STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER

F. Philip Prelli
Commissioner

CONNECTICUT GROWN
THE LOCAL FLAVOR.

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

Re: Application of Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
Docket No. 397 (the "Application")

Dear Mr. Caruso:

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the above-referenced Application. As I am sure you are aware, the State of Connecticut owns the development rights (a "conservation restriction") on the Kuper Farm that abuts the agricultural property located at 445 Prospect Street, Woodstock, Connecticut. My concerns are as follows:

First, I sincerely hope that, prior to any construction, an A-2 survey will be prepared to ensure that the structure(s) will not impact, in any way, abutting properties. While the Application includes a set of plans drawn by NATCOMM Consulting Engineers, the Site Survey Plan, sheet C-1A, references only three maps: the first being the local assessor's maps (and "...abutting property descriptions"); and the second being a Class D survey. No reference, however, is made to my Department's A-2 survey of the Kuper Farm. It is well known that assessor's maps can be notoriously inaccurate and should not be relied upon when making planning decisions. Class D surveys are not much better.

Also, I know the Kuper family is very concerned about the structure and its potential impact on their property located directly to the North of the proposed tower. They worry about the detrimental effect the telecommunication facility will have on land values. They have concerns of being in the "fall zone" of the tower, as well as the loss of Prime Farmland that has been in active agricultural use for many years.

I strongly urge the Siting Council to consider these concerns in reviewing the Application.

Very truly yours,

F. Philip Prelli
Commissioner

JJD/ls