

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT SITING COUNCIL

IN RE:

APPLICATION OF CELLCO PARTNERSHIP
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 OFF
DAY HILL ROAD, BLOOMFIELD,
CONNECTICUT

:
:
: DOCKET NO. 416
: RECEIVED
: JUL 14 2011
: CONNECTICUT
: SITING COUNCIL
:
: JULY 14, 2011

MOTION TO REOPEN THE EVIDENTIARY HEARING

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless (“Cellco”) respectfully requests that the Connecticut Siting Council (“Council”) reopen the evidentiary hearing in Docket No. 416 to allow for the introduction of additional evidence regarding a possible alternative cell site location on the subject parcel. This information is submitted in direct response to a request from Council-member Brian Golembiewski made prior to the close of the June 7, 2011 public hearing.

Background

On February 11, 2011, Cellco filed an Application with the Council for a Certificate of Environmental Compatibility and Public Need for the construction, maintenance and operation of a wireless telecommunications facility (“Facility”) on a 10.8 acre parcel off Day Hill Road in the northerly portion of the Town of Bloomfield (the “Property”). The Facility, as proposed in the Application, would consist of a 110-foot telecommunications tower and 12’ x 24’ equipment shelter located within a 47’ x 76’ facility compound in the southerly portion of the Property. The Council held a public hearing on the Docket No. 416 application on June 7, 2011, and closed the hearing that same day.

Prior to the close of the hearing on June 7, 2011, Council-member Brian Golembiewski asked Cellco to explore with the Property owner whether an alternative cell site location, further from residences located on Adams Road and Tunxis Avenue might be available for the Council's consideration. Cellco's project team has been working with the Property owner over the last several weeks and has now identified an alternative cell site location that it would like the Council to consider as a part of the Docket No. 416 application.

To assist the Council in its evaluation of this alternative location, Cellco has developed 1) a set of project plans; 2) a Wetlands Impact Analysis; and 3) a visual impact analysis for the alternative cell site location. This additional information is attached for your review. Should the Council agree to reopen the evidentiary hearing in this matter these materials will be properly verified and admitted into the Docket No. 416 record.

Conclusion

Based on the foregoing, Cellco respectfully requests that the Council reopen the evidentiary hearing in Docket No. 416 for the limited purpose of accepting additional evidence and testimony regarding an alternative cell site location on the Property.

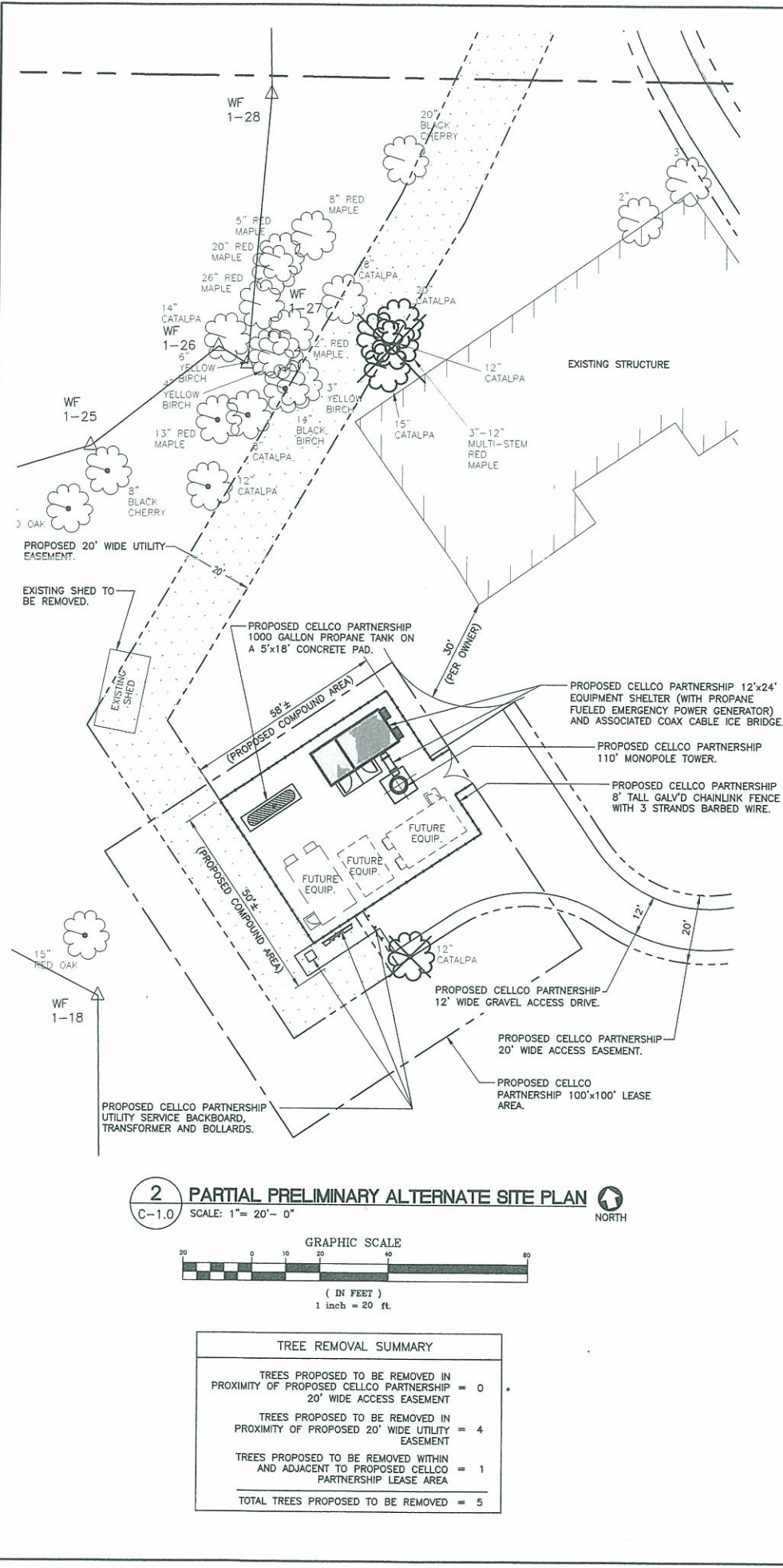
Respectfully submitted,

CELLCO PARTNERSHIP d/b/a VERIZON
WIRELESS

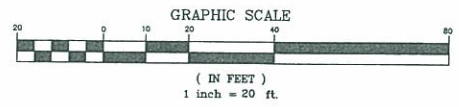
By: 

