



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-5087



November 16, 2007

Ashley Hawes
Kleinfelder East, Inc.
99 Lamberton Road, Suite 201
Windsor, CT 06095

Dear Ms. Hawes:

We are in receipt of your recent letter requesting our endangered species review with regard to your proposed telecommunications projects in Glastonbury (2 sites), Manchester, and Taftville, Connecticut; and Wilbraham, Massachusetts.

Earlier this year, we distributed a letter (enclosed) which we hope will streamline the consultation process.

Please review our letter. We're confident that it will adequately respond to your request. If you have any questions, please contact me at 603-223-2541.

Sincerely yours,

Anthony P. Tur
Endangered Species Specialist
New England Field Office

Enclosure



United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
New England Field Office
70 Commercial Street, Suite 300
Concord, New Hampshire 03301-5087

March 6, 2007

To Whom It May Concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) New England Field Office has determined that individual project review for certain types of activities associated with communication towers **is not required**. These comments are submitted in accordance with provisions of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973 (87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

Due to the rapid expansion of the telecommunication industry, we are receiving a growing number of requests for review of **existing** and **new** telecommunication facilities in relation to the presence of federally-listed or proposed, threatened or endangered species, critical habitat, wilderness areas and/or wildlife preserves. We have evaluated our review process for proposed communications towers and believe that individual correspondence with this office is not required for the following types of actions relative to **existing** facilities:

1. the re-licensing of existing telecommunication facilities;
2. audits of **existing** facilities associated with acquisition;
3. routine maintenance of existing tower sites, such as painting, antenna or panel replacement, upgrading of existing equipment, etc.;
4. co-location of new antenna facilities on/in existing structures;
5. repair or replacement of existing towers and/or equipment, provided such activities do not significantly increase the existing tower mass and height, or require the addition of guy wires.

In order to curtail the need to contact this office in the future for individual environmental review for **existing** communication towers or antenna facilities, please note that we are not aware of any federally-listed, threatened or endangered species that are being adversely affected by any existing communication tower or antenna facility in the following states: Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts. Furthermore, we are not aware of any **existing** telecommunication towers in federally-designated critical habitats, wilderness areas or wildlife preserves. Therefore, no further consultation with this office relative to the impact of the above referenced activities on federally-listed species is required.

Future Coordination with this Office Relative to New Telecommunication Facilities

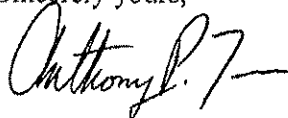
We have determined that proposed projects are not likely to adversely affect any federally-listed or proposed species when the following steps are taken to evaluate new telecommunication facilities:

1. If the facility will be installed within or on an existing structure, such as in a church steeple or on the roof of an existing building, no further coordination with this office is necessary. Similarly, new antennas or towers in urban and other developed areas, in which no natural vegetation will be affected, do not require further review.
2. If the above criteria cannot be met, your review of the attached lists of threatened and endangered species locations within Vermont, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut and Massachusetts may confirm that no federally-listed endangered or threatened species are known to occur in the town or county where the project is proposed.
3. If a listed species is present in the town or county where the project is proposed, further review of our enclosed lists of threatened and endangered species may allow you to conclude that suitable habitat for the species will not be affected. Based on past experiences, we anticipate that there will be few, if any, projects that are likely to impact piping plovers, roseate terns, bog turtles, Jesup's milkvetch or other such species that are found on coastal beaches, riverine habitats or in wetlands because communication towers typically are not located in these habitats.

For projects that meet the above criteria, there is no need to contact this office for further project review. A copy of this letter should be retained in your file as the Service's determination that no listed species are present, or that listed species in the general area will not be affected. Due to the high workload associated with responding to many individual requests for threatened and endangered species information, we will no longer be providing response letters for activities that meet the above criteria. This correspondence and the enclosed species lists remain valid until January 1, 2008.

Thank you for your cooperation, and please contact me at 603-223-2541 for further assistance.

