



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

January 22, 2021

Jesse A. Langer, Esq.
Updike, Kelly & Spellacy, P.C.
8 Frontage Road
East Haven, CT 06512

RE: **DOCKET NO. 496** – Tarpon Towers II, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 800 Prospect Hill Road, Windsor, Connecticut.

Dear Attorney Langer:

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) requests your responses to the enclosed questions no later than February 11, 2021. To help expedite the Council's review, please file individual responses as soon as they are available. At this time, consistent with the Council's policy to prevent the spread of Coronavirus, please submit an electronic copy only to siting.council@ct.gov. However, please be advised that the Council may later request one or more hard copies for records retention purposes.

Copies of your responses shall be provided to all parties and intervenors listed in the service list, which can be found on the Council's website under the "Pending Matters" link.

Any request for an extension of time to submit responses to interrogatories shall be submitted to the Council in writing pursuant to §16-50j-22a of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies.

Sincerely,

s/Melanie A. Bachman

Melanie Bachman

Executive Director

c: Service List dated 12/7/20

Docket No. 496
Pre-Hearing Questions
January 22, 2021

General

1. Referring to Application p. 3, of the letters sent to abutting property owners, how many certified mail receipts were received? If any receipts were not returned, which owners did not receive their notice? Were any additional attempts made to contact those property owners?
2. Referring to Application p. 21, clarify the date that the technical report was submitted to the Town.
3. Referring to Application pp. 21-22, how many residences attended the January 30, 2020, public meeting? What concerns were raised by residents and town officials and how were these concerns addressed?
4. Referring to Application p. 22, how will Tarpon recover the construction cost of the facility?
5. What is the estimated cost of T-Mobile's equipment, including installation? How is the cost of T-Mobile's installation recovered?

Site Search

6. Identify the approximate center and radius of the site search area.
7. When did T-Mobile issue a site search for this area?

Site/tower

8. Estimate the amounts of cut and fill that would be required to develop the proposed facility.
9. Would any blasting be required to develop the site?
10. What measures are proposed for the site to ensure security and deter vandalism? (Including alarms, gates, locks, anti-climb fence design, etc.)
11. Pursuant to CGS §16-50p(a)(3)(G), identify the safety standards and/or codes by which equipment, machinery or technology that would be used or operated at the proposed facility.
12. Would the tower include an engineered yield point to ensure the tower does not strike the building in the event of a tower failure?

Coverage/Capacity

13. Application Attachment 16 indicates the frequencies that will be installed at the site. How do these frequencies interact within T-Mobile's wireless network? Are all frequencies used to transmit voice and data?
14. Would the proposed facility provide 5G services?

15. Referring to Application Attachment 5, what LTE frequency was used to generate the coverage models? Why was this frequency chosen to depict wireless service as opposed to other frequencies?
16. Referring to Application p. 5, provide more specific information as to how the site will improve upon the existing wireless service in the area. Include data that quantifies the additional coverage area footprint and road miles that would be served by the proposed facility.
17. Identify the distance and direction to adjacent sites with which the proposed facility would hand off signals. Include addresses, tower types, and existing antenna centerline heights for such carriers at these adjacent sites.
18. Can coverage objectives be met by installing antennas at a lower tower height? Identify the lowest possible antenna height and describe how this height would affect coverage needs and/or capacity relief within the service area.
19. Can flush-mounted antennas be installed at the site to provide the required coverage? Describe any antenna/tower modifications that would be required to achieve coverage objectives.
20. What is the purpose of the proposed parabolic microwave dish?
21. Referring to Application p. 5, provide the following;
 - a) Identify sites CTHA068A and CT11227D.
 - b) What frequencies and sectors at these sites would benefit from capacity relief?
 - c) Would the proposed facility sufficiently address these capacity issues at these sites or would an additional facility be required in the near term to off-load traffic?

Backup power

22. Referring to Application p. 13, a portable 25 kW diesel generator is proposed for an emergency power source. Why is a portable backup power source proposed for this site instead of a permanent battery or generator? Would the portable generator have secondary spill containment measures?
23. Is natural gas available on the property?
24. Is it possible to obtain emergency power for the proposed facility from any existing on-site emergency power source generator that serves the buildings?

Public Safety

25. Would the proposed facility support text-to-911 service? Is additional equipment required for this purpose?
26. Would T-Mobile's antennas comply with federal E911 requirements?
27. Would T-Mobile's installation comply with the intent of the Warning, Alert and Response Network Act of 2006?

28. Would the operation of the proposed facility comply with Department of Energy and Environmental Protection noise control standards at the property boundaries? What equipment is expected to make noise?

Environment

29. Is the site located on prime farmland soil? If so, estimate the amount that would be disturbed to develop the facility.
30. Is the proposed facility within a Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) designated Aquifer Protection Area? If so, what measures could the Applicant utilize to protect this APA?
31. The DEEP Natural Diversity Database (NDDB) determination expired on January 8, 2021. Does the Applicant intend to re-submit an NDDB Request for Review?
32. Referring to Application Attachment 9 - Visibility Assessment, provide a photolog chart that includes columns for photograph number, location, distance to tower and an estimate of how much of the tower is visible in each photograph (in feet).
33. Referring to Application Attachment 9 - Visibility Assessment, why is the area within 0.35 mile of the site characterized as commercial/industrial/farmland but excludes residential? Estimate the number of homes that would have year-round views of the tower within 0.35-mile.
34. Please submit photographic site documentation with notations linked to the site plans or a detailed aerial image that identifies locations of site-specific and representative site features. The submission should include photographs of the site from public road(s) or publicly accessible area(s) as well as Site-specific locations depicting site features including, but not necessarily limited to, the following locations as applicable:

For each photo, please indicate the photo viewpoint direction and stake or flag the locations of site-specific and representative site features. Site-specific and representative site features include, but are not limited to, as applicable:

1. wetlands, watercourses and vernal pools;
2. forest/forest edge areas;
3. agricultural soil areas;
4. sloping terrain;
5. proposed stormwater control features;
6. nearest residences;
7. Site access and interior access road(s);
8. tower location/compound;
9. clearing limits/property lines;
10. mitigation areas; and
11. any other noteworthy features relative to the Project.

A photolog graphic must accompany the submission, using a site plan or a detailed aerial image, depicting each numbered photograph for reference. For each photo, indicate the photo location number and viewpoint direction, and clearly identify the locations of site specific and representative site features shown (e.g., physical staking/flagging or other means of marking the subject area).

The submission shall be delivered electronically in a legible portable document format (PDF) with a maximum file size of <20MB. If necessary, multiple files may be submitted and clearly marked in terms of sequence.