Kenneth C. Baldwin, Esq.
Robinson & Cole LLP
280 Trumbull Street
Hartford, CT 06103-3597
Its Attorneys

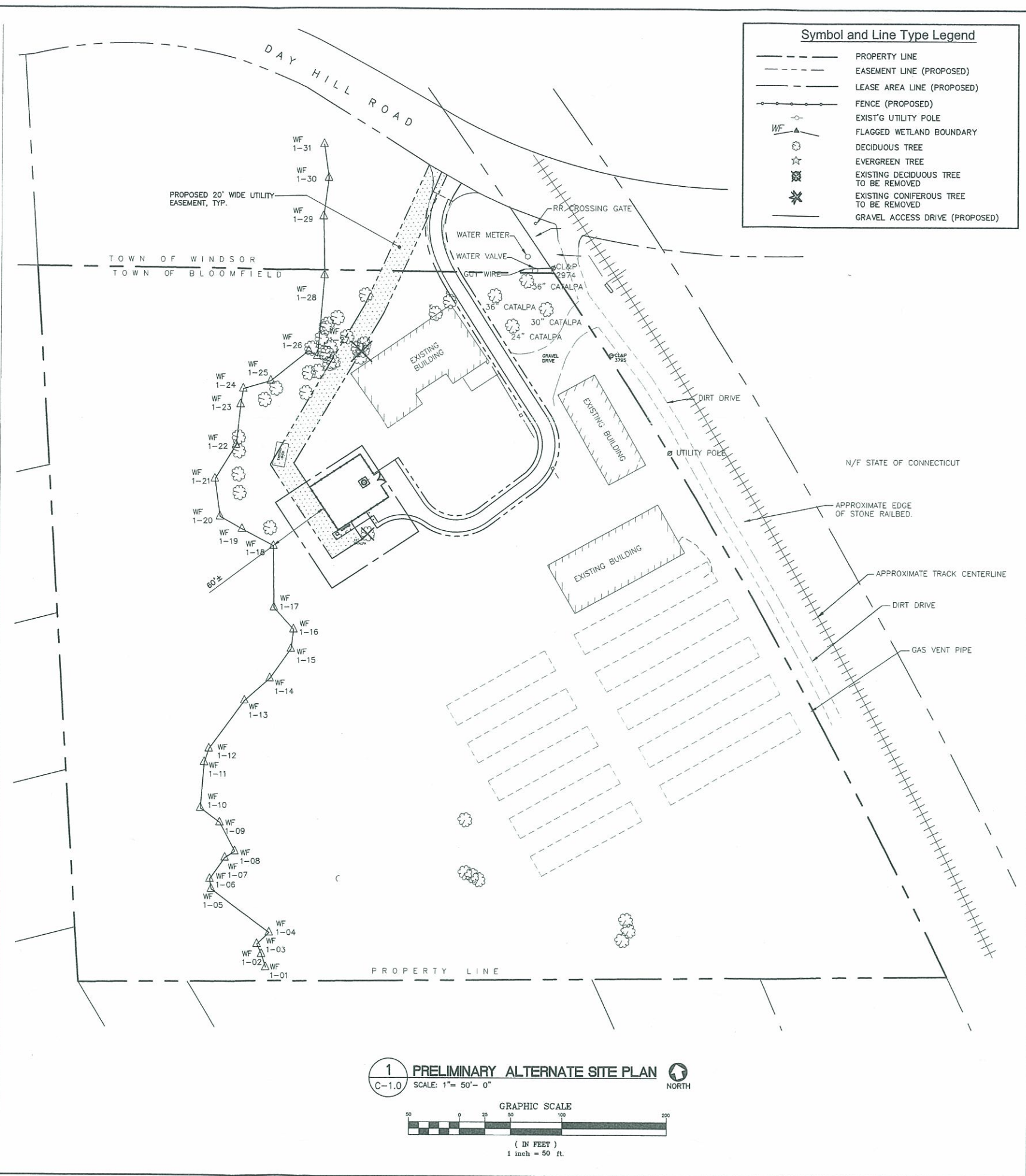
TAB 1



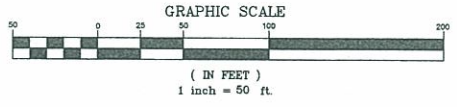
2 PARTIAL PRELIMINARY ALTERNATE SITE PLAN
 C-1.0 SCALE: 1" = 20'-0"
 NORTH



TREE REMOVAL SUMMARY	
TREES PROPOSED TO BE REMOVED IN PROXIMITY OF PROPOSED CELCO PARTNERSHIP 20' WIDE ACCESS EASEMENT	= 0
TREES PROPOSED TO BE REMOVED IN PROXIMITY OF PROPOSED 20' WIDE UTILITY EASEMENT	= 4
TREES PROPOSED TO BE REMOVED WITHIN AND ADJACENT TO PROPOSED CELCO PARTNERSHIP LEASE AREA	= 1
TOTAL TREES PROPOSED TO BE REMOVED	= 5



