STATE OF CONNECTICUT CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

RE:

APPLICATION BY T-MOBILE

DOCKET NO. 390

NORTHEAST, LLC FOR A

CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED

FOR A TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY AT 15 ORCHARD PARK ROAD IN THE TOWN

OF MADISON, CONNECTICUT

Date: December 28, 2009

PRE-FILED TESTIMONY OF DEAN E. GUSTAFSON

Q1. Please state your name and profession.

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

What kind of services does VHB provide? Q2.

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

Please summarize your professional background in telecommunications. Q3.

I have a B.S. in plant and soil sciences from the University of Massachusetts. I A3. 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 15 Orchard Park Road, Madison, Connecticut (the "Facility"). I performed the wetlands assessment and coastal consistency analysis 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 15 Orchard Park Road, Madison, 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, are there any wetlands located on the Property?</u>

A6. Yes. There is a wetland system located on the southeastern edge of the Property.

Q7. Please describe the wetland system that is located on the Property?

A7. The wetland system is forested and dominated by species including red maple, spicebush, highbush blueberry, skunk cabbage and pepperbush. This wetland system drains to the east off the Property through an intermittent watercourse.

Q8. <u>Based upon your investigation</u>, are there any wetlands located off the Property but near the site of the proposed Facility?

A8. Yes. The forested wetland system located on the edge of the Property extends to the east onto the adjacent parcel.

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. Although T-Mobile would construct improvements within twelve feet of the wetland system, no direct impact to the wetlands would occur. The area proposed for development is within a cleared area and immediately adjacent to existing developed and disturbed areas associated with the self-storage facility located on the Property. Additionally, T-Mobile would install a double silt fence during construction of the Facility to avoid any temporary impacts on the wetland system. Finally, T-Mobile would stabilize the Facility with loam and a New England Conservation / Wildlife seed mix. These measures would provide a permanent cover of grasses, forbs, wildflowers, legumes and grasses, which would add wildlife habitat value and good erosion control. This mix would not require maintenance.

Q10. Did the Town make any recommendations regarding the wetland system?

A.10. Yes. On August 3, 2009, the Town's Conservation Commission issued a letter recommending that T-Mobile (1) grade the land upon which the tower would sit so that the land would drain to the south away from the wetland system and (2) install a double silt fence during construction. The Conservation Commission issued these recommendations after other T-Mobile representatives and I met with the Commission on July 27, 2009, to discuss the proposed Facility. T-Mobile agreed to incorporate these recommendations into its plans.

Q11. Would the access or utility routing proposed for the Facility impact any wetland system?

A11. No. The access would cross over an existing paved driveway and parking lot. The location of the utility easements would prevent the utility routing from impacting any wetland system.

Dean E. Gustafson

Sworn and subscribed to before me this 28 day of December, 2009.

Kristine M. Paul

Notary Public

My Commission expires

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