

Site Search Summary  
(Kent)

Section 16-50j-74(j) of the Regulations of Connecticut State Agencies requires the submission of a statement that describes “the narrowing process by which other possible sites were considered and eliminated.” In accordance with this requirement, descriptions of the general site search process, the identification of the applicable search area and the alternative locations considered for development of the proposed telecommunications facility in Kent are provided below.

Site Search Process

To initiate its site selection process in an area where a coverage or capacity problem has been identified, Cellco first establishes a “site search ring” or “site search area.” In any search ring or area, Cellco seeks to avoid the unnecessary proliferation of towers and to reduce the potential adverse environmental effects of the cell site, while at the same time maximizing the quality of service provided from a particular facility. These objectives are achieved by initially locating existing towers and other sufficiently tall structures within and near the site search area. If any are found, they are evaluated to determine whether they are capable of supporting Cellco's telecommunications equipment at a location and elevation that satisfies its technical requirements.

Cellco maintains only one (1) existing communications facilities located within approximately four (4) miles of the Kent search area. This existing facility, however, cannot provide the coverage or capacity relief needed in the identified problem areas, along Routes 7 and 341 in the central Kent area. (See Attachment 7).

| <u>OWNER/OPERATOR</u> | <u>FACILITY<br/>TYPE</u> | <u>LOCATION</u>             | <u>ANTENNA<br/>HEIGHT</u> |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. SpectraSite        | Monopole<br>(180')       | Bulls Bridge Road, Kent, CT | 160'                      |

If existing towers or structures are not available or technically feasible, other locations are investigated where the construction of a new tower is required to provide adequate elevation to satisfy Cellco's requirements. The list of available locations may be further reduced if, after preliminary negotiations, the property owners withdraw a site from further consideration. From among the remaining locations, the proposed sites are selected by eliminating those that have greater potential for adverse environmental effects and fewer benefits to the public (i.e., those requiring taller towers, possibly with lights; those with substantial adverse impacts on densely populated residential areas; and those with limited ability to share space with other public or private telecommunications entities). It should be noted that in any given site search, the weight afforded to factors considered in the selection process will vary depending upon the availability and nature of sites within the search area.

## Identification of the Kent Search Area

The purpose of the proposed Kent Facility is to provide reliable PCS coverage to a significant area currently unserved along Route 7 and portions of Route 341 in the central portion of Kent. Cellco's existing Kent South Facility provides limited coverage along Route 7, to the south. The significant coverage gaps referenced above were identified using best server propagation modeling tools. These tools are fine-tuned regularly through the use base-line drive data.

Shortly after Cellco's real estate representatives began investigating possible cell site locations in Kent, the Town was contacted to discuss the potential of siting a tower at the Kent Fire Department. During these discussions, Cellco learned that the independent tower company, National Grid, has also been searching for a cell site on behalf of Sprint Nextel.

The Town asked Cellco to participate in those discussions which had, by that point, focused on the Town's property at 38 Maple Street. At that point, Cellco suspended its search for alternative site locations and focused on the execution of a lease agreement for the Town property.

## Sites Investigated in the Kent Area

In addition to the existing communications facilities listed above, Cellco identified and investigated several sites and an existing structure in Kent. These sites are described below.

### Sites Investigated

1. Town of Kent Solid Waste Transfer Station, 38 Maple Street, Kent – Cellco investigated and ultimately signed a lease for the use of a portion of the Town's 10.19 acre parcel at 38 Maple Street. This is the location of the Town's solid waste transfer station and DPW garage. The site maintains a ground elevation of approximately 393 feet AMSL.
2. Kent Fire Department, Main Street, Kent – The Kent Fire Department is located at 28 Maple Street in Kent. Cellco RF engineers were exploring the installation of a 150-foot on the Fire Department parcel.