1 PRELIMINARY ALTERNATE SITE PLAN
 C-1.0 SCALE: 1" = 50'-0"
 NORTH



Symbol and Line Type Legend	
	PROPERTY LINE
	EASEMENT LINE (PROPOSED)
	LEASE AREA LINE (PROPOSED)
	FENCE (PROPOSED)
	EXIST'G UTILITY POLE
	FLAGGED WETLAND BOUNDARY
	DECIDUOUS TREE
	EVERGREEN TREE
	EXISTING DECIDUOUS TREE TO BE REMOVED
	EXISTING CONIFEROUS TREE TO BE REMOVED
	GRAVEL ACCESS DRIVE (PROPOSED)

DESIGNED BY: CFC
 DRAWN BY: TSP
 CHK'D BY: DMD

REV.	DATE	DRAWN BY	CHK'D BY	DESCRIPTION
0	07/13/11	DMD	CFC	ISSUED FOR CT SITING COUNCIL - PRELIM. ALTERNATE SITE

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEER SEAL

Cellco Partnership
 d.b.a. Verizon Wireless

CENITEK engineering
 Combined Solutions™
 (203) 489-0590
 (203) 489-8387 fax
 43-2 North Branford Road
 Branford, CT 06405
 www.CenitekEng.com

Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless
 WIRELESS COMMUNICATIONS FACILITY
NORTH BLOOMFIELD
 DAY HILL ROAD
 BLOOMFIELD, CT 06002

DATE: 07/26/10
 SCALE: AS NOTED
 JOB NO. 09053

ALTERNATE SITE-
 PRELIMINARY
 SITE PLANS

C-1.0
 Sheet No. 3 of 3

TAB 2



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

54 Tuttle Place
Middletown, Connecticut 06457
860 632-1500
FAX 860 632-7879

Memorandum

To: Ms. Alexandria Carter
Verizon Wireless
99 East River Drive
East Hartford, CT 06108

Date: July 13, 2011

Project No.: 41479.41

From: Dean Gustafson
Professional Soil Scientist

Re: Wetland Impact Analysis
Alternate Site Location
North Bloomfield Facility – Docket 416
Day Hill Road
Bloomfield, Connecticut

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. (VHB) previously identified wetlands occupying the western portion of the subject property based on a field investigation performed on August 5, 2010. The delineated wetland resource consists of a seasonally saturated forested wetland with an associated intermittent watercourse flowing through the wetland interior and a man-made pond. As a result of discussions regarding possible alternate site locations during the June 7, 2011 Connecticut Siting Council hearing (Docket 416) in order to provide a greater visual buffer to residences along Adams Road to the south and Tunxis Avenue to the west, an alternate Site was identified approximately 350 feet north of the location proposed in Docket 416. An evaluation of potential wetland impacts associated with this alternate location is provided below.

The proposed alternate Site is located immediately west of a large barn located in the northern portion of the subject property. The proposed compound in this alternate location is characterized mainly as an overgrown grassy area bordered to the north and west by mature forest uplands and wetlands (further to the north and west), a large barn to the east and an overgrown grassy area to the south. This area is generally level with more moderately slopes starting in the adjoining forested areas to the north and west that drop down into the wetlands. In order to determine if mature vegetation clearing would be required to develop this area, an approximate 50-foot by 55-foot compound area was staked in the field and located with a Trimble Geoexplorer 2005 GPS survey unit¹ along with the approximate tower location. In addition, nearby trees greater than 6 inches diameter at breast height were identified and located with the Trimble along with the drip line edge of the trees to establish the tree line. Based on the field information collected the proposed alternate Site can be developed without directly impacting nearby wetlands and will not require removal of mature native trees. The alternate Site's closest distance to wetlands is 65± feet to the west near wetland flag WF 1-18. One 12-inch catalpa tree located immediately south of the proposed compound and access drive turnaround will likely require removal. Catalpa trees are not native to Connecticut (native to the Midwest U.S.) and have shown tendencies to become invasive. In addition, it appears that the alternate Site could be constructed without encroachment onto the

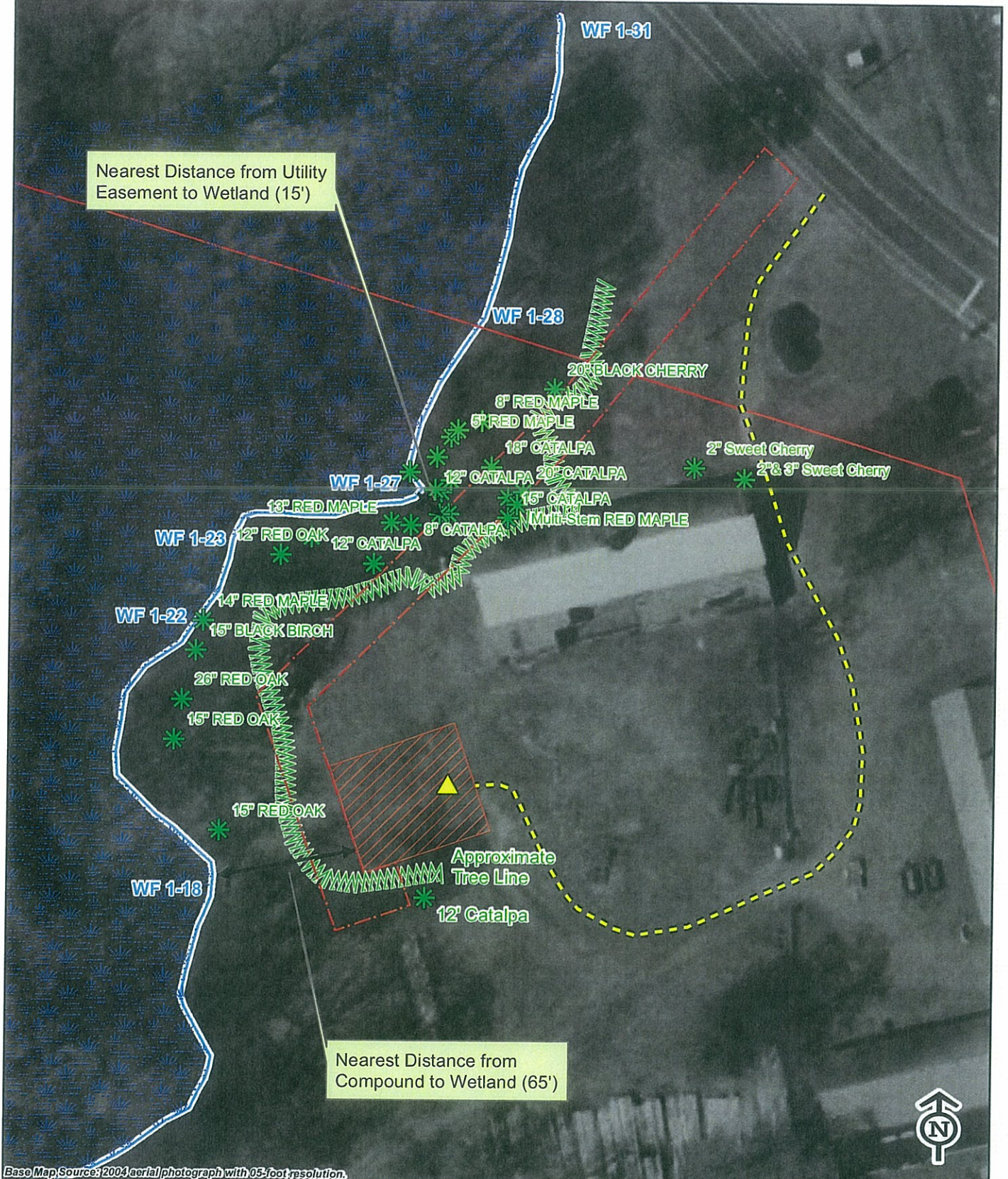
¹ Trimble Geoexplorer 2005 unit is capable of sub meter accuracy

