

DATE: December 13, 2008

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 354** - Cellco 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 at one of two locations off of Old Baird Road in Watertown, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

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

Cellco's Site A is located on a .24 acre parcel owned by the Town of Watertown and located on the east side of Old Baird Road. At this location, Cellco would erect a 150-foot steel monopole tower inside a 3,382 square foot compound.

Cellco's Site B is located on a 13.7 acre parcel owned by the Town of Watertown and located on the west side of Old Baird Road. This parcel is currently used by the town as an animal shelter and solid waste transfer station. At this location, Cellco would erect a 160-foot steel monopole tower inside a 3,000 square foot 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 § 16-50~~1~~ (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in the Waterbury Republican-American.

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 Watertown on Tuesday, February 26, 2008, and depositing the transcript in the Watertown Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	11/20/07
Completeness review	12/13/07
Subcommittee meeting	12/13/07
Pre-hearing Questions	
• Set-One Filed	12/17/07
• Set-One responses due	01/09/08
• Set-Two Filed	01/11/08
• Set-Two responses due	01/30/08
Pre-hearing conference (10:00 a.m.)	01/29/08
Pre-filed testimony due	02/19/08
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	02/19/08
Field review (3:00 p.m.)	02/26/08
Hearing (4:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	02/26/08
Close of Record	03/27/08
Draft Findings of Fact	04/04/08
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	04/18/08
Deadline for Decision	05/18/08

Siting Analyst: David Martin