## STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

In Re:

APPLICATION OF SBA TOWERS II, LLC ("SBA") FOR A
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY
AND PUBLIC NEED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION,
MAINTENANCE AND OPERATION OF A
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT ONE OF TWO
ALTERNATE SITES AT RABBIT HILL ROAD IN
WARREN, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET: 378

April 28, 2009

## NEW CINGULAR WIRELESS PCS, LLC ("AT&T") RESPONSES TO SITING COUNCIL PRE-HEARING INTERROGATORIES, SET ONE

- Q1. Discuss AT&T's need for the proposed facility. Specifically, what level of coverage does AT&T currently have in this area, and in what ways would the proposed facility improve the existing level of service?
- A1. AT&T and its predecessors in interest have had a search ring in this area of the State dating back to 2002. A tower site was pursued by AT&T at that time which involved a property along Rabbit Hill Road and located in the Town of Washington. A technical report was filed in the Fall of 2002 and consultation with the Towns of Washington and Warren was conducted by AT&T in late 2002 and early 2003. For budgetary reasons and as a result of the subsequent AT&T and Cingular merger, the project was not pursued by way of an actual Siting Council application and AT&T no longer has an interest in that property.

AT&T understands that Optasite (now SBA) subsequently pursued the sites as presented in this Docket and AT&T has intervened in support. Existing signal level in this area including along Route 202 is below -105. In short, no usable signals are currently available. The proposed site will increase service along routes 202, 341, and 45. The addition of this site will improve coverage to a level better than -82 dBm (in vehicle or better) along most of these routes and in the surrounding areas.

- Q2. What is AT&T's operating frequency and the minimum signal level threshold for this area?
- A2. The proposed cell will operate at 850 MHz. The signal levels depicted in AT&T's coverage maps are for three levels of service 1) green depicts -74 dBm and is considered in-building coverage 2) yellow is -82 dBm and depicts where good in vehicle coverage would be expected and 3) red is down to -92 and depicts an outdoor coverage. The -74 dBm or greater level is for in building the -74 and -82 levels will provide in vehicle and the -74, -82 and -92 dBm levels will all be adequate for outdoor coverage.
- Q3. Does AT&T intend to operate cellular and PCS equipment at this site? If so, explain how these two systems interact in AT&T's network.

- A3. Initially this site will be an 850 MHz only cell site. If traffic or technology necessitates it, 1900 MHz PCS frequencies may be added at a later date. AT&T in Connecticut uses the 1900 MHz PCS band generally for capacity.
- Q4. Provide antenna specifications, including type, make, size, model, number of channels, and maximum power output. Indicate the proposed antenna height, number of antennas and antenna mounting configuration planned for each site.
- A4. The antennas for the proposed site will be Powerwave 7770.00 antennas, two antennas per sector located in the corners of each of the three sectors for a total of six. The antennas will have a center line of 147 feet at site "B" and 157 feet at Site "A". The dimensions of the proposed antennas are 55 inches long, 11 inches wide and 5 inches deep. Each antenna is capable of transmitting on 850 and/or 1900 MHz. One antenna will initially be used to support 2 GSM channels per face and the second antenna will be dedicated to UMTS. Each transmitter will have a power output of approximately 100 Watts ERP.
- Q5. Did AT&T perform a drive test of the proposed site? If so, please submit.
- A5. Yes. AT&T did perform a drive test at Site A and a map of these results is attached in Exhibit 1.
- Q6. Provide a multi-signal level propagation plot at a scale of 1:40,000, depicting coverage from all existing and/or approved AT&T sites in the area. Provide a brief description of the existing sites including location, distance to the proposed facility, facility type, and antenna height. Depict and label major roads on the plot.
- A6. See attached map in Exhibit 1. One existing and one proposed site provide the influence in this area. Existing site 1035 is located on an existing tower with antennas located at 130' (Docket 258) and a proposed site S2245 on an existing tower as approved for AT&T's use at 140' (Docket 332).
- Q7. Provide a multi-signal level propagation plots, at a scale of 1:40,000, depicting coverage from existing sites and proposed Site A at tower heights of 157 feet and 147 feet, and from Site B at tower heights of 147 feet and 137 feet. Depict and label major roads on the plots.
- A7. Please see attached maps in Exhibit 1.
- Q8. Provide specifications of the equipment building or cabinets to be installed at the proposed site. What type of emergency power system will be used at the site?
- A8. AT&T would install its standard 10' x 20' equipment shelter within the tower compound. Battery backup would be utilized for power outages. In the event of prolonged power outages a temporary mobile generator could be brought to the site to supply emergency power. A 4' x 11' concrete pad is shown on SBA's drawings for such use.
- Q9. Did AT&T have a search ring in this area prior to the filing of this application? If so, provide a map depicting the search ring and describe the properties and/or structures identified for possible use prior to selecting the proposed site.
- A9. Yes as noted above in response to interrogatory 1. Attached is the original search ring from 2002 which was then titled "CT-649". More recently, AT&T had re issued a search ring in the Pinnacle Hill area to seek some coverage along route 202 and near Lake Waramaug. AT&T was unable to find a tower site location in this area.

## CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that on this day, an original and twenty copies of the foregoing was served on the Connecticut Siting Council by overnight mail and copy of same was sent by electronic means to all other parties and intervenors who requested/consented to service electronically and in lieu of a mailed copy by First Class Mail:

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Dated: April 28, 2009

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