moderate slopes located nearby to the north and west. The proposed utility easement will require some additional tree clearing (3 catalpas [12", 15" and 20"] and a multi-stem red maple). The utility trench will be intentionally positioned along the southern side of the easement to avoid impacting mature native trees located closer to the nearby wetland boundary, which is approximately 15 feet to the south at wetland flag WF 1-27. Refer to the enclosed Wetlands Constraint Map and photographic documentation.

VHB recommends the following protective measures and mitigation be incorporated into the Development and Management (D&M) Plan, should this project be approved by the Connecticut Siting Council, to avoid short-term direct wetland impacts that could occur during construction and minimize long-term indirect wetland impacts associated with development in proximity to wetlands. VHB recommends that proper erosion control measures be installed and maintained in accordance with the *2002 Connecticut Guidelines For Soil Erosion and Sediment Control Guidelines* during construction activities to avoid any temporary impacts to nearby wetland areas. The potential release of sediment into nearby wetlands is a concern during construction due to the close proximity to the top of the moderate slope (that drops into wetlands) to the north and west sides of the proposed compound. VHB recommends that the alternate Site be constructed so that a minimum 25± foot buffer exists between the proposed compound and nearest wetland boundary and that the compound does not encroach onto the moderate slope that drops into the nearby wetlands. VHB also recommends that any exposed soils surrounding the proposed alternate Site location and utility easement be permanently stabilized by loam and seeded with a New England Conservation/Wildlife seed mix (New England Wetland Plants, Inc., or approve equivalent). The New England Conservation/Wildlife seed mix provides a permanent cover of grasses, forbs, wildflowers, legumes and grasses to provide both good erosion control and wildlife habitat value. This mix is designed to be a no maintenance seeding, and it is appropriate for cut and fill slopes and disturbed areas. In addition, VHB recommends that a buffer of native shrubs (e.g., serviceberry, black chokecherry, gray dogwood, and nannyberry) be planted along the west and south sides of the proposed compound in the disturbed area between with the compound's fence and limit of work line defined by erosion and sedimentation controls. In addition, in locations of the utility easement will require removal of mature vegetation within 50 feet of wetlands this buffer planting is also recommended. The buffer enhancement planting of native shrubs, which will also be undersown with the conservation/wildlife seed mix, would provide food, shelter and nesting habitat for a variety of small animals, in particular several avian species. This wetland buffer planting would enhance the wildlife habitat value of the buffer between the proposed compound and utility easement and nearby wetland system and mitigate for long-term indirect wetland impacts. With incorporation of these protective measures and mitigation recommendations, it is our opinion that no likely adverse impact to wetlands would occur as a result of the proposed Verizon Wireless development of the alternate Site location.

In addition, as no direct impact to federal wetlands is associated with Verizon Wireless' construction activities, **NO significant change in surface features** (e.g., wetland fill, deforestation or water diversion) will result in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act Categorical Exclusion checklist.

Enclosures



Base Map Source: 2004 aerial photograph with 0.5-foot resolution.

Legend

- Trees
- Approximate Alternate Tower Location
- Utility Easement
- Proposed Alternate Compound
- Proposed Access
- Subject Property
- Delineated Wetlands



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
Wetland Constraints Map
Proposed Verizon Wireless
Telecommunications Alternate Facility
North Bloomfield
Day Hill Road
Bloomfield, Connecticut



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
PHOTOLOG DOCUMENTATION
Proposed Verizon Wireless Facility – Docket 416
Alternate Site – Day Hill Road, Bloomfield, Connecticut
June 29, 2011



Photo 1: Overview of alternate Site location (left of barn in grassy area along edge of wood line), looking north from proposed access drive.



Photo 2: View of alternate Site location in grassy area near barn, looking east.

Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.
PHOTOLOG DOCUMENTATION
Proposed Verizon Wireless Facility – Docket 416
Alternate Site – Day Hill Road, Bloomfield, Connecticut
June 29, 2011



Photo 3: View of small dilapidated shed in northwest corner of proposed alternate Site, looking north.



Photo 4: View of moderate slope near wood line edge (left side of photo) down to wetlands (right side of photo), looking west near wetland flag WF 24.

