

June 10, 2011

Robert Stein, Chairman  
Connecticut Siting Council  
Ten Franklin Square  
New Britain, CT 06051

RE: Docket #408, Proposed Telecommunications Facility at 95  
Balance Rock Road, East Hartland

Dear Chairman Stein:

As residents of Balance Rock Road, we are responding to the Siting Council's request for written comments regarding construction of a cell phone tower at 95 Balance Rock RD. (Docket # 408).

We understand that the final decision rests with your commission. We are writing to ask you and your fellow commissioners to give full consideration to the arguments against this proposal that have been presented by our neighbors, Heike Krauland and Tom Sirman.

Balance Rock Road is a rural/residential street with fewer than a dozen houses. It is a modest neighborhood and our homes represent the major portion of our financial worth. The neighborhood is very special to us because of its private, rural character. Every home, on our narrow lane, abuts the Tunxis State Forest. The neighborhood is so calm and quiet. It's like being in another world when you are away from the sights and sounds of everyday life and surrounded by the undisturbed beauty of the forest. This is why we live here and this is what we hope to protect.

None of us had any advance warning of ATT's intentions to build a tower. Only two residents received notification and that arrived in October, a day before the application was submitted to your council. During the summer there was a meeting with the Hartland Zoning Commission, but no one in our neighborhood was notified. The only people present at that meeting were AT&T officials and three members of the Hartland Zoning Commission. One of the Zoning Commissioners was a member and past president of the Ring Mountain Hunt Club.

When everyone complained, AT&T held a second public hearing on 12/2/10. There was a large turnout of residents and town officials in support of our neighborhood. AT&T began by telling us that the tower was necessary for public safety. They specifically wanted to get coverage in a area referred to as the "hollow" on RT.#20. They assured everyone that if we came up with an alternative, they would be happy to consider moving the tower.

However, at that same December hearing, When Hartland's First Selectman, Wade Cole, suggested the State garage on RT#20, AT&T insisted that the garage was out because it is under the control of the Department of Environmental Protection. A thorough reading of the transcripts from your hearings shows how anxious AT&T was to keep from answering questions about the state garage. They were asked about it at the January hearing and again at the March hearing. Finally at the May hearing they admitted that the garage is under the control of the Department of Transportation. At that point they increased the size of the pad that the tower was supposed to rest on and said there wasn't enough room at the DOT garage.

At the March hearing, Ms. Krauland and Attorney Sherwood asked about the cell tower on Route # 57 in Tolland, Mass. AT&T claimed the tower was about five miles away. At the May hearing, Ms Krauland got AT&T's representative, Mr. Vivian, to admit that the Tolland tower is about 2&1/2 miles from the "hollow" area on Rt.#20. Although the Siting council asked AT&T to do their "homework" on the Tolland tower, AT&T never presented any information or any RF studies to show whether or not that tower could provide needed coverage on its own or in conjunction with a tower at the DOT garage.

At all three Siting Council hearings, AT&T claimed that they wanted to provide coverage to secondary roads off RT#20 in West Hartland. The roads they mentioned are gated and on MDC property. When this was pointed out, AT&T said that coverage would be needed in the future. We are not aware that the MDC plans to allow development on their property in the future.

These are just a few of the problems that we found in reading over the transcripts of your hearings. We have tried to keep up with your proceedings, and there has been nothing that we have heard to convince us that a cell tower is necessary on Balance Rock Road. To the contrary, First Selectman, Wade Cole, has testified that there is no public safety need.

We have enclosed two maps that came from your CSC website. They show that the RF coverage from a tower at 95 Balance Rock Road and RF coverage from a tower at the DOT garage on Route#20 (site#8 on the AT&T application) is pretty much the same. Given the fact that AT&T does not think it's necessary to cover the dead area on RT.#179 (an area with a number of homes and 3 times the traffic), we believe that the slight difference in coverage to "the hollow" between a tower on Balance rock Road and a tower at the DOT garage is negligible.

On another point: On February 22 of this year, Karl Wagener, Executive Director of the Council on environmental Quality, wrote a letter in response to the Siting Council's solicitation of written comments regarding Docket #408. That letter stated, "The CEQ recommends that the CSC consider the implicatiuons of approval of the location if it was the site of illegal wetlands filling." On Wednesday, June 1, 2011, the Hartland Inland Wetlands Commission voted unanimously to issue a cease and desist order for a show cause hearing concerning filling of wetlands, clear cutting within wetlands, and potential contamination of soil at 95 Balance Rock Road.

In conclusion, we understand that the proposed tower will only effect one very small neighborhood. Never-the-less, it will have a very heavy impact on those of us who do live there. We believe that the tower will be both visually and financially detrimental to our neighborhood. Not everyone wants to live in such a rural environment as Balance Rock Road. There is a limited market. However, those who do want such a special place are more likely than most to be turned off by a neighborhood cell phone tower. You can replicate all our homes on streets all over Connecticut, but you will never find such a perfect location.

When you make your decision, please, weigh the value of the environment against the need for coverage along a short stretch of uninhabited road.

