



STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

May 14, 2009

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051



Dear Chairman Caruso:

I write you in general relative to the location of cell towers on state property, and specifically relative to the proposed tower on the property known as the "Simmons Family Farm" in Farmington.

Our state has always been recognized for its natural beauty and resources. Forests, parks and farms add immeasurably to the quality of life of our residents and wildlife. It is because of this that the State of Connecticut spends millions of dollars to acquire and preserve open spaces and farmlands.

I have previously written to you concerning towers on state acquired property and again I take this opportunity to express my concerns on the matter. When the state acquires property, or the development rights to a parcel of property, or whether it provides funds to municipalities for open space or farmland preservation, it is the State that retains the exclusive rights to the property and absent the express authorization from the State, telecommunication towers must not be situated on the property.

The need for improved telecommunication systems in our state is without question. It is incumbent upon the Siting Council, however, to make decisions regarding those improvements with the full appreciation for the balance between technology and land conservation.

Very truly yours,

M. Jodi Rell
Governor