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**Memorandum**

To: Connecticut Siting Council  
Ten Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

Date: May 12, 2010

Project No.: 41479.42

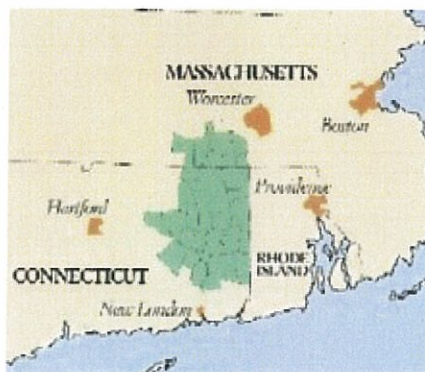
From: Mike Libertine

Re: Docket No. 397  
Proposed East Woodstock Facility  
445 Prospect Street  
Woodstock, Connecticut

At the March 11, 2010 Connecticut Siting Council (the "Council") Public Hearing held for Docket No. 397, the "The Last Green Valley" was referred to by members of the public. Council member Golembiewski asked Verizon Wireless for specific information regarding this term. The purpose of this memorandum is to provide the Council with additional information on The Last Green Valley.

The Last Green Valley refers to the name of the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, a 1,085-square mile area located in northeastern Connecticut and south-central Massachusetts, is defined by the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers systems and surrounding hills. The name apparently comes from the rural nature of the green fields and forests that dominate the area, particularly when viewed aerially. The Corridor is known for its high concentration of State Parks, State Forests and other reserves such as the Yale Forest and the Norcross Wildlife Sanctuary. Of the 600,000 acres in the Corridor, more than 100,000 are Public/Reserved lands.

The National Heritage Corridor was designated as such in 1994 by the U.S. Congress, which recognized the region as possessing significant natural and cultural resources. Congress enlarged the Corridor to include 35 Quinebaug and Shetucket River Valley towns in both Connecticut and Massachusetts. The 26 Connecticut municipalities included in the Corridor are: Ashford, Brooklyn, Canterbury, Chaplin, Coventry, Eastford, Franklin, Griswold, Hampton, Killingly, Lebanon, Lisbon, Mansfield, Norwich, Plainfield, Pomfret, Preston, Putnam, Scotland, Sprague, Sterling, Thompson, Union, Voluntown, Windham, and Woodstock.



Map Location

According to the Siting Council's telecommunications databases, there are at least 100 communications towers located in the 26 Connecticut communities within the National Heritage Corridor, including those used for emergency service providers, radio and television broadcasts, private dispatch, and wireless telecommunications. In the Town of Woodstock, there are at least five existing facilities of this nature. The attached map depicts those communication facilities included on the Siting Council's database.

The Gosnell Preserve-Wyndham Land Trust property is located approximately 0.75 mile from Verizon's proposed East Woodstock tower location. There are no State Forests or Parks located within the two-mile study area associated with the proposed tower site. The Quinebaug River is nearly two miles east of the proposed location; the Shetucket River originates several miles southwest of Woodstock. The proposed facility would not be visible from any of these resources. Further, the location of Verizon's proposed Alternate Site B is at the edge of an open field whose soils are not classified as Prime Farmland or Farmland of Statewide Importance Soils. Development at this site would not require cutting any trees. Based on this information, we believe Verizon's proposal would not have a negative impact on the Corridor.

As a means of further background, National Heritage Corridors designations are intended to encourage historic preservation and an appreciation of the history and heritage of an area. National Heritage Corridors are not National Park Service units or any type of federally-owned or managed land. National Heritage Corridors are typically administered by state governments, non-profit organizations or other private corporations. Each area has its own authorizing legislation and a set of unique resources and goals. Areas considered for designation have specific elements. For example, the landscape must be a nationally unique natural, cultural, historic, or scenic resource.

The Last Green Valley is also the name of the non-profit organization that manages the Quinebaug and Shetucket Rivers Valley National Heritage Corridor, whose mission is to preserve the natural and cultural resources of the region while encouraging compatible economic development.

Additional information regarding The Last Green Valley may be found at <http://www.tlgv.org/index.php>.