

STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE: :  
: :  
APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP : DOCKET NO. 403  
D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS FOR A :  
CERTIFICATE OF ENVIRONMENTAL :  
COMPATIBILITY AND PUBLIC NEED FOR :  
THE CONSTRUCTION, MAINTENANCE :  
AND OPERATION OF A WIRELESS :  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS FACILITY 174 :  
SOUTH GRAND STREET, SUFFIELD, :  
CONNECTICUT :  
: SEPTEMBER 23, 2010

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE OF  
CELLCO PARTNERSHIP D/B/A VERIZON WIRELESS TO  
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL PRE-HEARING INTERROGATORY NO. 22

On August 25, 2010, Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“Cellco”), responded to the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) Pre-Hearing Interrogatories. Below is the Applicant’s supplemental response to Interrogatory No. 22.

Question No. 22

Has Cellco received any response to VHB’s letter of June 18, 2010 to DEP, in which it asked for relief from DEP’s recommendation to avoid any land clearing during the whip-poor-will breeding season? If so, provide a copy of any correspondence.

Response

As of the date of this filing, Cellco has not received any response from the DEP on the whip-poor-will study.

### Supplemental Response

Attached is a letter, dated September 20, 2010, from Jenny Dickson at the Connecticut DEP written in response to the VHB Inc. whip-poor-will survey dated June 18, 2010. Ms. Dickson's letter states that the DEP concurs with Mr. Gustafson's recommendation that seasonal restrictions on site clearing activity during the whip-poor-will nesting period, described in a DEP letter dated August 14, 2009, are not necessary.



STATE OF CONNECTICUT  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Bureau of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Division  
79 Elm Street, Sixth Floor  
Hartford, CT 06106



September 20, 2010

Mr. Dean Gustafson  
Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.  
54 Tuttle Place  
Middletown, CT 06457-1847

Re: Whip-poor-will Survey  
Proposed Verizon Wireless Facility, 174 South Grand Street, Suffield, CT  
NDDDB #17057

Dear Mr. Gustafson:

Thank you for providing additional mapping, project details, and Whip-poor-will (*Caprimulgus vociferous*) Survey data for the proposed wireless telecommunication facility at the above location.

The methods utilized for conducting the whip-poor-will survey are consistent with those currently recommended for this species. The date of the first visit was close to the earliest part of the survey window. Given the starting date, failure to detect the target species would ideally have been followed by a second survey later in the period to confirm results. However, in this situation, I believe the results documented support your conclusion recommending removal of seasonal restrictions for whip-poor-wills even without an additional survey date. Based on the data provided, the area appears to have a high degree of owl activity which can adversely impact whip-poor-will use of an area.

The Wildlife Division also appreciates the information on down-shielded dark-sky compliant lighting and soil and erosion control measures, both of which will help reduce negative impacts to a wide variety of wildlife species. To prevent long-term negative impacts to reptiles and amphibians, we do recommend the removal of any plastic erosion fencing once the site has been stabilized.

Please feel free to contact me (860-424-3011) if you have any additional questions regarding this evaluation of the whip-poor-will survey data.

Sincerely,

Jenny Dickson,  
Wildlife Biologist  
cc. Dawn McKay, DEP-NDDB (#17057)