TAB 3



Memorandum

To: Ms. Alexandria Carter
Verizon Wireless
99 East River Drive
East Hartford, CT 06108

Date: July 11, 2011

Project No.: 41479.41

From: Mike Libertine

Re: Docket 416 – Alternate Site Location
North Bloomfield Facility
Day Hill Road
Bloomfield, Connecticut

At the request of Verizon Wireless, and in response to comments provided by the Connecticut Siting Council (Council) at its June 7, 2011 hearing relative to Docket 416, Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc. ("VHB") was asked to evaluate potential visibility from an alternate Site location on the North Bloomfield property off Day Hill Road in Bloomfield, Connecticut (the "Property").

During the June 7th Council hearing, Verizon Wireless was asked to consider potential alternate site locations for its proposed wireless telecommunications facility ("Facility") in order to provide a greater visual buffer to residences along Adams Road to the south and Tunxis Avenue to the west. On June 29, 2011 an alternate Site was identified approximately 350 feet north of the location proposed in Docket 416, immediately west of a large barn located in the northern portion of the Property. VHB subsequently completed a visual evaluation at the proposed alternate Site by tethering an approximate 4-foot diameter, red weather balloon and conducting a drive-by reconnaissance of the area. Photographs were taken from select locations adjacent to neighboring homes during the balloon float to provide a general comparison of the visibility of the originally proposed Facility location with that of the alternate Site.

Weather conditions were favorable for the balloon float, with sunny skies and temperatures in the low 90s. Winds were relatively calm with occasional gusts approaching 15 miles per hour. Although the proposed height of the Facility is 110 feet above ground level, the balloon was tethered to a string height of 120 feet to provide additional opportunities to view it at and/or above the tree canopy. Figure 1 is an aerial photograph that depicts an approximate ½ mile radius surrounding the Property, the proposed alternate Site location, the neighboring parcels along Adams Road and Tunxis Avenue, and the locations of photographs taken during the balloon float. Photo-simulations of the proposed 110 Facility at the alternate Site have also been provided.

The proposed alternate Site substantially minimizes visibility from locations along Adams Road to the south, as evidenced in photographs/simulations 2 and 3. This is due primarily to the Site being shifted farther north of these residences. Some seasonal visibility (during "leaf-off" conditions) of portions of the Facility may occur through the trees, but any seasonal views would be isolated and substantially obscured by the mast and branching associated with deciduous trees and/or the stands of existing conifers.

From locations to the west, along Tunxis Avenue, the alternate Site also provides benefits with respect to minimizing visibility. The balloon, which was flown at a height of ten (10) feet above that proposed, was visible at or slightly above the tree canopy from only three static locations (see photos/sims 4, 5 and 6). This indicates that a Facility height of 110 feet would not significantly rise above the canopy. When compared to the original site location, the alternate Site is slightly farther removed from Tunxis Avenue; however the alternate Site's lower ground elevation (by a few feet) combined with the density, width and height of the intervening forested buffer appears to reduce the overall visibility from locations to the west. Similar to those locations to the south, this intervening buffer will also serve to reduce seasonal visibility. In addition, the proposed shift to the alternate Site would separate the Facility from the nearest residence (at 374 Tunxis Avenue) by approximately 530 feet; this distance includes roughly 300 feet of intervening forested buffer. Tunxis Avenue homes to the north (376 through 382) would have not only a similar forested buffer but also structures associated with an existing commercial business that occupies the intervening parcels between the Property and these residences. Residences south of 376 Tunxis Avenue would experience increased forest buffers and, as indicated in the photographs, views of the Facility would be limited to the top platform at the tree canopy.

Views of a Facility at the alternate Site from the east, along Day Hill Road and Blue Hills Avenue, appear similar to those at the original site location.

During the course of the June 7th hearing, council members discussed the possibility of incorporating stealth options into the Facility design, including a stealth monopine. As discussed at the hearing, a monopine might assist to blend the tower into the landscape in "leaf-off" conditions through the trees from neighboring properties. However, as illustrated in the aerial photo-documentation graphic and the photo-simulations, substantial intervening vegetative buffer exists and the sparse views of the Facility at the proposed alternate Site from nearby locations are either at the top of, or just slightly eclipsing, the tree canopy. From our perspective, a stealth monopine does not appear necessary because there would be such minimal direct views of the Facility, even through the trees during "leaf-off" conditions. Areas beyond the immediate neighborhoods, particularly to the north and east (see photo-simulations 1 and 7, as examples) are not as well screened with existing vegetation and offer more extensive views of the Facility length. A monopine viewed from these locations would not likely appear natural.

Moving the Facility from its original location to the proposed alternate Site appears to provide significant benefits with respect to visibility concerns. The shift would result in an increased separation of 60± feet from the nearest residence (the original location was within approximately 470 feet of 372 Tunxis Avenue) and a reduction of visibility to neighboring parcels to the south and west. In addition, this shift would not substantially affect the visibility from more distant locations. We believe that relocating the Facility to the proposed alternate Site location would meet the concerns expressed by the neighbors at the Council's June hearing while providing Verizon Wireless with a viable 110-foot tall Facility on the Property.

