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Memorandum

To: Ms. Alexandria Carter Verizon Wireless 99 East River Drive East Hartford, Connecticut 06108

Date: October 6, 2009

Project No.: 41240.93

From: Dean Gustafson

Senior Wetland Scientist

Re: Wetland Alternatives Analysis

Huntington, CT Lane Street

Shelton, Connecticut

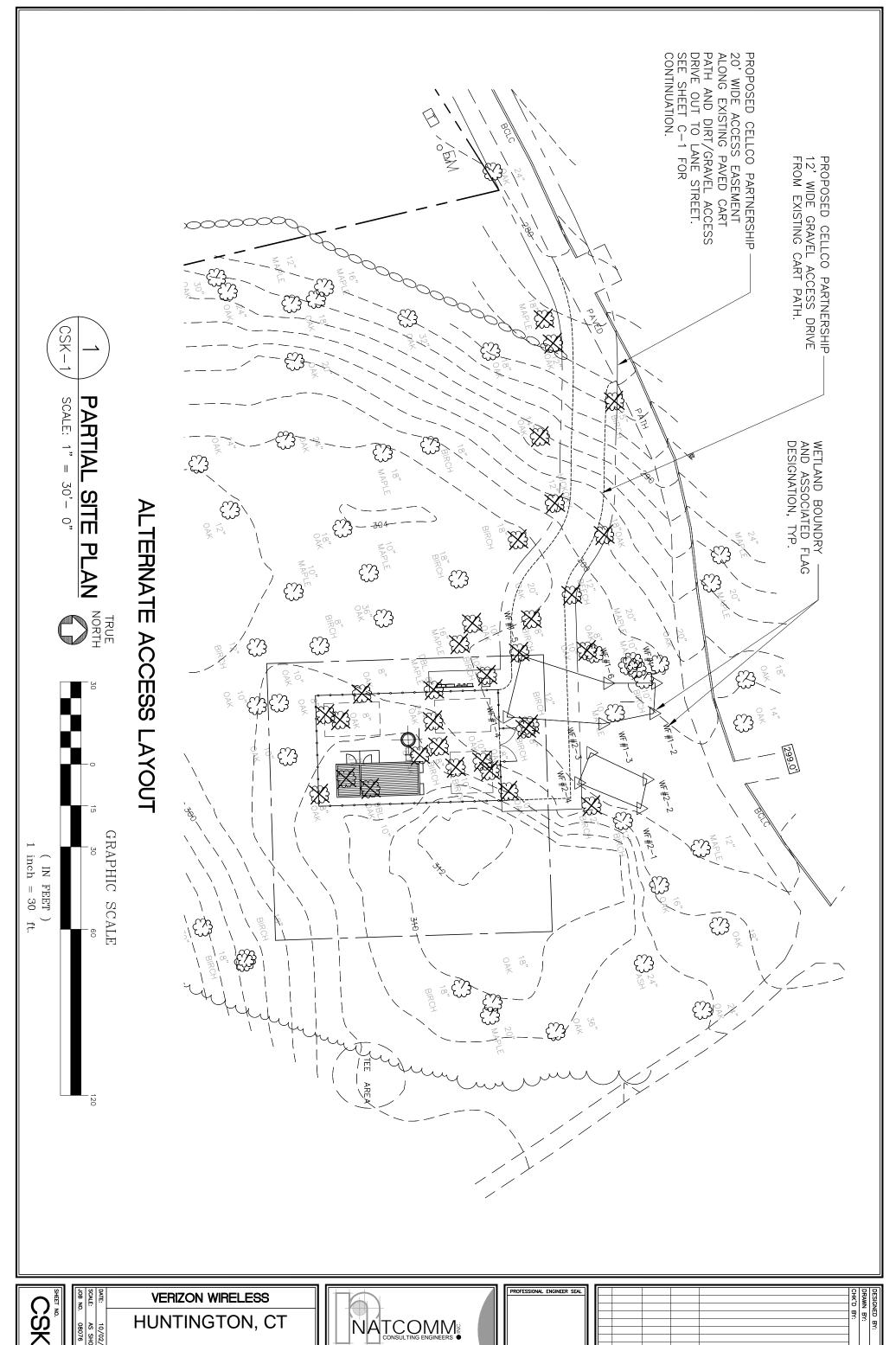
This document supplements a Wetland Impact Analysis, dated July 13, 2009, and provides additional discussion and analysis of an alternative access route to the proposed referenced wireless telecommunications facility.

The two small disturbed isolated wetland features located near the proposed wireless telecommunications facility compound will be directly impacted by the proposed access drive, which currently follows an existing path that travels through these wetland areas. These small wetland areas provide little function or value (e.g., wildlife habitat, flood storage capacity, aesthetics, etc.) due to their disturbed nature, limited wetland vegetation diversity, isolation, small size and the high level of human activity in the surrounding landscape. The proposed access drive will result in impacting all of Wetland 1 (850± square feet), identified by wetland flags WF# 1-1 to 1-6, and 140± square feet of Wetland 2 (260± square feet total), identified by wetland flags WF# 2-1 to 2-4.

An alternative access route further west of the isolated wetland pockets would generally avoid impacting Wetland 2 and minimize impact to Wetland 1 with approximately 600 square feet of wetland impact. Refer to attached Alternate Access Layout (Sheet No. CSK-1), dated 10/02/09. This alternative layout, resulting in a wetland impact reduction of 510± square feet, could conceivably be considered to further minimize the impact to wetlands. However, in light of the relative lack of significant function or value of the wetlands in question, such alternatives did not seem reasonable, as the remaining wetland areas would still not function as valuable wetland habitats. Although it may be possible to minimize impact to these small wetland areas, doing so would result in the removal of several mature trees that currently provide visual buffering to the west along with wildlife habitat. The proposed alternate access route would result in the removal of twelve (12) additional mature trees, many of which are mast producing oak, hickory and beech trees providing both aesthetic qualities and important wildlife food sources.

The adjoining upland areas containing mature trees were deemed to have relatively higher function and value than the two disturbed wetland areas. Therefore, the alternate access route was not considered the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative.

Enclosure



LANE STREET HUNTINGTON, CT 06484



SSIONAL ENGINEER SEAL					
		10/05/09		CFC	REVISED ALTERNATE SITE LAYOUT
	0	10/02/09	DMD	CFC	ALTERNATE SITE LAYOUT
	REV.	DATE	DRAWN BY	CHK'D BY	DESCRIPTION