Sincerely yours,



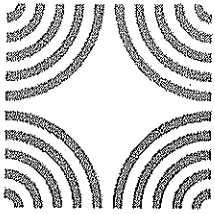
Anthony P. Tur
Endangered Species Specialist
New England Field Office

Enclosures

FEDERALLY LISTED ENDANGERED AND THREATENED SPECIES
IN CONNECTICUT

Common Name	Species	Status	County/General Distribution
Sturgeon, shortnose ¹	<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	E	Atlantic coastal waters and Connecticut River
Bat, Indiana	<i>Myotis sodalis</i>	E	New Haven/hibernaculum
Eagle, bald	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	T	Nesting: Hartford, Litchfield Wintering: entire state, major rivers
Plover, piping	<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	T	Nesting: Fairfield, Middlesex, New Haven, New London (coastal beaches) Migratory: Atlantic Coast
Tern, Roseate	<i>Sterna dougallii dougallii</i>	E	Nesting: New Haven (coastal island) Migratory: Atlantic Coast
Turtle, bog	<i>Clemmys muhlenbergii</i>	T	Fairfield, Litchfield
Wedge mussel, dwarf	<i>Alasmidonta heterodon</i>	E	Hartford
Beetle, Puritan tiger	<i>Cicindela puritana</i>	T	Hartford, Middlesex (Connecticut River floodplain)
Beetle, Northeastern beach	<i>Cicindela dorsalis dorsalis</i>	T	Coastal beaches/Extirpated
Small whorled pogonia	<i>Isotria medeoloides</i>	T	Litchfield, New Haven
Sandplain gerardia	<i>Agalinus acuta</i>	E	Hartford
Chaffseed	<i>Scwalbea Americana</i>	E	New London/Historic

¹ Principal responsibility for this species is vested with the National Marine Fisheries Service.



Connecticut Commission on Culture & Tourism

February 8, 2008

Historic Preservation
and Museum Division

One Constitution Plaza
Second Floor
Hartford, Connecticut
06103

860.256.2800
860.256.2763 (f)

Ms. Ashley G. Hawes
Kleinfelder
99 Lamberton Road
Windsor, CT 06095

Subject: Telecommunications Facilities
39 Maennercher Avenue
Taftville (Norwich), CT
Optasite Towrs LLC Project No. 88654

Dear Ms. Hawes:

The State Historic Preservation Office has reviewed the archaeological reconnaissance survey prepared by Heritage Consultants LLC concerning the above-named project. In the opinion of the State Historic Preservation Office, the archival and archaeological methodologies employed by Heritage Consultants LLC are consistent with our *Environmental Review Primer for Connecticut's Archaeological Resources*.

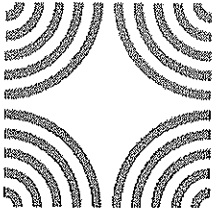
The State Historic Preservation Office concurs with Heritage Consultants LLC that no further archaeological investigations appear warranted with respect to the proposed undertaking. This comment is conditional upon Kleinfelder and/or Heritage Consultants LLC's submission of a final reconnaissance report (two copies) to our professional staff for technical analysis.

The State Historic Preservation Office notes that the proposed telecommunications tower is located in immediate proximity to the Taftville Historic District, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. This office believes that the proposed facilities may be partially and/or seasonably visible from the Taftville National Register Historic District. However, this office believes that the proposed undertaking will constitute no adverse effect upon historic, architectural and archaeological resources associated with this National Register historic district.

This office recommends that Heritage Consultants LLC consult with the Office of State Archaeology at the University of Connecticut (Storrs) concerning the professional transfer of all field notes, photographs, and artifactual materials generated by the archaeological investigations.

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The State Historic Preservation Office appreciates the cooperation of all interested parties concerning the professional management of Connecticut's archaeological resources.

This comment updates and supersedes all previous correspondence regarding the proposed project.

For further information please contact Dr. David A. Poirier, Staff Archaeologist.

Sincerely,

Karen Senich
State Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Dr. Nicholas Bellantoni/OSA
Ms. Catherine Labadia/HC
Dr. Jeffrey Bendremer/MT
Ms. Kathleen Knowles/MPTN