Photographic Documentation and Simulations

Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility *Alternate Location*

NORTH BLOOMFIELD
Day Hill Road
Bloomfield, CT

SUBMITTED TO:



SUBMITTED BY:





Base Map Source: 2009 Capitol Region Council of Governments (CRCOG)
 Orthophotography with a ground resolution of 3 inches (0.25 ft) per image pixel

Legend

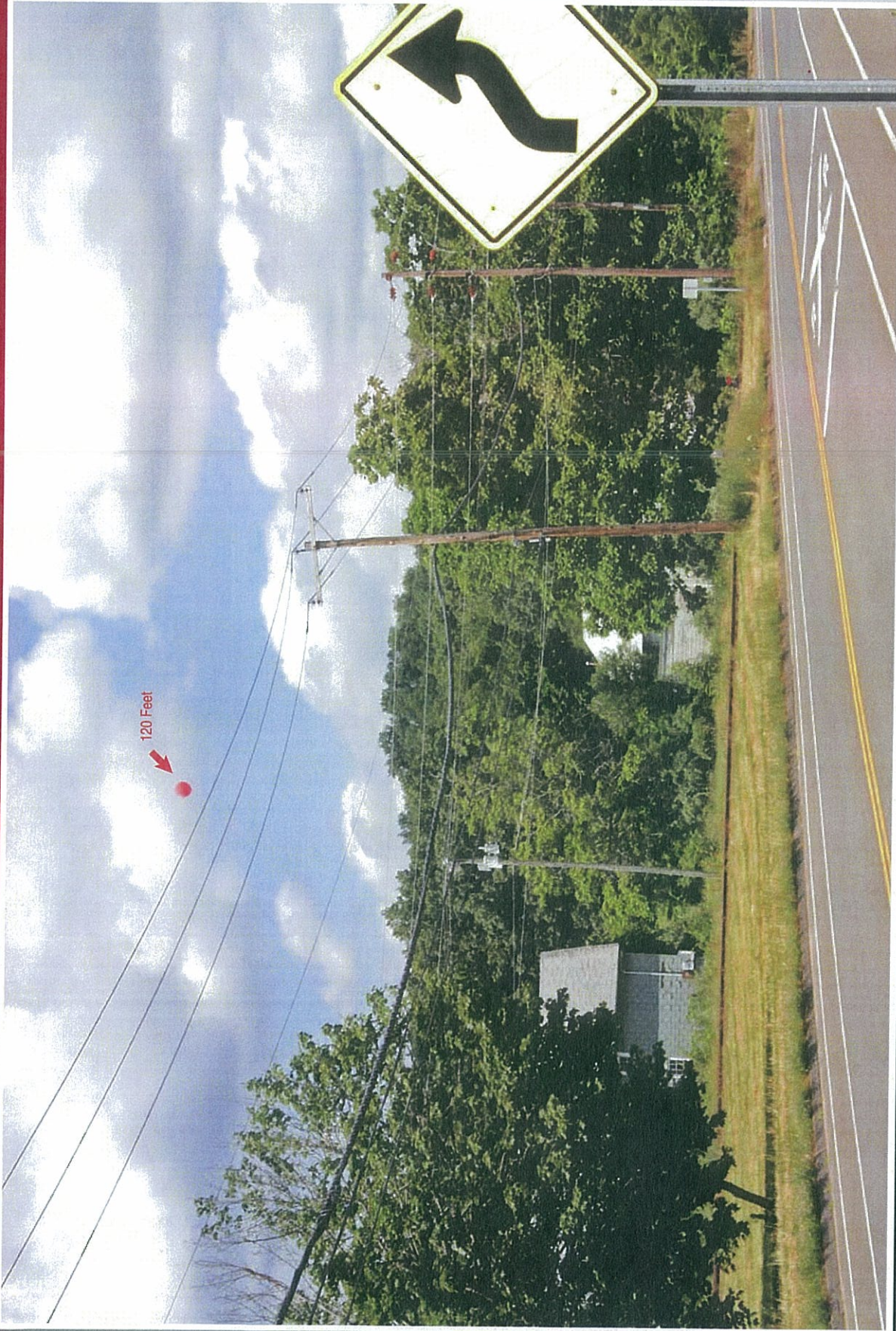
- Photo Point
- Proposed Facility Location
- Alternate Facility Location
- ▭ Neighboring Parcel
- ▭ Approximate Property Boundary
- ▭ Town Boundary



Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, Inc.

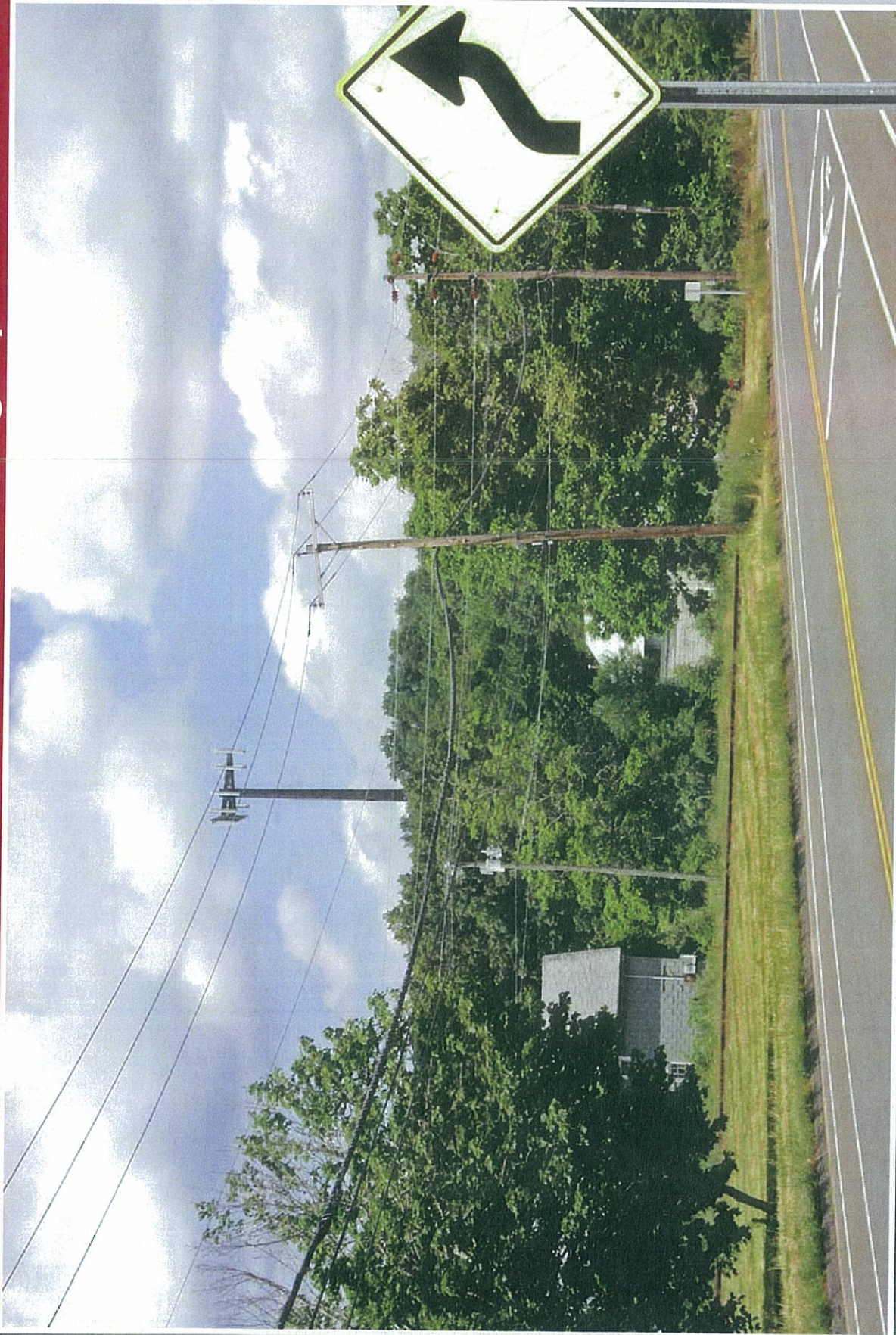
Photolog Map
Proposed Verizon Wireless
Telecommunications Facility
North Bloomfield
Day Hill Road
Bloomfield, Connecticut





