#### STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE:

APPLICATION BY T-MOBILE

DOCKET NO. 386

NORTHEAST, LLC FOR A

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 123 PINE ORCHARD ROAD IN THE

TOWN OF BRANFORD, CONNECTICUT

Date: December 7, 2009

#### PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF DEAN E. GUSTAFSON

#### Q1. Please state your name and profession.

A1. Dean E. Gustafson and I am a professional soil scientist and senior wetland scientist for Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. ("VHB"). VHB is located at 54 Tuttle Place in Middletown, Connecticut.

#### Q2. What kind of services does VHB provide?

A2. Among many other services, VHB provides a full array of services for the permitting of telecommunications facilities, including wetlands compliance, visual impact analyses and environmental assessments under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (the "NEPA").

#### Q3. Please summarize your professional background in telecommunications.

A3. I have a B.S. in plant and soil sciences from the University of Massachusetts. I am a professional soil scientist with over twenty-one years of experience in wetlands consulting. My experience includes wetlands delineation, evaluation, mitigation design, monitoring, stream restoration and permitting before local, state and federal bodies. I

have a particular expertise in wetland identification, wetland impact assessments, wetland mitigation design and oversight, and soil mapping and classification. I have provided wetland consultation in connection with more than fifty telecommunications facilities.

# Q4. What services did VHB provide T-Mobile with respect to the proposed Facility?

A4. T-Mobile retained VHB to perform a Visual Resource Evaluation Report, a wetlands compliance analysis and a coastal consistency analysis for the proposed telecommunications facility at 123 Pine Orchard Road, Branford, Connecticut (the "Facility"). I performed the wetlands assessment for the proposed Facility.

## Q5. What did you do to determine the existence of wetlands on or near the site of the proposed Facility?

A5. On April 22, 2009, I performed an on-site investigation of the site of the proposed Facility at 123 Pine Orchard Road, Branford, Connecticut (the "Property"). I also reviewed the site plans prepared by All-Points Technology Corporation for the proposed Facility. Based upon the on-site investigation and review of the site plans, I completed a wetlands delineation report, which is attached to the Application as Exhibit K.

# Q6. <u>Based upon your investigation</u>, are there any wetlands located on the <u>Property?</u>

A6. No. There are no wetlands located within the boundaries of the Property.

### Q7. Based upon your investigation, are there any wetlands located off the Property but near the site of the proposed Facility?

A7. No. The closest wetland system is located 150 feet from the proposed Facility on an adjacent parcel.

#### Q8. Please describe that wetland system.

A8. The closest wetland system is an existing man-made pond located just north of the rail line and near the eastern boundary line of the Property. The pond is characterized by a relatively steep cut bank and bordered by a mature forest canopy. The majority of the pond is dominated by an aquatic bed and emergent marsh habitat. The fringe of the pond and some of the interior areas are occupied by shrubbery.

# Q9. In your professional opinion, based upon your review of the site plans and the proposed site of the Facility, would the construction, operation and maintenance of the Facility impact any wetland system?

A9. No. The wetland system is located a significant distance from the site of the proposed Facility. Additionally, the development activities would occur within an existing developed area.

### Q10. Would the access or utility routing proposed for the Facility impact any wetland system?

A10. No. The majority of the access is over an existing paved driveway and gravel parking lot. Additionally, the slight expansion to the access would not impact any wetland system. The location of the utility easements would prevent the utility routing from impacting any wetland system.

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 7th day of December, 2009.

Notary Public My Commission expires

KRISTINE M. PAUL NOTARY PUBLIC MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JAN. 31, 2014