

Site Search Summary  
(New Milford NE)

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 New Milford 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 two existing communications facilities and was recently approved to build a third facility within approximately four (4) miles of the New Milford NE Facility. These existing and proposed facilities, however, cannot provide the coverage or capacity relief needed in the identified problem areas, along Routes 202 and portion of Route 109 in the northeast New Milford area. (See Attachment 7).

	<u>OWNER/OPERATOR</u>	<u>FACILITY TYPE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>ANTENNA HEIGHT</u>
1.	SpectraSite	Monopole (150')	4 Elkington Farm Road, New Milford, CT	133'
2.	Sprint	Monopole (160')	399 Chestnut Land Road New Milford, CT	140'
3.	Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless	Monopole (160')	Mountain Road Washington, 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 New Milford NE Search Area

The purpose of the proposed New Milford NE Facility is to provide reliable PCS coverage to a significant area currently unserved along Route 202 and portions of Route 109 in northeast New Milford. Cellco's existing New Milford and New Milford East Facilities and recently approved Washington North Facility provide limited coverage along Route 202, to the east and west of Cellco's New Milford NE search area. 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.

During the course of the site search in New Milford, Cellco was made aware of the a potential new cell site, proposed by Optasite Towers LLC and T-Mobile, on property located at 425 Litchfield Road, approximately one-half mile east of the Town's Northville Volunteer Fire Department ("NVFD") location. (Council Docket No. 342). Cellco did not participate in the Docket No 342 application, and chose, pursuant to the terms of its lease agreement with the NVFD, to present the Council with its own proposal for a tower site in northeast New Milford.

#### Sites Investigated in the Northeast New Milford Area

In addition to the existing communications facilities listed above, Cellco identified and investigated several sites in northeast New Milford. These sites are described below.

#### Sites Investigated

1. Northville Volunteer Fire Department, 359 Litchfield Road, New Milford – Cellco investigated and ultimately signed a lease for the use of the rear portion of a 3.85-acre parcel at 359 Litchfield Road. This is the location of the NVFD station house. Behind the existing NVFD building is an existing telecommunications tower structure supporting emergency service whip antennas. The proposed tower site maintains a ground elevation of approximately 425 feet AMSL.
2. LaRose Property, 80 Upland Road, New Milford – Cellco investigated the potential use of a portion of the property at 80 Upland Road. This property is located south of Route 202. This site was rejected because the LaRose property contains a significant amount of wetlands that would be impacted by any cell site development activity.

3. Town of New Milford Property, Upland Road – Cellco explored the use of this municipal and determined that it was dedicated open space. The Town was therefore, unwilling to permit it to be used for a tower site.
4. Town of New Milford Property, Geiger Road – Cellco investigated the use of a small Town-owned parcel north of the NVFD site. The Town maintains a small, approximately 70-80-foot tower on this site. This site is located too far to the north to satisfy Cellco’s coverage objective along Route 202; has limited ground space available for the placement of equipment and is adjacent to a recently developed residential area.
5. Northville Baptist Church, 9 Little Bear Hall Road – Cellco investigated the use of the 60-foot church steeple. Cellco could not satisfy its coverage objectives from this site location.

**Site Search Summary Map**  
**Proposed Verizon Wireless Facility**  
**New Milford Northeast**  
**359 Litchfield Road**  
**New Milford, CT**