U:\1479_4\Photographs\FIGURES\1479_41_Photom

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
1	DAY HILL ROAD	SOUTHWEST	0.18 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



J:\1479_41\graphics\FIGURES\4179_41_PhotoSim

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
1	DAY HILL ROAD	SOUTHWEST	0.18 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



J:\1479 41\graphics\FIGURES\41479 41_Photosim

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
2	NORTHEAST CORNER OF 100 ADAMS ROAD AT RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY	NORTHWEST	0.15 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



J:\1479\41\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_PhotoSim

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
2	NORTHEAST CORNER OF 100 ADAMS ROAD AT RAILROAD RIGHT-OF-WAY	NORTHWEST	0.15 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



U:\479\41\graphics\FIGURES\4179_41_Photos.m

VIEW	LOCATION		ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
3	ADJACENT TO #98 ADAMS ROAD		NORTHWEST	0.11 MILE +/-	SEASONAL



J:\1479-41\graphics\FIGURES\1479-41_Photo.m

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
4	ADJACENT TO 370 TUNXIS AVENUE	NORTHEAST	0.16 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND

Proposed Facility at 110 Feet

Photographic Simulation



J:\1479 41\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_PhotoSim

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
4	ADJACENT TO 370 TUNXIS AVENUE	NORTHEAST	0.16 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



J:\147941\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_Photos.m

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
5	ADJACENT TO 380 TUNXIS AVENUE	SOUTHEAST	0.13 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND

Proposed Facility at 110 Feet

Photographic Simulation



J:\1479_41\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_PhotoSim

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
5	ADJACENT TO 380 TUNXIS AVENUE	SOUTHEAST	0.13 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



J:\1479_41\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_P10103.m

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
6	ADJACENT TO 382 TUNXIS AVENUE	SOUTHEAST	0.15 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND

