Melanie Bachman, executive director and staff attorney;
14 Mr. Robert Mercier, siting analyst; and Miss Lisa
15 Fontaine, fiscal administrative officer.

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

23 This is a continuation of a remote
24 public hearing that began at 2 p.m. this afternoon. A
25 copy of the prepared agenda is available on the

1 Council's docket No. 495 web page, along with the
2 record of this matter, the public hearing notice,
3 instructions for public access to this remote public
4 hearing, and the Council's Citizen's Guide to Citing
5 Council Procedure.

6 The hearing is held pursuant to the
7 provisions of Title 16 of the Connecticut General
8 Statutes and of the Uniform Administrative Procedures
9 Act upon an application from Cellco Partnership doing
10 business as Verizon Wireless for a Certificate of
11 Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the
12 construction, maintenance, and operation of a
13 telecommunications facility located at 5151 Park Avenue
14 in Fairfield, Connecticut.

15 This application was received by the
16 Council on October 16, 2020.

17 The Council's legal notice of the
18 date and time of this remote public hearing was
19 published in the Connecticut Post on December 11, 2020,
20 and upon this Council's request the applicant erected a
21 sign at the proposed access and road entering the
22 subject property from Jefferson Street, so as to inform
23 the public of the name of the applicant, the type of
24 the facility, the remote public hearing date, and
25 contact information for the Council.

1 This remote public comment section
2 is reserved for the public to make brief statements
3 into the record. The deadline for the public to sign
4 up to speak during this public comment session was
5 Thursday, January 14, 2021; however, no member of the
6 public signed up to speak tonight.

7 Please be advised that written
8 comments may be submitted by any person within 30 days
9 of this public hearing.

10 I did request that the applicant can
11 make a very brief presentation this evening to the
12 public for those that are watching and listening that
13 describes the proposed facility. Attorney Baldwin?

14 MR. BALDWIN: Thank you, Mr.
15 Silvestri. Good evening. Again, this is Ken Baldwin
16 with Robinson & Cole on behalf of the applicant, Cellco
17 Partnership doing business as Verizon wireless.

18 The application before the Council
19 today is to construct a replacement telecommunications
20 facility. It is a replacement facility because the
21 existing rooftop facility on the campus at Sacred Heart
22 University, the legal agreements that allow that
23 facility to be there will be terminated on or about
24 January 13, 2022, and we need to establish a facility
25 to replace that existing cell site.

1 The cell site would be located in
2 the northwest corner of the main campus of Sacred Heart
3 University. The map you see in front you is a part of
4 the record, sheet C-1, in the application. For
5 orientation purposes, Jefferson Street runs along the
6 top of the campus, the north side of the campus. Park
7 Avenue runs along the east side of the campus. The
8 campus is also bounded on the south and the west by the
9 Fairchild Wheeler Golf Course.

10 As shown on sheet C-2, the facility
11 will consist of a 50 foot by 50 foot fenced compound
12 area shown as the square. On the left side of that
13 compound area you'll see the proposed monopole tower
14 location. Access to the tower side would be off of
15 Jefferson Street. There is an existing driveway
16 utilized by Sacred Heart University off Jefferson
17 Street that comes up to the top of the hill where the
18 proposed facility compound would be located.

19 As shown on sheet A-1 of the plan
20 set in the application package, some additional details
21 about the facility, the tower itself. The tower is
22 proposed to be 130 feet tall with Cellco antennas at
23 the top of the tower on a triangular antenna platform.

24 Within the fenced equipment
25 compound, Cellco will install two equipment cabinets,

1 some electrical panels, a backup generator, and a
2 500-gallon propane fuel tank to fuel its generator.

3 We did learn prior to this evening
4 and was discussed at the evidentiary hearing that
5 T-Mobile has reached out to Verizon regarding its
6 willingness and desire to share the proposed facility.
7 Thank you, Mr. Silvestri.

8 MR. SILVESTRI: Thank you, Attorney
9 Baldwin.

10 Before closing the evidentiary
11 record of this matter, the Connecticut Citing Council
12 announces that briefs and proposed findings of fact may
13 be filed with the Council by any party or intervenor no
14 later than February 20, 2021. The submission of briefs
15 or proposed findings of fact are not required by this
16 Council. Rather, we leave it to the choice of the
17 parties and the intervenors.

18 And, again, anyone who has not
19 become a party or intervenor but who desires to make
20 his or her views known to the Council may file written
21 statements with the Council within 30 days of the date
22 hereof.

23 The Council will issue draft
24 findings of fact and thereafter parties and intervenors
25 may identify errors or inconsistencies between the

1 Council's draft findings of fact and the record.
2 However, no new information, no new evidence, no
3 argument, and no reply briefs without our permission
4 will be considered by the Council.

5 Copies of the transcript of this
6 hearing will be filed at Fairfield, Easton, and
7 Trumbull town clerk's offices and the Bridgeport city
8 clerk's office.

9 I hereby declare this hearing
10 adjourned. I thank you all for your participation.

11 FUDA: Mr. Silvestri?

12 MR. SILVESTRI: I'm sorry, sir.
13 Again, I thank you all for your participation, and I
14 wish you a great evening.

15 MR. TAYLOR: Mr. Silvestri?

16 MR. SILVESTRI: I'm sorry, the
17 hearing is closed.

18 FUDA: We didn't get a chance to
19 speak, though. We keep getting muted.

20 MR. SILVESTRI: Again, for the
21 record, the public hearing date to sign up was a week
22 ago Thursday, and without people signing up a week ago
23 Thursday, we had nobody to speak tonight. If somebody
24 did sign up to speak and then got ahold of our Council
25 staff and said they do not want to speak, they will

1 submit written statements instead. So we are going
2 with that. So, again, I stand by the record that we
3 did not have anybody signed up to speak as of last
4 Thursday and/or whoever did sign up to speak withdrew
5 and said they would submit written comments.

6 So, again, we will close this
7 meeting. I do thank you all for your participation.
8 If you do have written comments, please submit them
9 within 30 days of the date hereof. And, again, enjoy
10 your evening. Thank you.

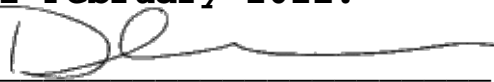
11 (Whereupon, the Public Hearing as
12 adjourned at 6:38 p.m.)
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1 CERTIFICATE FOR REMOTE PUBLIC HEARING

2 STATE OF CONNECTICUT

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4 I, Debra A. Chasse, CSR 055, a Notary Public
5 duly commissioned and qualified, do hereby certify
6 that the foregoing 10 pages are a complete and accurate
7 computer-aided transcription of my original stenotype
8 notes taken of the HEARING HELD BY REMOTE MEANS IN Re:
9 DOCKET NO. 495 CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON
10 WIRELESS APPLICATION FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
11 COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION,
12 MAINTENANCE, AND OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS
13 FACILITY LOCATED AT 5151 PARK AVENUE, FAIRFIELD,
14 CONNECTICUT, which was held before ROBERT SILVESTRI,
15 Presiding Officer, on January 21, 2021.

16 In witness whereof, I have hereunto
17 set my hand this 4th day of February 2021.

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19 Debra A. Chasse, CSR 055
20 BCT REPORTING SERVICE
21 55 WHITING STREET, SUITE 1A
22 PLAINVILLE, CONNECTICUT 06062
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