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DATE: November 29, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 350** - Celco 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 off Old Turnpike Road and Route 198, Woodstock, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the Town of Woodstock, Connecticut.

Verizon Wireless proposes to erect a 140-foot steel monopole telecommunications tower on an 53.6 acre parcel located north of Old Turnpike Road and east of Route 198 in Woodstock. The tower would be built within a 60-foot by 60-foot enclosed compound.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed prime and alternate site, costs, a description of the environmental effects of the proposed construction, and health and safety information. The application meets statutory technical requirements for processing the application. Council staff believes additional information can be obtained through pre-hearing interrogatories. This project would not require an outside consultant.

III. Administrative Review

The applicant has stated that all service and filing requirements pursuant to General Statutes § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in the *Norwich Bulletin* on October 23 and 24, 2007.

IV. Procedural

The Council must schedule a hearing for the proceeding between 30 and 150 days after receipt of an application. The Council must also appoint a custodian of the docket and designate a place for the deposition of the transcript. Staff recommends designating Carriann Mulcahy as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Woodstock on February 7, 2008, and depositing the transcript in the Woodstock Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	10/26/2007
Completeness review	11/29/2007
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	12/14/2007
• Set-One responses due	01/04/2008
• Set-Two Filed	01/09/2008
• Set-Two responses due	01/30/2008
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	01/17/2008
Pre-filed testimony due	01/31/2008
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	01/31/2008
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	02/07/2008
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	02/07/2008
Close of Record	03/10/2008
Draft Findings of Fact	03/24/2008
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	04/07/2008
Deadline for Decision	04/23/2008
180-day extension date	10/20/2008

Michael A. Perrone
Siting Analyst