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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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May 22, 2008

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director 

RE: **DOCKET NO. 361-** 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 Norfolk Road (Route 44), Winchester, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

The application is from Celco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment off Route 44 in the Town of Winchester, Connecticut.

Verizon proposes to construct a 150-foot monopole on a 58-acre parcel west of the Winsted area of Winchester. The parcel consists of an undeveloped hillside that abuts the Algonquin State Forest. Access would be from a 1,268-foot gravel drive extending from Route 44. A 41-foot by 85-foot compound would be constructed at the base 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 § 16-50j (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 Jessica Brito as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Winsted on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, and depositing the transcript in the Winchester Town Hall.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	April 10, 2008
Completeness review	May 22, 2008
Pre-hearing Questions	<i>(Tentative Dates)</i>
• Set-One Filed	May 27, 2008
• Set-One responses due	June 13, 2008
• Set-Two Filed	June 17, 2008
• Set-Two responses due	July 1, 2008
Pre-hearing conference 10:00 a.m.	June 11, 2008
Pre-filed testimony due	July 1, 2008
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	July 1, 2008
Field review (2:00 p.m.)	July 8, 2008
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	July 8, 2008
Close of Record	August 7, 2008
Draft Findings of Fact	August 28, 2008 <i>(tentative)</i>
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	September 10, 2008 <i>(tentative)</i>
Deadline for Decision	October 7, 2008
180-day extension date	April 6, 2009

Siting Analyst: Robert Mercier