

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

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April 1, 2009

Christopher B. Fisher, Esq. Cuddy & Feder, LLP 445 Hamilton Avenue, 14<sup>th</sup> Floor White Plains, NY 10601

RE: **DOCKET NO. 373 -** New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at the St. Matthew Lutheran Church, 224 Lovely Street, Avon, Connecticut. **Motion for a Protective Order to Not Disclose the Amount of Monthly Rent in Lease Agreement.** 

Dear Attorney Fisher:

This letter is specifically addressed to all parties and intervenors in the above-referenced docket. It seeks to obtain comments as to the question of whether a protective order should be granted to prevent disclosure to the Siting Council (Council) and/or the public of the rent amount paid in the lease agreement between New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC (AT&T) and St. Matthew Lutheran Church (Church). AT&T has filed a motion for a protective order that seeks to keep confidential the exact financial terms of the lease agreement between AT&T and the Church. Before deciding on this motion, the Council would like to receive comments from the parties and intervenors.

Specifically, the Council welcomes comment pertaining to the following issues:

- 1. Does the plain language of C.G.S. §16-50o(c) require disclosure of the rent amount contained in telecommunication tower lease agreements?
- 2. Does the rent amount contained in telecommunication tower lease agreements meet the definition of "proprietary information" or a "trade secret"?

Accordingly, the relevant statutory sections and term definitions are as follows:

C.G.S. §16-50o(c) states:

"The applicant shall submit into the record the **full text of the terms of any agreement**, and a **statement of any consideration** therefor, if not contained in such agreement, entered into by the applicant and any party to the certification proceeding, or any third party, in connection with the construction or operation of the facility. This provision shall not require the public disclosure of proprietary information or trade secrets." (emphasis added).

Black's Law Dictionary defines "proprietary information" as:

"Information in which the owner has a protectable interest."



The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) §1-210(b)(5)(A) derives the definition of "trade secret" from Black's Law Dictionary as:

"... information, including formulas, patters, compilations, programs, devices, methods, techniques, processes, drawings, cost data, or customer lists that (i) derive independent economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from their disclosure or use, and (ii) are the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain secrecy..."

Comments on the issue should be submitted on or before Friday, April 17, 2009 directly to the Siting Council. Thank you.

Very truly yours,

S. Derek Phelps Executive Director

SDP/MAB/jb

c: Parties and Intervenors

## LIST OF PARTIES AND INTERVENORS $\underline{\text{SERVICE LIST}}$

Applicant  E-mail  New Cingular Wireless PCS,  Cuddy & 445 Ham  White Pla  (914) 761  (914) 761  cfisher@   U.S. Mail  Party (granted on  E-mail  Patricia & Thomas McMahon  21 Greenwood Drive	her B. Fisher, Esq. Feder LLP ilton Avenue, 14 <sup>th</sup> Floor ains, NY 10601 1-1300 1-5372 fax cuddyfeder.com
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Party E-mail Patricia & Thomas McMahon (granted on 21 Greenwood Drive	
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February 19, Avon, CT 06001 860-673-3747	
☑ U.S. Mail	
Party (granted on February 19, 2009)  E-mail Sheridan & Mark Toomey 9 Greenwood Drive Avon, CT 06001 860-404-1741 markctommey@msn.com	
Z C.S. Ivian	
Party (granted on February 19, 2009)         E-mail         Jane Garrett 15 Greenwood Drive Avon, CT 06001 860-673-2729	
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Party (granted on February 19, 2009)         E-mail         Peter Emmett Wiese 240 Lovely Street Avon, CT 06001 860-673-5098 860-508-7951           ✓         U.S. Mail         Peter.wiese@jud.ct.gov	

Party (if approved on March 31, 2009)	☐ E-mail  ☑ U.S. Mail	Town of Avon	Andrew W. Lord Loni S. Gardner Murtha Cullina LLP 185 Asylum Street Hartford, Connecticut 06103 203-772-7705 860-240-5962 fax lgardner@murthalaw.com
Party (if approved on March 31, 2009)	☐ E-mail ☐ E-mail	Juan Fernandez 246 Lovely Street Avon, CT 06001 860-673-8837 Fermar13@yahoo.com	
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Intervenor (if approved on March 31, 2009)	□ E-mail □ U.S. Mail	Michael Pastore 80 Wildwood Drive Avon, CT 06001 860-673-3911 cindypastore@sbcglobal.net	
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Intervenor (if approved on March 31, 2009)	☐ E-mail	Youghiogheny Communications- Northeast, LLC (Pocket)	Carrie L. Larson, Esq. Pullman & Comley, LLC 90 State House Square Hartford, CT 06103-3702 860-424-4312
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