Thank you, Paul Lipes 5 BAL. Rock Rd E. HARTLAND 06027

Vintome Krauland, 72 Balance Rock Rd, E. Hartland, 06027

Heike Mauland, 64 Balance Rock Rd, E Hartland CT 06027

SO Ryzard 48 Balance Rock RD. E Hartland CT 06027

Kully Ryzard 48 Balance Rock Rd E. Hartland CT 06027

W O Frank 40 Balance Rock Rd E. Hartland ct 06027

Jef a W 40 Balance Rock Rd East Hartland 06027

Todd Frank 40 Balance Rock Rd East Hartland

Kevin Frank 40 Balance Rock Rd East Hartland

Ray Byers 38 Balance Rock Rd E Hartland CT

Anastacia Byers " " " " "

Diane Olson 28 Balance Rock Rd. E. Hartland, CT 06027

Mary Kowalski 16 Balance Rock Rd E Hartland CT

Linda Menden 37 Balance Rock Rd. E. Hartland, CT

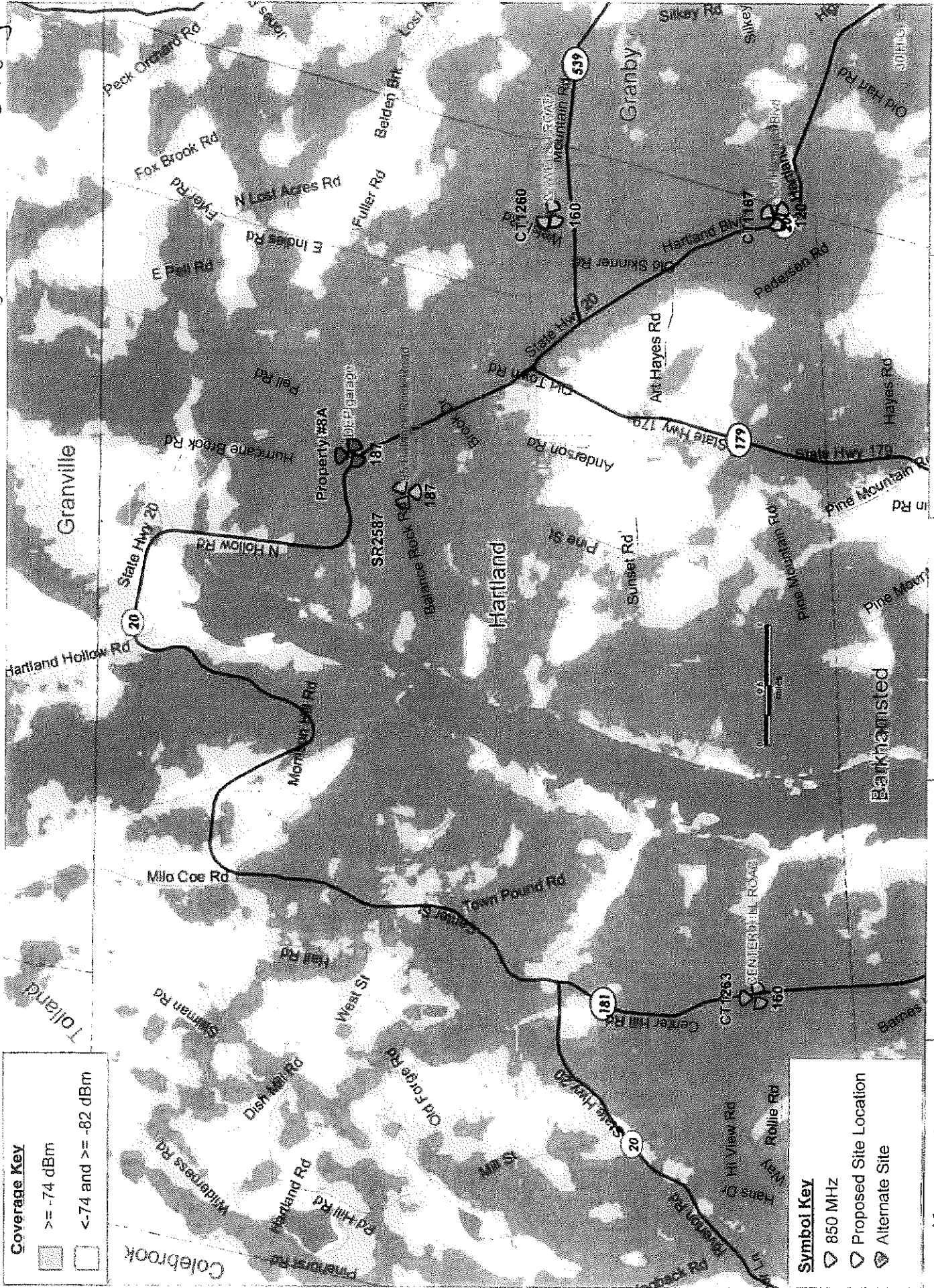
Thomas A Sieman 28 Balance Rock Rd E. Hartland CT

Robert J Filippi 10 Balance Rock Rd.

