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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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DATE: November 29, 2007

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director 

RE: **DOCKET NO. 351** - Optasite Towers LLC and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at 93 Lake Street, Manchester, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from Optasite Towers LLC and Omnipoint Communications, Inc. for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the Town of Manchester, Connecticut. The proposed tower would replace the tower proposed in Docket 328.

Optasite proposes to erect a 110-foot monopole tower within a 70-foot by 70-foot enclosed compound on a 23.4 acre parcel of land used as a single residence. Omnipoint would install antennas at the 107-foot level of the tower.

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 Hartford Courant and the Manchester Journal Inquirer.

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 Manchester on Tuesday, January 29, 2008, and depositing the transcript in the Manchester Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	11/02/07
Completeness review	11/29/07
Subcommittee meeting	11/29/07
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	11/28/07
• Set-One responses due	12/21/07
• Set-Two Filed	12/28/07
• Set-Two responses due	01/16/08
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	01/17/08
Pre-filed testimony due	01/22/08
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	01/22/08
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	01/29/08
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	01/29/08
Close of Record	02/28/08
Draft Findings of Fact	02/29/08
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	03/21/08
Deadline for Decision	04/30/08

Siting Analyst: David Martin