

**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL**

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF SBA TOWERS II LLC
FOR A CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE AND
OPERATION OF A TELECOMMUNICATIONS
FACILITY AT 44 GAVITT ROAD,
BARKHAMSTED, CONNECTICUT

DOCKET NO. 387

Date: December 1, 2009

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF DEAN GUSTAFSON

Q1. Mr. Gustafson, please state your name and position.

A. Dean 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. Please state your qualifications.

A. I have a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Massachusetts with a concentration in Soil Science. My background includes over 21 years of professional experience of wetland consulting. I have been the lead soil/wetland scientist on more than 1,000 development projects in Connecticut. In addition, I have assisted in the permitting of more than 100 wireless telecommunication facilities in Connecticut during the past ten years. My responsibilities include: coordination and oversight of site screenings and environmental assessments to fulfill NEPA requirements, wetland delineations and assessments, wetland mitigation design, vegetative/biological surveys and regulatory permitting support.

Q3. Please describe your involvement in this matter.

A. VHB was responsible for conducting the NEPA screen for the property located at 44 Gavitt Road, Barkhamsted (the "Property"), conducting a wetlands delineation and impact analysis (found in the Application at Exhibit J) and supervising the habitat analysis conducted on the Property relating to the possible presence of the northern spring salamander.

Q4. Please describe the existing wetlands at the Property.

A. VHB delineated one wetland on the Property. VHB also identified three man-made pools on the Property that all provide some level of vernal pool habitat. All of these wetlands areas are delineated in the wetland report contained in the Application at Exhibit J.

Q5. Will the development of the proposed Facility have any direct impact on these wetlands?

A. Assuming that SBA utilizes adequate erosion controls during the construction process, the development of the proposed Facility will have no direct impact on the wetland resources found on the Property.

Q6. Will the development of the proposed Facility have any direct impact on the northern spring salamander?

A. No. As indicated in SBA's interrogatory responses dated November 17, 2009, VHB utilized the services of Michael W. Klemens, PhD, a recognized expert in herpetology, to conduct an investigation at the Property to determine if suitable habitat exists for the northern spring salamander. The results of his investigation indicate that the Property wetlands and watercourses conditions do not contain sufficient perennial water to support spring salamanders and that the development of the proposed Facility

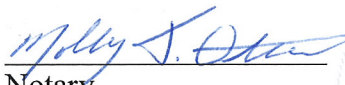
would not have adverse impacts to spring salamander habitat. A copy of the final northern spring salamander report will be submitted prior to the December 10, 2009 hearing date. As indicated, VHB, on behalf of SBA, will coordinate with the Connecticut DEP regarding these findings and SBA has agreed to follow any additional recommendations issued by DEP regarding the northern spring salamander.



Dean Gustafson

Date 12/01/09

Subscribed and sworn before me this 1st day of December, 2009.

By: 
Notary



Hartford/72517.61/CLARSON/402239v1

MOLLY T. OTERO
NOTARY PUBLIC
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES JAN. 31, 2014