

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

Ten Franklin Square, New Britain, CT 06051
Phone: (860) 827-2935 Fax: (860) 827-2950
E-Mail: siting.council@ct.gov
www.ct.gov/csc

December 3, 2009

The Honorable M. Jodi Rell
Governor
State Capitol Executive Chambers
210 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

RE: **DOCKET NO. 389** – Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and Message Center Management, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility at one of two sites on Dayton Road in Glastonbury, Connecticut.

Dear Governor Rell:

The Connecticut Siting Council is in receipt of your recent correspondence concerning the above-referenced proceeding. I thank you for taking the time to convey your thoughts to us on this important matter.

Please be assured, Governor, that before making its final decision on any application the Council carefully considers all the facts of the record. The record is developed by the Council; the applicant, parties and intervenors in the proceeding; and members of the public who submit written statements to the Council.

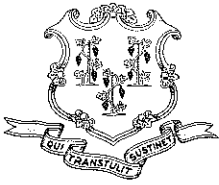
Please note that the Council developed a deliberate schedule to provide all persons an opportunity to participate. This schedule includes a public hearing in the affected town, for the benefit of the public. Moreover, the process is transparent and will allow parties and intervenors in this proceeding an opportunity to thoroughly review the application and exhibits, and to prepare their own testimony.

Thank you, again, for your interest and concern in this very important matter. The Council is guided by its jurisdiction under Connecticut State Law and endeavors to hold all proceedings fairly and open to the public. Please be assured that your comments will be carefully considered and made part of the record.

Yours very truly,

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman

DFC/SDP/jbw



M. JODI RELL
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
EXECUTIVE CHAMBERS

ORIGINAL

RECEIVED
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CONNECTICUT
SITING COUNCIL

October 21, 2009

Daniel F. Caruso
Chairman
Connecticut Siting Council
Ten Franklin Square
New Britain, CT 06051

Re: Application(s) of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Docket #389 and a proposed second application

Dear Chairman Caruso:

It has come to my attention that Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (Verizon) intends on submitting an application with the Connecticut Siting Council for a telecommunications tower and facility site to be located at 1040 Main Street, South Glastonbury, Connecticut. In addition, I understand that Verizon recently submitted another application, Docket #389, for the construction and operation of a telecommunications tower and related facility for one of two alternative sites on Dayton Road, South Glastonbury.

I have several concerns regarding the proposed application for the 1040 Main Street site that I bring to your attention. First, the 1040 Main Street site is less than two miles from each of the proposed sites currently under application on Dayton Road.

More importantly, I understand that the proposed location of the tower will overlook the Welles-Shipman-Ward House and Museum and abuts three historic districts, two of which are also listed on the National Register and a third of which – the Boundary Increase - is in process to be listed on the National Register.

The Welles-Shipman-Ward House and Museum is one of Glastonbury's most significant historic properties and settings of year-round activities and events. The suggested disguise as a silo of the proposed 110' high tower, while indicative of Verizon's understanding of the importance of this historic landscape, is inappropriate in scale as I understand that agricultural silos throughout Connecticut and in Glastonbury were typically less than half the proposed height.

A tower at 1040 Main Street would abut two historic districts and loom over a third. The proposed tower would be highly visible year-round over the 50-65' tree canopy throughout the historic district such that the Historic Society of Glastonbury believes that any tower at this location would destroy the historic integrity that the Historic District was established to preserve. The Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism has opined that this proposed undertaking would have an adverse effect on the South Glastonbury National Register Historic District and to the Boundary Increase.


The driveway access to the 1040 Main Street proposed site is less than 20 feet from a historic house built in 1760 by a member of the Connecticut Militia complete with plaster walls and a stone foundation. Construction alone of this tower would endanger this historic building.

I question the location of this tower in an area known for its historic properties. The location of a telecommunications facility and associated equipment in the midst of this historic treasure will be nothing short of an eyesore.

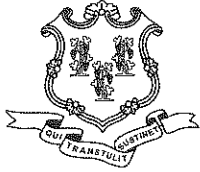
I fully understand the need for telecommunications towers in our State, particularly in our more rural areas where cell phone coverage can be spotty; but those decisions cannot be made in a vacuum, without fully considering the effects on the historic landscape.

The Siting Council must consider the historic and unspoiled landscape of this scenic section of our State. I urge the Siting Council to consider whether a second site is indeed necessary and, if so, to consider an alternate site for the telecommunications facilities; one that both will meet the wireless service needs of the residents in the greater South Glastonbury area and will have a less significant impact on the historic landscape.

Very truly yours,


M. Jodi Rell
Governor

cc: Attorney Alison Brotman
Verizon Wireless, Area Vice President and General Counsel, Northeast Area



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December 3, 2009

TO: Parties and Intervenor

FROM: S. Derek Phelps
Executive Director

RE: **DOCKET NO. 389** – Cello Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless and Message Center Management, Inc. application for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a telecommunications facility at one of two sites on Dayton Road in Glastonbury, Connecticut.

The Connecticut Siting Council (Council) is in receipt of correspondence from Governor M. Jodi Rell dated October 21, 2009 concerning the above-referenced application.

This correspondence shall become part of the record in this proceeding in the form of a limited appearance.

Therefore, copies of the Governor's correspondence is being distributed to all participants in this proceeding and will also be administratively noticed in the record.

Cc: Council Members