Melissa Filippi 10 Balance Rock Rd E Hartland CT

Rachael Filippi 10 Balance Rock Rd E Hartland CT

Coverage DOT Garage



**Coverage Key**

- >= -74 dBm
- <-74 and >= -82 dBm

**Symbol Key**

- 850 MHz
- Proposed Site Location
- Alternate Site

Alternate & Existing Coverage

Hartland  
North Hollow Road  
East Hartland, CT

Hartland

Hartland

Hartland

Hartland

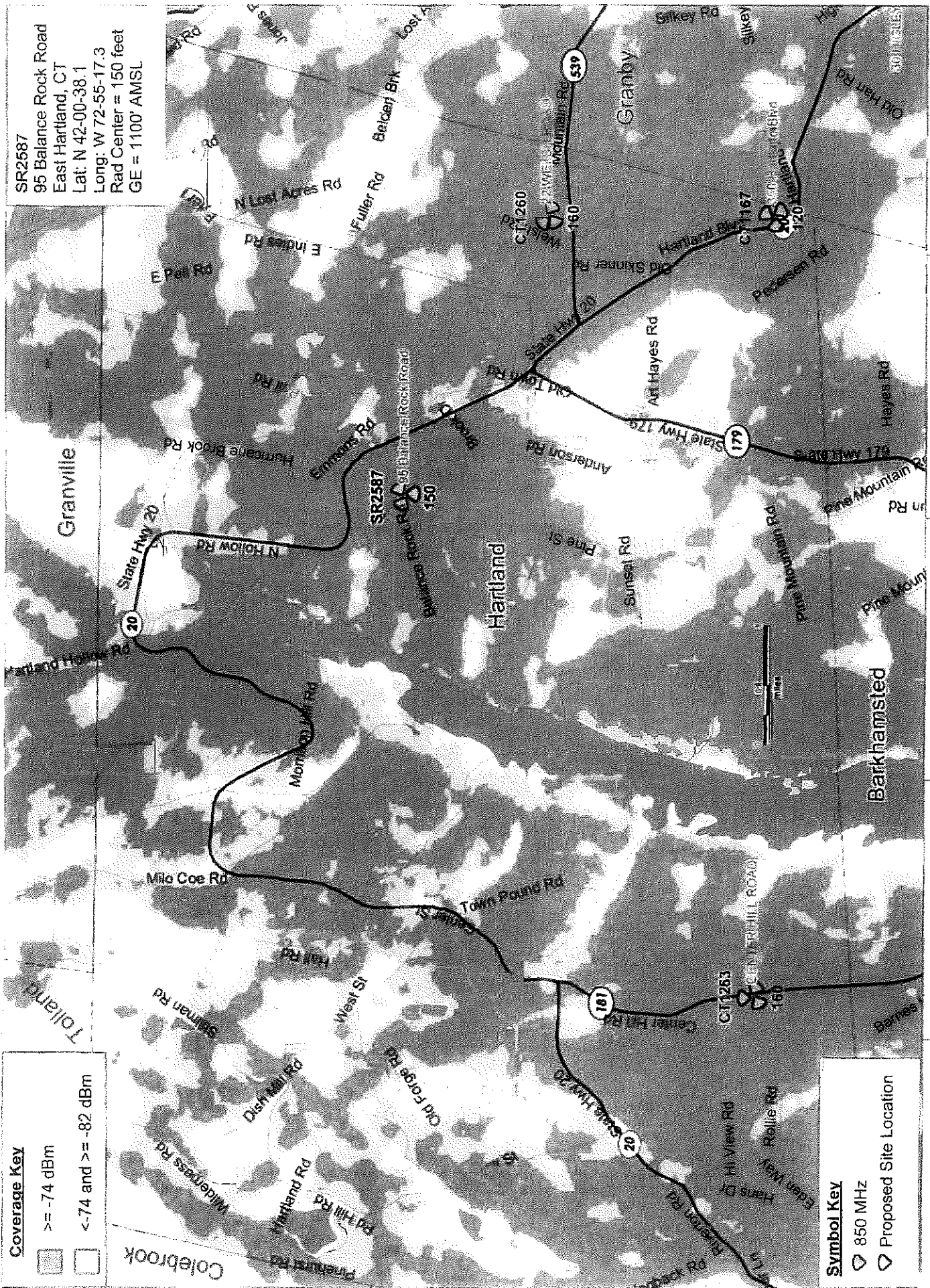
PREPARED ON  
DATE: 12/09/2010

at&t

REV 0



Coverage Balance track



SR2587  
 95 Balance Rock Road  
 East Hartland, CT  
 Lat: N 42-00-38.1  
 Long: W 72-55-17.3  
 Rad Center = 150 feet  
 GE = 1100' AMSL

**Coverage Key**  
 >= -74 dBm  
 <-74 and >= -82 dBm

**Symbol Key**  
 850 MHz  
 Proposed Site Location

Existing & Proposed Coverage

Hartland  
 95 Balance Rock Road  
 East Hartland, CT



PREPARED ON  
 DATE: 12/09/2010