Proposed Facility at 110 Feet

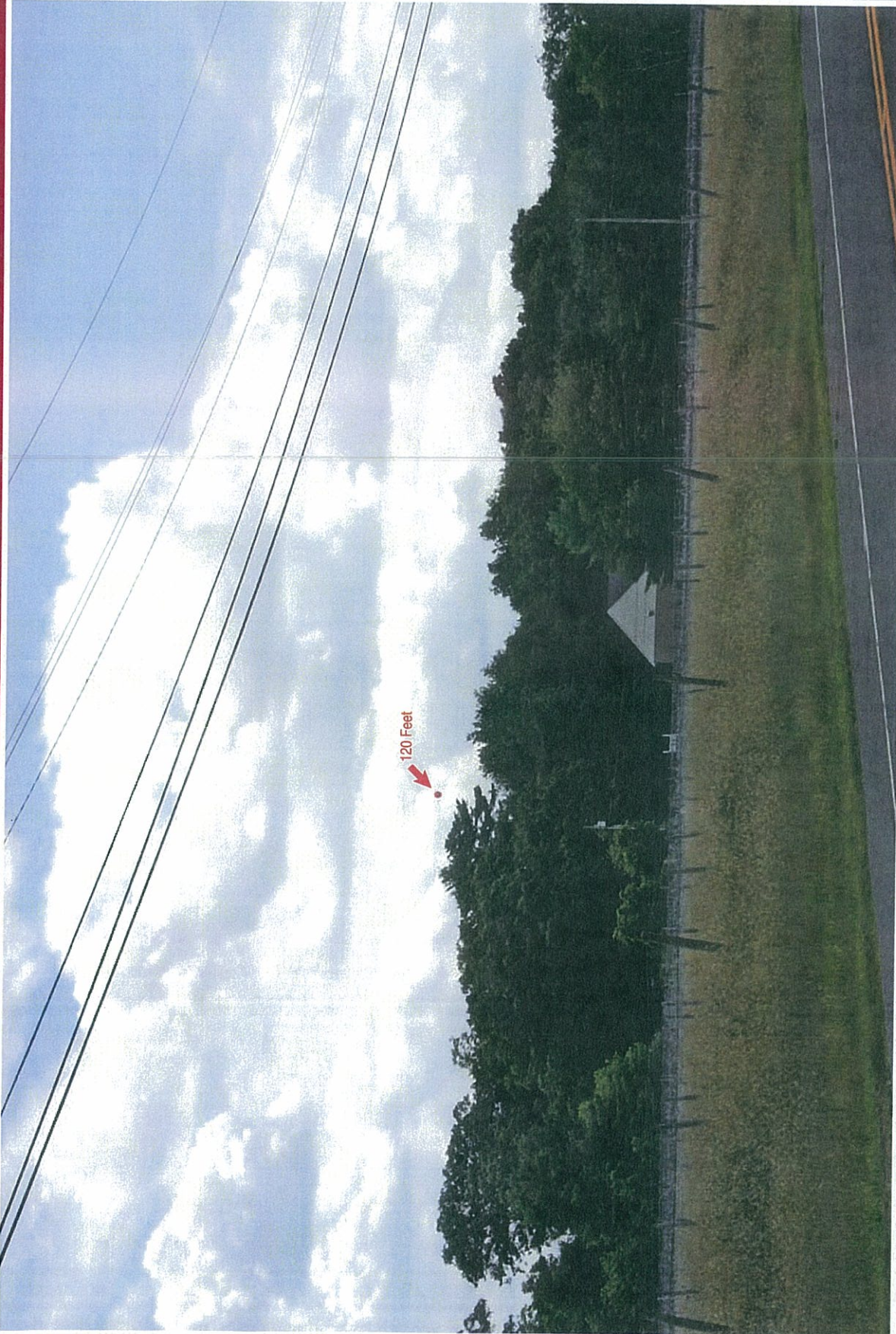
Photographic Simulation



J:\1470_41\graphics\FIGURES\1470_41_Photosim

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
6	ADJACENT TO 382 TUNXIS AVENUE	SOUTHEAST	0.15 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND



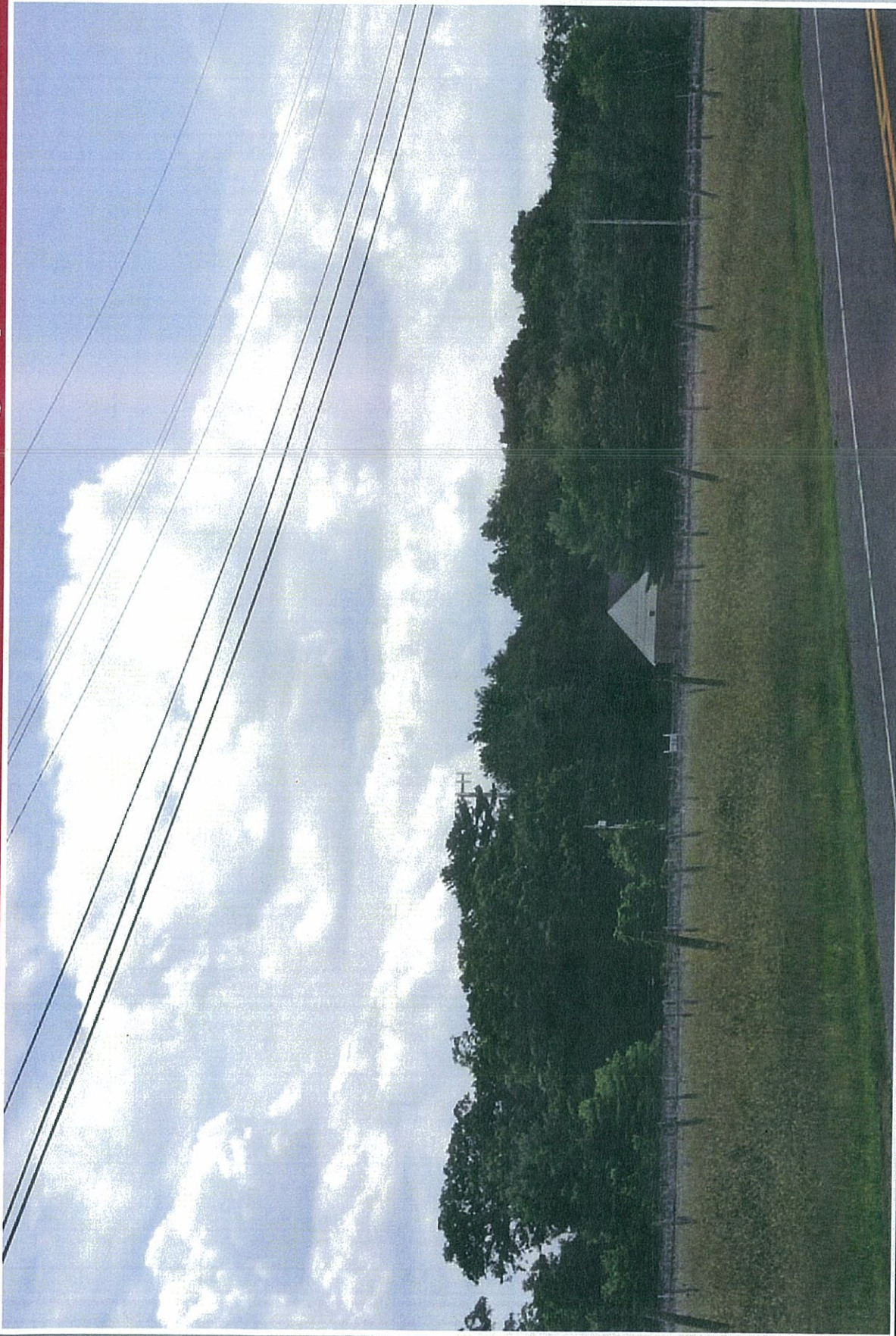


J:\1479_41\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_Photo.m

VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
7	TUNXIS AVENUE	SOUTHEAST	0.24 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND

Proposed Facility at 110 Feet

Photographic Simulation



VIEW	LOCATION	ORIENTATION	DISTANCE TO SITE	VISIBILITY
7	TUNXIS AVENUE	SOUTHEAST	0.24 MILE +/-	YEAR ROUND

J:\1479_41\graphics\FIGURES\1479_41_PhotoSim