

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE: :
 :
APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP : DOCKET NO. 369
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A :
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL :
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR :
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE :
AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS :
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY OFF :
SHERMAN ROAD, WOODSTOCK, :
CONNECTICUT : DECEMBER 23, 2008

RESPONSES OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS
TO CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL PRE-HEARING INTERROGATORIES, SET ONE

On December 8, 2008, the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) issued Pre-Hearing Interrogatories to the Applicant, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“Cellco”), relating to the above-captioned docket. Below are Cellco’s responses.

Question No. 1

When was the search ring first initiated for a tower in this area?

Response

The Woodstock NW search ring was initiated in September 2006.

Question No. 2

Is the proposed tower site within 2,500 feet of the Town of Union?

Response

Yes.

Question No. 3

Describe the land uses surrounding the proposed tower site.

Response

Generally, the area can be described as a low density residential area. The residential uses are located to the north along Route 197 and east along Sherman Road of the landlord's 39-acre property. Portions of the Nipmuck State Forest abut the landlord's property to the west and south.

Question No. 4

Has Cellco considered repeaters and/or microcells to serve the proposed coverage area? Were either found to be viable alternatives to a proposed tower?

Response

No. The area that Cellco intends to cover from the Woodstock NW Facility, including significant portions of Routes 198, 197 and 171, is too large to reliably serve with microcells or repeaters, especially at PCS frequencies. Neither is a viable alternative to the proposed Woodstock NW facility.

Question No. 5

Would the backup generator's diesel fuel tank be located inside the equipment shelter? Describe containment of fuel and/or oil in the event of a spill.

Response

Yes. The generator unit maintains a 275 gallon "belly" tank as an integral part of the generator unit. The generator and fuel tank will be maintained in a segregated 10' x 12' generator room within Cellco's 12' x 30' equipment shelter. The fuel tank is double-walled and maintains leak detection alarms. As a third level of spill containment, the floor of the generator room is depressed several inches below the threshold of the entrance doorway creating a bowl-like effect. The generator room floor as designed is capable of containing 120% of the volume of

all generator fluids (fuel, lubricants, etc.) in the unlikely event of a complete generator failure. Leak detection alarms are also built into the floor of the generator room.

Question No. 6

Has Cellco considered using a fuel cell as a backup power source for the proposed facility? Explain.

Response

No. Backup power at the Woodstock NW Facility would be provided by a series of batteries and a diesel-fueled backup generator installed inside the equipment shelter. These back-up power systems have proven to be a reliable and cost effective means of providing backup power to Cellco's telecommunication facilities across Connecticut. The use of fuel cells for backup power remains under review and consideration by Cellco, however, the deployment of such systems has not yet been authorized for this or any cell site in Connecticut.

Question No. 7

Provide the distance and direction from the proposed site to the existing sites that the proposed tower would interact with.

Response

Union West – 3.2 miles northwest of the proposed facility.

Woodstock North – 2.5 miles north of the proposed facility.

Coatney Hill Road – 4.1 miles east of the proposed facility.