

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051

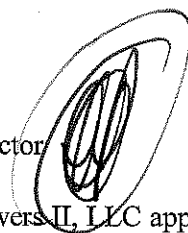
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DATE: April 13, 2009

TO: Council Members

FROM: S. Derek Phelps, Executive Director 

RE: **DOCKET NO. 378** – SBA Towers II, LLC application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility located at one of two sites on Rabbit Hill Road, Warren, Connecticut.

I. Introduction

This application is from SBA Towers II, LLC for the construction, maintenance, and operation of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment at one of two locations at the Tanner property on Rabbit Hill Road in Warren, Connecticut. Both locations are on a 106-acre parcel used for agriculture.

Site A consists of a 160-foot monopole and an associated 60-foot by 60-foot fenced compound and is located in a wooded area in southwest corner of the property. The site is located in an area containing an agricultural restriction but construction of the site would not affect agricultural lands.

Site B consists of a 150-foot monopole and an associated 50-foot by 70-foot fenced compound. The site is located in an open area behind the existing farm buildings on the property, in an area with no land use restrictions. A tower at this location may have to be taller to accommodate the coverage needs of various carriers.

SBA is working with AT&T to develop this facility. Verizon is seeking intervenor status in support of this facility. T-Mobile has expressed interest in this facility but has not applied for intervenor status.

II. Technical

The application includes relevant maps, descriptions of the proposed sites, 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 § 16-501 (b) have been fulfilled. The applicant stated that notice to the general public was published in the Litchfield County Times and in the Greater New Milford Spectrum.

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 Lisa Fontaine as custodian of the docket, holding the public hearing in the Town of Warren on Thursday, May 21, 2009, and depositing the transcript in the Warren and Washington Town Halls.

V. Proposed Schedule

Application received	02/27/09
Completeness review	04/07/09
Pre-hearing Questions	<i>(tentative dates)</i>
• Set-One Filed	04/08/09
• Set-One responses due	04/29/09
• Set-Two Filed	05/01/09 <i>(if necessary)</i>
• Set-Two responses due	05/14/09
Pre-hearing conference 10:00 a.m.	04/22/09
Pre-filed testimony due	05/14/09
Deadline to request Party/Intervenor status	05/14/09
Field review (1:00 p.m.)	05/21/09
Hearing (3:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)	05/21/09
Close of Record	06/22/09
Draft Findings of Fact	07/09/09 <i>(tentative)</i>
Draft Findings of Fact, Opinion & Decision & Order	07/23/09 <i>(tentative)</i>
Deadline for Decision	08/26/09
180-day extension date	02/22/10

Robert D. Mercier
Siting Analyst II

c: Lisa Fontaine, Connecticut Siting Council