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December 23, 2009

BY ELECTRONIC AND OVERNIGHT DELIVERY

Hon. Daniel F. Caruso, Chairman and Members of the Connecticut Siting Council 10 Franklin Square New Britain, CT 06051

Re:

Docket 383

New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T") 316 Perkins Road, Southbury, Connecticut

Dear Chairman Caruso and Members of the Council:

On behalf of New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC ("AT&T"), please accept this letter in further support of its Certificate Application in Docket No. 383 and in lieu of a more formal brief given the lack of any formal opposition to the site. This letter is being submitted in accordance with the 30-day post-hearing time frame established by the Council for the receipt of any written comments, proposed findings of fact or briefs and outlines the reasons why AT&T believes that the record in this proceeding supports the public need for the proposed facility.

Public Need

The testimony of Mr. John Blevins and information provided to the Council by AT&T demonstrates that existing AT&T sites cannot serve the gap in coverage along South Street, Lower River Road, Brown Brook Road, West Purchase Road and surrounding roads and areas in Southbury and the adjoining town of Roxbury. AT&T's need for the proposed facility is supported by the coverage maps which were provided to the Council that also clearly demonstrate that there is no reliable service in the area. Indeed, the record demonstrates that the proposed facility is an integral part of AT&T's wireless communications network and is needed by AT&T to provide an adequate level of service to people living in and traveling through this area of the State. In addition to AT&T's demonstrated need, space can also be made available on the tower and within the compound for the installation of Town/emergency service antennas and equipment.

Lack of Alternatives

As set forth in the Application, responses to Interrogatories and in the testimony of Mr. Kevin Dey, AT&T conducted a search for existing towers or tall structures for the installation of a facility. Having not found any opportunities to locate a facility on an existing tower or other tall structure, AT&T conducted a comprehensive search of municipal and private properties available for the siting of a tower. Over 18 different potential siting locations were investigated as part of this search and as a result AT&T identified the proposed location for a tower facility. AT&T developed a technical report consisting of information regarding this location and the proposed Facility and commenced a technical consultation with the town of Southbury as well as



the adjoining town of Roxbury. No comments were received regarding municipal preferences as part of this technical consultation.

At the hearing regarding the proposed Facility, the Town of Southbury First Selectman and members of the public questioned whether the existing Tower at the Southbury Training School could be used to provide the needed coverage. Mr. John Blevins indicated that a coverage map for the existing tower at the Southbury Training School was created and that even at 190 feet AGL AT&T's coverage would essentially be largely confined to just the grounds of the Southbury Training School and would not provide good coverage to the local roads and the area surrounding the school. As requested by the Siting Council this coverage plot has been submitted. Of note, no other wireless carrier is located on the Southbury Training School Tower. In addition, AT&T's radio frequency engineers have also evaluated additional locations for a new tower on the Southbury Training School campus west of the existing tower. Due to the intervening distance and local topography, these locations do not provide sufficient coverage to the west and north on Lower River Road, South Street/River Road and portions of Roxbury which are targeted to be served by the proposed Facility.

Minimal Environmental Effects

There are no significant adverse environmental effects which would outweigh the need for a facility to provide service in this area of Southbury. An existing gravel/dirt drive and parking area off of Perkins Road and a new gravel driveway approximately 85' in length would provide access to the Facility. According to the site survey and field investigations conducted at the site, the nearest wetlands are approximately 240' from the centerline of the monopole. In accordance with the Connecticut Soil Erosion Control Guidelines as established by the Council of Soil and Water Conservation, soil erosion control measures and other best management practices will be established and maintained throughout construction of the proposed Facility to protect these wetland resources as well as the integrity of the host and neighboring parcels. By letter dated December 11, 2008 the State Historic Preservation Office confirmed that the proposed undertaking will have no effect on Connecticut's cultural heritage.

The proposed Facility was sited to balance and minimize other potential impacts, including visibility of the tower structure, while at the same time providing the opportunity for shared use of the towers by others carriers. Indeed as demonstrated in AT&T's Application the tower would not visually impact any significant or identified historical or scenic resources and would be visible from less than 1% of the surrounding two-mile (8,042 acre) study area.

Conclusion

For all of the foregoing reasons, AT&T respectfully submits that the record in this proceeding fully supports the public need for a tower facility to serve South Street, Lower River Road, Brown Brook Road, West Purchase Road and surrounding roads and areas in Southbury and the adjoining town of Roxbury and that there are no significant adverse effects from the project as proposed. Accordingly, a certificate for construction of a tower facility should be issued to AT&T to provide its service to the public and for the Town's use to improve their municipal/emergency communications network within the Town.

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Very truly yours,

Daniel M. Laub

cc:

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